

PRAY PLEASE FOR: George Kitching
Our citizenship is in heaven
(Philippians 3:17 — 4:1 [3:20 — 4:1]).

WEEK AT A GLANCE (Mar 18- 24)

Mon	1:30 pm	Bible Study
	7:00 pm	OCDS Carmelites
	8:00 pm	AA
Tues	1:30 pm	Celebrate the Word
	7:30 pm	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Wed	9:30 am	Rosary
	10:30 am	Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion
	5:00 pm	Friendship Dinner
	6:30 pm	Folk Choir Practice
	7:00 pm	CWL General Meeting
Thurs	9:00 am	Feast Day Mass at St. Joseph's
	11:30 am	Jollymakers - Bingo
	7:45 pm	RCIA
Fri	10:30 am	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
	11:45 am	Benediction
	3:00 pm	First Communion Learning Centres
	7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Sat	8:00 am	Confessions before Mass
	8:00 am	First Communion Learning Centres
	9:30 am	Confessions until 10:00 am
Sun	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Knights of Columbus Breakfast
	1:00 pm	First Communion Learning Centres
	12:00 pm	Knights of Columbus Breakfast

In the event of a funeral Mass on Wednesday or Friday, Mass will be cancelled and the Mass Intentions will be offered at the funeral.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY – MAR 9/10

Regular Envelope	\$ 4513.00
Initial Envelope	\$ 10.00
Youth Ministry	\$ 10.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 585.00
Loose	\$ 292.45
Capital/Building Fund	\$ 215.00
Total	\$ 5625.45



SSVP- FINANCIAL SUMMARY, 2018

Income: Donations:	\$32,568.64
Expenses: Assistance:	\$22,538.63
Food bank:	\$1,460.64
Soup kitchen:	\$3,841.03
Other:	\$3,067.16



Thank you to all our donors for your generous support.

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE (March 23/24)

Saturday (5 pm)

Commentator: Carla Matos
 1st, 2nd Lector: Veronica Holly, Moma Fardella
 Gift Bearer: Betty-Ann Mulholland
 Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Jeannette Keba, Pat Molloy, Vince Molloy, Randy Keba
 Greeter: Betty-Ann Mulholland
 Rosary: Helen Borbely

Sunday (9 am)

Commentator: Mariola Pleli
 1st, 2nd Lector: Janine Vink, Tina Hopper
 Gift Bearers: Mark & Tina Hopper & Family
 Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Liz DeWaele, Mae Feeney, Irene Gubesch, John Oliveira
 Greeter: Ann Schroder
 Rosary: Irene Gubesch

Sunday (11 am)

Commentator: Kim Smith
 1st, 2nd Lector: Richard Renneboog, Ron Semenuk
 Gift Bearers: Jack & Rachel Parker
 Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Pat D'Hulster, Helen Borbely, Darren Jayne, Nora Marie Bruder
 Greeters: Debbie & Dan Verbrugge
 Rosary: Lorraine Gilbert

Altar Server (March 19 & 21) Isabella Monsere

MASS TIMES & MASS INTENTIONS (Mar 18- 24)

Tues	7:00 pm	Richard Popp Bailey Townsend Deceased members of the Stuyt Family
Wed	10:00 am	Peter Lingaitis Kelly Catlin Criag Weden & Family
Thurs	3:30 pm 7:00 pm	Mass- Woodingford Lodge Tony Rego George Kitching
Fri	10:00 am	Nick Doneff
Sat	9:00 am	Maria To Thanh Tuag Souza Family
	5:00 pm	Parishioners of St. Mary's
Sun	9 & 11 am	Parishioners of St. Mary's

2018 CHARITABLE DONATION RECEIPTS

The 2018 Charitable Donation Receipts are available in the Annex. Thank you for your co-operation in picking up your 2018 donation receipts.



Let your roots go down into Christ,
 and let your lives be built on him.
 Then your faith will grow strong in the
 truth you were taught, and you will
 overflow with thankfulness.
 Colossians 2:7

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

March 17, 2019

From Colleen ...

How is your Lent going? Here we are at the second Sunday of Lent ... have you amped up your prayer life, fasting and almsgiving? If so, way to go! If you still are half heartedly looking for some way to journey with Jesus this Lent I have a suggestion for you. At the entrances to the Church and at the back of the Church you will see baskets of empty baby bottles. Each year our parish participates in the Baby Bottle Drive that supports Fresh Start. Fr. Simard from Sacred Heart Ingersoll sent this information to me about this program that I want to share with you:

Fresh Start has been providing 'hope and a future' to pregnant and parenting women in crisis for over 30 years! Fresh Start Maternity Home is located in St. Thomas on Centre Street. It is a residential home where women in a crisis pregnancy situation live before the birth of their baby and after the birth in a supervised and life giving environment where assistance and help is available 24 hours a day. We are able to accommodate up to 5 women in a group home setting and have also 4 apartments to help in the transition to leave and thrive on their own. We remain grateful for any and all contributions to the baby bottle campaign. For all that you do to help the culture of life, my sincerest thanks.

We invite you to pick up a baby bottle starting in Lent and use them during the Lenten season. Place it in a prominent place in your house as a visible reminder of those three key emphases for Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. How you might ask?

The Catholic Encyclopedia defines almsgiving as "any material favour done to assist the needy, and prompted by charity." I encourage all of us to fill an empty baby bottle with change or bills or include a cheque payable to FRESH START. This is a beautiful way to give alms to protect the dignity and sanctity of life and to help fill a need in our community. But it has to be more than just giving money or a cheque. What will you fast from to make this sacrifice for another? Your dinner out once a week, that new purse you have been eyeing? That video game you have been saving for? Or imagine your daily tea or coffee money going to Fresh Start rather than buying a coffee? If we are truly journeying with Jesus we need to sacrifice a comfort, a want or a need. It has to be more than an act of charity; it has to help us understand the sacrifice Jesus makes for us on his journey to Jerusalem. And lastly prayer, you can pray for those residents who are at Fresh Start, for the sanctity and dignity of all life, each time you drop a coin in the bottle. Ask our blessed Mother Mary to intercede for mothers everywhere. So my friends, join me in 'amping up' your Lent: grab a bottle, give alms, fast and pray, and journey with our Lord and Saviour.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

51 Venison St. W.
 Tillsonburg, Ontario
 N4G 1V1

phone: (519) 842-3224
 fax: (519) 660-7290
 email: stmarytils@dol.ca
 website: stmarys.dionet.ca
 facebook: St Mary's Parish, Tillsonburg

Parish Clergy and Staff

Rev. John Pirt, Pastor
 Andre De Decker, Deacon
 Jack Grim, Deacon
 Brian Hanley, Deacon
 Colleen Hanley, Pastoral Minister
 Teena Mendonca, Business Manager
 Melissa Sioen, Secretary

Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri
 (9 am - 12 pm, 1 pm - 4 pm)

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm
 Sunday Masses: 9:00 am, 11:00 am

Daily Mass

Tuesday, Thursday: 7:00 pm
 Wednesday, Friday: 10:00 am
 Saturday: 9:00 am

Reconciliation

Saturday: 8:00 am -8:45 am & 9:30 am - 10:00 am or by appointment

Children's "Sunday School"

Oct to May, @ 9 am Mass

Catholic Schools

St. Joseph School: (519) 660-2783
 Msgr. O'Neil School: (519) 660-2772
 St. Mary's High School: (519) 675-4435

Baptism Preparation

Contact Father John, ext. 22

Weddings

By appointment, and 6 months notice

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday School is a program for children who are age 3 (or toilet trained) until they enter grade 2 to help them learn the rituals of mass and hear the Gospel story in child friendly language, through craft and song. Father John, at the beginning of Mass, calls the children forward and they process to the Parish Centre with their leader and return to you during the offertory song. This year Sunday School will be available at the Sunday 9 AM Mass. For more information please contact Colleen Hanley (chanley@dol.ca) or call the office.

STEUBENVILLE TORONTO 2019 – CAN YOU HELP?

On July 12-14, 2019 our parish will be sending a bus of youth going into high school or already in high school to this amazing Conference! If you have a child in grade eight they are eligible to come to Steubenville this year! Mark your calendars ... we all BELONG! The cost is \$200 which includes the conference, lodging, bussing and food. If you would like to offer some financial assistance to cover the cost for a young person to go to Steubenville – please contact Colleen Hanley - we are in need of your help with some young people who wish to go! To save a spot for the conference please drop \$75 deposit off at the rectory by March 31st.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School is coming back this summer for one amazing week! Circle your calendars – St. Mary's will be hosting a "Cool Kingdom Party" July 22nd – 26th! Any youth wishing to volunteer as group leaders must be entering grade 8 this year. Application forms for youth leaders will be out the end of April and registration forms for VBS will be out the end of May. For more information about volunteering or registering please contact Mrs. Hanley at 842-3324 ext 23 or chanley@dol.ca.

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Our next session for Confirmation preparation is Wednesday April 3rd (6:30-8:30 pm) or Saturday April 6th (10 am-noon). It is our last meeting together as we prepare for the Rite of Confirmation Sunday May 5th at 2 pm. Please continue to pray for our confirmation candidates, their sponsors and their families.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST

Next weekend, Sunday March 24th, after the 9 am & 11 am Masses the Knights of Columbus will be hosting a breakfast will all proceeds going to our Steubenville Trip to help purchase t-shirts for all our participants! Please come and enjoy a fabulous breakfast and see some of our high school youth sporting Steubie t-shirts we have worn in the past. Please come and support our high school youth as they prepare for a life changing weekend!

Thank you to the Heleniak family for the donation of sausages & Chrissy's Catering for preparing the sausages for the Shrove Tuesday dinner.

FIRST COMMUNION NEWS

Our First Communion families have been busy at home completing their "Called to His Supper" workbooks. This weekend they will be participating in Learning Centres on Friday March 22nd (3-8 pm), Saturday March 23rd (8 am-noon) or Sunday March 24th (1-5 pm). Learning Centres help parents to share faith with their children in a non-intimidating, educational and enjoyable way. Children learn best when they are fully involved in the process. At each centre, children and their families share church teaching, Scripture, prayers, conversation and a fun activity!

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

Our monthly High School Nights are the second Sunday of the month from 7-9 pm and our next night is this Sunday March 10th. These nights are open to all high school students and will include games, faith formation, prayer and of course food! Why come? Be a part of a community of your peers who share values and views that will help you navigate the prevalent culture that is at school and in the media. We will be hosting High School Nights at the Parish Centre in Room 9. Please share this with all the high school aged youth in your life and we hope to see you next Sunday!

ALTAR SERVER RETREAT

Our Lenten Altar Server Retreat is Saturday March 30th from 8:45 – 11 am. We will begin with Mass in the Church, work on some training issues, talk about upcoming liturgies for Holy Week, create our very own crown of thorns, enjoy some hot chocolate and tasty treats! We will begin with Mass in the Church, work on some training issues, talk about upcoming liturgies for Holy Week, create our very own crown of thorns, enjoy some hot chocolate and tasty treats! You will receive info in the mail to RSVP as soon as possible and sign up for Holy Week Liturgies (due April 1st).

CHILL ZONE

Our April Chill Zone will be cancelled to allow all our elementary youth and high school youth to attend Stations of the Cross Friday April 12th at 7 pm. Our High School Team will be presenting the Stations of the Cross and concluding Stations with the Via Dolorosa Liturgical Dance. We invite everyone to come, bring their families and support youth ministry as the walk the Way of the Cross. Chill will resume Friday May 10th.

FAMILY CATECHISM

We are a group that offers family faith formation in a welcoming setting - teaching your children the fundamentals of the Catholic Faith with other like minded parents is fun and effective! We offer classes for JK - Gr. 9, as well as an adult video and discussion. Our next meeting is on Sunday, March 31 at 2:55 pm in the Father Langan Parish Centre. For more information please visit www.famfi.ca or talk to John & Karin Lansink at 519-550-0304.

THE LEGACY OF ST. PATRICK - PILGRIMAGE TO IRELAND

As you enjoy a 10 day tour to the Emerald Isle, from September 24-October 3, 2019, you will experience the history, culture and faith of Ireland that came through the missionary efforts of St. Patrick in the 5th century. This pilgrimage includes visits to many historical churches as well as a visit to Knock, where in 1879, Mary appeared to 15 townspeople. In addition to your Irish Guide, as part of this pilgrimage, Fr. David Johnston and Fr. John Pirt will be offering daily Mass. Cost is \$2639 per person (Based on twin) - airfare extra. For further information, contact Cheryl Johnston, 855 St. Clair St., Chatham, ON N7L 0E9 Phone: 519-354-6040 or 1 877 735 5633 ext 6225 Email: cjohnston@selloffvacations.com.

DAY OF CONFESSIONS

This year's diocesan Day of Confessions is being planned for Wednesday, April 10. This special opportunity helps us to set aside our old ways, to be renewed in heart and soul, and to be reconciled with our merciful and loving God. As Pope Francis reminds us, confession is where we encounter Jesus. Confession times in our parish are: **9:00 am to 12:00 pm, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm & 7:00 pm until finished.** Our diocesan website (www.dol.ca) offers some excellent resources and information about Lent and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

WHERE IS CHRIST IN YOUR LIFE NOW?

Take time to reflect and redirect your path. A Cursillo weekend can give you that time, and the spiritual food you need for reflection. Everyone is welcome – those who have fallen away or lapsed from the Church and those who regularly attend and want to renew their faith commitment: scheduled for March 21st -24th : Men's weekend; March 28th- 31st: Women's weekend For more information, call Andre & Bonnie De Decker 688-3248.

CWL NEWS

The Catholic's Women's League in the Diocese of London are asking all CWL councils to collect ONLY NEW SOCKS for men, women & children. We hope to collect 2019 pairs of socks. These socks will be returned to the regions to be distributed in their respective areas as needed. "We are women helping those in need." **Please drop off socks in container in the new addition before April 13th.**

OXFORD RIGHT TO LIFE 44TH ANNUAL DINNER

Thursday, April 4th, 2019, Covenant Christian Reformed Church, 410 Lansdowne Avenue, Woodstock, 6:00 pm Social, 6:30 pm Beef Dinner: \$20 adults, \$10 students. 8:00 pm Speaker: Jakki Jeffs, Executive Director, Alliance for Life Ontario, Topic: Pro-life witness, a timeless voice! Everyone is welcome to hear our speaker even if not attending the dinner. To reserve dinner tickets, call Bonnie 519-913-3533 by March 28th.

LENTEN JOURNEY INFORMATION

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Weekly Stations of the Cross begin this Friday evening at 7 pm with. We will begin with Mass in the Church, work on some training issues, talk about upcoming liturgies for Holy Week, create our very own crown of thorns, enjoy some hot chocolate and tasty treats! the Society of St. Vincent de Paul leading us in prayer.

LENTEN NOON HOUR SERVICE

St. Mary's will be hosting the Tillsonburg Ministerial Lenten Noon Hour Service Wednesday April 3rd beginning at 12 noon in the Church. After the service there will be a soup and sandwich luncheon downstairs prepared by St. Mary's CWL.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Friday mornings during Lent, after the 10 am morning Mass, the Blessed Sacrament will be on the altar for adoration. Benediction will conclude the period of adoration at 11:45 am. Come and spend an hour with Jesus.



Share the journey with members of the Umuechem community in Nigeria

1990, a peaceful community in the South of Nigeria became the victim of what has been recognized as the first crime committed by an oil company. Traumatized by a massacre of unparalleled violence, a large majority of the members of this community fled to neighboring communities, never to return home again. To make sure that their story is never forgotten and to combat impunity, Development and Peace's partner Social Action is supporting the Umuechem community in their legal action against the oil company.

Discover the story of people forced to flee their homes and ways for each one of us to act in solidarity with them: devp.org/lent.

For more information, please contact Rita Bailey by email: ruby101@sympatico.ca or Elena Luna at 1-647-561-1648 or email: eluna@devp.org.

ST. MARY'S PRAYER CHAIN

Interested in praying for others? It's time to do our annual update of the St. Mary's Prayer Chain. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please phone Andre & Bonnie De Decker 519-913-3533.

ST JOSEPH SCHOOL FEAST DAY

Everyone is welcome to attend St. Joseph School Feast Day Mass on Thursday March 21 at 9 am at St. Joseph School. It is so wonderful to see the little children celebrate their school's patron saint!