



The Cluster Parishes of Our Lady of Mercy, St. Benedict, St. Joseph

(Office) St. Benedict Church

1011 Oak Ave.
Sarnia, ON N7S 1J4

Our Lady of Mercy Church

390 N. Christina St.
Sarnia, ON N7T 5V9

St. Joseph Church

291 Stuart St.
Sarnia, ON N7T 3B9

Hours: Monday to Friday
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Phone: 519-336-2653
Fax: 1-866-601-8703



E-mail: saintbenedict@dol.ca
Website: www.SarniaCatholic.ca

Masses & Confessions

St. Benedict Masses

Saturday - 5:00 pm
Sunday - 10:00 am
Sunday - 6:30 pm
Tuesday & Thursday - 6:30 pm
(Vespers) Thursday - 7:00 pm
(Confessions) Tues/Thurs - 6-6:30 pm

St. Joseph Masses

Sunday - 11:00 am
Wednesday & Saturday - 9:30 am
(Confessions) Wed/Sat - 9-9:30 am

Our Lady of Mercy Masses

Saturday - 5:30 pm
Sunday - 9:00 am
Monday to Friday - 12:10 pm
(Confessions) Mon-Fri - 11:30 am-12 pm
Sat - 10:30-11:30 am

Latin Mass

1st Fridays - 7pm - St. Joseph Church

Parish Administrator

Fr. Stephen Savel - ex. 11
Email: sasavel@dol.ca

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Mateusz Sobierajski, C.S.M.A. - ex. 16
Email: matthews@dol.ca

Deacon

Deacon Lyle LaLonge - ext. 26
Email: lalonge@dol.ca

Pastoral Minister

Leonia Downie - ext. 15
Email: ldownie@dol.ca

Secretaries

Lisa De Sena - ext. 14
Anna lafrate - ext. 13
Ginette Villemaire - ext. 13

Housekeeper

Gayle Carroll

Caretakers

Chris Burley (Our Lady of Mercy)
Lauchie MacDougall (St. Joseph)
Teena Burley - (St. Joseph)
Mike Potvin - (St. Benedict)

January 20, 2019 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

A VISIBLE GOD

We find it difficult to convey ideas to people unless we can actually show them something, demonstrate what we mean. God, who is invisible and truly beyond human understanding, apparently faces the same difficulty. People want to see, not just listen to an idea. So God gave us Jesus Christ, God made visible in the world.



During these past weeks we have seen how Jesus was revealed as an infant to the shepherds and the magi, and then began his adult "public life" at his baptism by John. Today's Gospel reading tells us of his "first sign," providing wine for the wedding guests at Cana.

Of course, even Jesus, God made visible, was not always easily understood in his own day, nor is he even now. So we have to ponder what we see: the poverty and simplicity of his birth, his humility and openness before John the Baptist, his kindness and compassion toward people in their ordinary problems, such as running short of wine at a wedding. Yet it is in coming to know Jesus that we come to know God. *Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.*

Stewardship Reflection...

"To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit." (1 Corinthians 12:7)
St. Paul tells us that God has blessed each of us for a reason. How has God blessed you? Are you using your gifts according to God's plan, helping to do His work here on earth? Remember that if you don't do the work God planned for you, no one else can do it.

Sacramental

Baptism... Parents must be registered members at one of our parishes.

Preparation class is mandatory.

Scheduled Baptism Dates:

St. Benedict, Our Lady of Mercy and St. Joseph: 1st Sunday of the month.

First Communion & Confirmation...

These sacraments will take place according to church calendar. Please check the bulletin for notices on preparation, registration and set dates. If your child does not attend a catholic school, please notify the parish. Preparation is mandatory.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.)...

Classes are set from September to Pentecost. For more information or to register please call the parish office.

Marriage... About 1 year advance notice is appreciated. One of the applicants being married must be a member of one of our cluster parishes. Please contact the parish office to fill out a marriage registration form. Marriage Prep Course is mandatory.

Care & Anointing of the Sick...

Holy Communion is brought regularly to parishioners that are homebound, in nursing homes, and hospitals. Please notify the parish office if you know of someone that is in need of receiving holy communion. For the Anointing of the Sick please contact the parish office.

Note: In order to receive sacraments when in hospital or continuous care facilities, please inform the facility's administration of your Catholic faith.



Funeral... After your initial contact with the funeral home, please contact the parish office for mass preparation. (Pre-planning is encouraged.)



SVDP Food Bank & Help Center
228 Davis St. ~ 519-337-1058
Mon/Wed 11-3 & Fri 1-4



Our Lady of Mercy Cemetery & Resurrection Cemetery & Crematorium
1885 London Line, Sarnia, Ontario
519-542-2623 ~ www.catholiccemeteries.on.ca
Family Service Advisors: Jennifer Siklosi & Tiffanie Vancoillie

Weekday Masses & Intentions	Pray For	Meetings & Happenings
<p>St. Benedict <u>Tues. Jan. 22 - 6:30pm</u> Manuel Evaristo (Maggie & Mike Medeiros) Sister Anne Shwe (Family) Jordana Vandersanden (Dave & Pat Kraemer)</p> <p><u>Thurs. Jan. 24 - Afton Park N.H. Mass - 10am</u> James Tobin (Rachel Lamb) In Honour of St. Joseph (The Parish) Robert Passingham (Dr. Michael O'Mahony & Staff)</p> <p><u>Thurs. Jan. 24 - 6:30pm</u> Manuel DaSilva (Luisa Couto) Fr. Alphonse Ko lay (Family) Helen Misek (St. Benedict CWL)</p> <p>St. Joseph <u>Wed. Jan. 23 - 9:30am</u> Marion Cribbin (Jim & Mary Cahill) Joan Nelson (Fran Morin & Family) Yolande Robichaud (Aunt Delia Fairbairn)</p> <p><u>Sat. Jan. 26 - 9:30am</u> Intention of Deacon Chuck Stevens (Laurie, Mike, Meghann & Kaitlyn Hardy) Intention of Carolyn Chau (Joseph Palko) Joan Nelson (Judy Bandura)</p> <p>Our Lady of Mercy <u>Mon. Jan. 21 - 12:10</u> Pietro Cossa (Wife Rosa & Family) Cheryl Williamson (Anna Galizia) Pasquale De Carolis (Wife Anna & Family)</p> <p><u>Tues. Jan. 22 - 12:10</u> Ernie Mitro (Eileen & Martin Smith) Ines Gagliardi (Jerome & Dorothy) Mathew & Mary Bednar (Bednar & Evangelista Families)</p> <p><u>Wed. Jan. 23 - 12:10</u> Ron Smith (Rose & Rey Jusi) Norman Levesque (Family) Giuliano & Domenica Giovannelli & Anita Tius (Bonifa Dias)</p> <p><u>Thurs. Jan. 24 - 12:10</u> Domingos Correia (Maria Correia & Sons) Souls in Purgatory & Deceased Family (Francesco & Domenica D'Angela)</p> <p><u>Fri. Jan. 25 - 12:10</u> Fausto Bucci (Mom, Dad & Family) Dave & Jean Tayles (Family) Maria Celeste Marta (Gloria, Alexandrina & Manuel)</p>	<p>Our prayers and sympathy to the family of...  † Bernard Cain <i>May he and all the faithful departed rest in the peace of Christ.</i></p> <p>Diocesan ministers to pray for ~ Most Rev. John Michael Sherlock ~ Rev. John Comiskey ~ Rev. Paul Kim ~ Rev. Paul Nicholson ~ Deacon Richard Heath ~ Ms. Nives Davies, Pstrl Min ~ Rev. Michael Dwyer</p> <p>Please pray for our sick Sonya Smith, Mary Debus, Sheridan Penhale, Fran Thomson, Pat Cuthbert, Jennifer Ennett, Carol Haley, Trish Stack, Blessa Hindley, Mary Stanford, Fran LaChance, Athena Fowler, Maria Cabral, Pat Daye, George Mathieson, Joan Baley, Jackie Detailleur, Terri & Baby Brandon, Rev. Paul Smith, Don Desjardins, Shawna Paradis, Frank Power, Dawn Harris, Armine Dennie, Tyler Manzon, Sandro Manzon, Grace Gauci, Bill Dunlop, Ally Wodham, Teresa Allum, Judy Bandura, Thelma Brost, Fr. Nick Marro, Joan Bunyan, Emaline Rideout, Louise Jovic, June Shepherd, Pauline Mino, Jackie Dunlop, Fatima Ortins, Lena Rattigan, Arlene Fader, Marcella Horodyski, Mary Bigras, Cindy Phillips, John Christopher Hummell, Anna Schincariol, Rod McKinnon, Penny Koziol, Evelyn Vollrath, Yari & Dan Lynch, Cheryl Kelly, Joseph Dias, Rose Hayes Marcy, Eleanor Bruner, Mariamma Jacob, Jackie Croskery, Moira Spowart, Luba Pelletier, James Fader, Pamela Cunningham, Yvonne LeBeau, Claude Lalonde, Pat Foster, Jean-Marie Labrie, Averi Durocher.</p>	<p>St. Benedict Jan. 20 10:30 am - Parish Breakfast 2:00 pm - Franciscans Sec Mtg 4:30 pm - Confirmation Class 22 7:00 pm - Baptism Mtg 23 6:30 pm - RCIA Mtg 24 7:00 pm - Cenacle Mtg 27 11:00 am - 1st Reconciliation Class</p> <p>Our Lady of Mercy Jan. 21 1:00 pm - CWL Mtg 7:30 pm - Holy Rosary Mtg 22 6:00 pm - CWL Regional Mtg/Ptlk 7:00 pm - KC 4th Degree Mtg 23 11:30 am - Perpetual Help Devotions 12:30 pm - Soup Social 7:00 pm - Alpha Mtg 7:00 pm - Choir Practice 25 1:00 pm - Art Group</p> <p>St. Joseph Jan. 23 11:30 am - Perpetual Help Devotions</p> <p>~~~~~</p> <p>Perpetual Help Devotions - Wednesdays Our Lady of Mercy Church - 11:30 am</p> <p>Perpetual Help Devotions - Wednesdays St. Joseph Church - following 9:30 mass</p> <p>Exposition/Devotions - 1st Fridays Our Lady of Mercy Church - 11 am</p> <p>Card Night - 1st Fridays St. Benedict Church Hall - 7 pm</p> <p>Meat Bingo - 1st & 3rd Thursdays Our Lady of Mercy Church Hall - 7 pm</p> <p>Soup Social - 2nd & 4th Wednesdays Our Lady of Mercy Hall - 12:30 pm</p> <p>Sat. Parish BBQ / Sun. Parish Breakfast 3rd Sat/Sun St. Benedict Church Hall (after Mass)</p> <p>Children's Sunday Liturgy: Our Lady of Mercy: 9am Mass (ages 3-7) St. Benedict: 10am Mass (ages 3-7) St. Joseph: 11am Mass (JK to grade 2)</p>
<p>Please call the parish office if you would like your name removed from the 'pray for our sick' list.</p>		
		<p>House Blessing If you would like a house blessing please call the parish office.</p>
		<p>By the Waters of Baptism  we welcome... Sebastian Molson</p>

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE



CWL Membership Dues Reminder

2019 CWL Dues (\$25) continue to be accepted until mid February. Envelopes are available in your church envelope box set, at church entrances, or you can use a plain envelope and mark on it CWL, your parish, your name, address, and phone number. Thank you to those who have renewed, and welcome to our new members.

Parish Ministries

We are seeking commentators and lectors for Our Lady of Mercy Saturday 5:30pm Mass. If you are interested in this ministry please contact Leonia Downie at the parish office 519-336-2653 ex 15.



Parish Vocation Crucifix

If anyone presently has the parish Vocation Crucifix in their home, please call Theresa Gyuricza 519-491-5208. Anyone interested in having the Vocation Crucifix in their home for a 2-week period please call Theresa.

ALPHA

Do you know someone who has been away from God for a while and is searching for answers? Maybe you yourself have been wondering about faith issues.

Come together to Alpha ~ Wed. Jan. 23 ~ 6:30pm

Our Lady of Mercy Church Hall ~ All are welcome!

Join us for a series of sessions exploring the basics of the Christian faith. Sessions will run over eleven weeks. Each session looks at a different question that you might have about faith and is designed to create conversation. This is an open, informal, and honest space, to explore and discuss life's big questions together.

More info available at Alpha.SarniaCatholic.ca

For any questions or for more info please contact Theresa Doyle (trmdoyle@gmail.com) or Fr. Matthew (Matthews@dol.ca)

All Kids up to Grade 5 and their adult caregivers ...

Come join in the fun at our

Cluster Parish P.A. Day Kids Group

Friday, February 1st ~ St. Benedict Hall

10 am to 12:30 pm ~ Cost: FREE!

"We Meet, We Build in God's Love"

Topic: What can we give?

Pizza Lunch provided (Thanks to the KofC)

New to the Parish? All are welcome!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The Knights of Columbus will be holding its **Annual Super Bowl Soup Cook off fundraiser**

St. Joseph's Parish Hall

Sunday, February 3rd - 12 noon

Tickets: \$6 - adults & \$3 - children

(sold after Mass and at the event)



You are invited to come, have lunch and dessert with the Knights, and vote for the top soup. Come and see if reigning champion, Deacon Lyle, can defend his title of top soup chef.

If you are interested in competing and entering your secret family recipe into the game, please touch base with the knight selling tickets and he will provide you with details." Visit our Facebook event at:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/484353922091520>

St. Benedict Council 11164

Parish Breakfast following 10am Mass
this weekend, Sunday, Jan. 20

Menu: bacon, eggs, pancakes, sausage, toast, juice, coffee/tea.

Cost: adults \$6 & children under 12 -\$3

Let the Knights do the cooking this weekend!

Proceeds to ongoing council projects



See upcoming bulletins for next **parish barbecue date.**

Sat. Jan. 26 - KC Annual Basketball Free Throw at Holy Trinity School Gym. Registration: 8am. Winners will advance to the District Finals in February. Schools have details for qualifying.

Fri. Feb. 1 - Next Card Night, 7pm, parish hall.

KofC Annual Membership fees are now due. Please contact John Ramsay for any information needed.

PLEASE DO NOT USE YOUR 2018 OR PREVIOUS YEAR PARISH ENVELOPE BOX SET AS SOME ENVELOPE NUMBERS HAVE BEEN REASSIGNED. Thank you.

Offertory Collection

<u>Jan. 13/19</u>	<u>St. Joseph</u>	<u>OLM</u>	<u>St. Benedict</u>
Reg Env	\$1,590.00	\$2,294.00	\$4,147.00
Loose	142.00	176.75	328.50
Auto Debit	323.71	608.77	964.38
New Year's	45.00		65.00
Initial	50.00	20.00	150.00
Total	\$2,150.71	\$3,099.52	\$5,654.88

Thank you for your generous support of our parishes.

Pilgrimage Tour

There are still few spots available for the Pilgrimage Tour to Italy, Switzerland, France, Belgium, Germany & Holland with Fr. Matthew Sobierajski CSMA. There are a few options to choose from:

- **Whole trip 15 days:** May 13 - 27, 2019: Rome, Assisi, Siena, Florence, Bologna, Milan, Lucerne, Strasbourg, Paris, Banneaux, Cologne, Amsterdam - CA\$4490.00
- **First 8 days:** May 13 – 21, 2019: Rome, Assisi, Siena, Florence, Bologna, Milan - CA\$3190.00
- **Last 10 days:** May 18 - 27, 2019: Milan, Lucerne, Strasbourg, Paris, Banneaux, Cologne, Amsterdam - CA\$3,690.00

Details and booking info available in the brochures in the Office or at www.qstours.com/pilgrimage-tours/

Franciscan Meetings (for Jan. Feb. Mar.)

The **Franciscan Formation** meetings will be held on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 2pm in St. Benedict hall.

The **Franciscan Secular** meetings will be held on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 2pm in St. Benedict hall.

Meetings will revert back to their regular times in April.



Sarnia's Italian-Canadian History

Please join us at Sacred Heart Church Community Hall on Sunday, January 27 at 2 p.m.

Decades of local interviews and photos have been digitized and will be presented.

The exhibit will be shown by Michael Iannozzi, PHD student and Caroline Di Cocco, President of ICAP.

The work has been funded by the Government of Canada, Libraries and Archives Canada in a program known as DHCP (Documentary Heritage Communities Program). Refreshments will be served.

THANK YOU - SVDP Help Centre (Food Bank)

Thank you to all those who prayed for us and donated throughout 2018 and assisted with fund raisers for the Help Centre. The help you have given has assisted over 7,000 individuals with food, rent, utilities and dental assistance. Thank you to all the volunteers in the office and food bank who help keep us organized, clean up, and manual labour lifting and sorting in the food bank.

Thank you to the continued support of the Community: Legionnaires Hockey Team for the Turkey Toss & Food Drive and Woolly Toss in December. Thank you to those who donated the turkeys, gift cards and food.

Thank you to the Catholic Women's League, Knights of Columbus, Food Basic, Giant Tiger (Exmouth St.), Ken's Value Mart, Metro (Exmouth St.), all those who drop off food at the Help Centre, and for the weekly food and monetary donations from our parishes.

Thank you to Sacred Heart, Saint Anne's, Saint-Francois Xavier, Secondary, St Thomas D'Aquin Grade School and Holy Trinity Catholic School.

Thank you to all those who contributed to the Summer Snack Program and Hugs for Homeless Program.

Thank you ALL for your ongoing prayers and support. May God richly bless you in 2019!

Celebrate Groundhog Day with a Winter BBQ Extravaganza and Trivia Night



Fundraiser for St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Saturday, February 2 ~ Cocktails at 5:30pm

All you can eat BBQ supper which includes: (burgers, sausages, hot dogs, potato salad, beans, mac & cheese...)

Served in the parish hall, 895 Champlain Rd.

Tickets: \$20-adults / \$10-children ~ Cash bar

For tickets or more information

please contact Dave at 519-336-2907.



St. Clair Catholic DSB Strategic Plan – An Invitation to Participate! You Tell Us!

From January 9th to the 23rd the St. Clair Catholic District School Board will launch an on-line conversation about how we can work together to build Catholic education and help our students prepare for the future. It's called **Thought-exchange**, a broad consultation with all of our stakeholders, where we can share and learn from each other.

Thoughtexchange has three steps:

Share – first people share thoughts independently and confidentially;

Star – next everyone considers and rates thoughts shared by others;

Discover – and finally, everyone learns the ideas we have in common and what we value as a community.

The information we learn through **Thoughtexchange** will help us to develop a new strategic plan, to guide student learning for the next five years. We invite you to have your say – *you tell us!* Join the conversation between January 9th and the 23rd. Get started today!

Go to <https://my.thoughtexchange.com/#p885878906>

Or visit the Board website at www.st-clair.net ~ Or use the QR Code on your mobile device





Recently while visiting one of our senior parishioners she shared with me the story of her wedding at St. Joseph's. It was during the time of World War II and she told **Fr. McCarthy** about her engagement to a soldier. Fr. McCarthy told her the moment her fiancé came home on leave that she should come and see him, day or night, and he would marry them. Sure enough the soldier groom's train arrived about 1:30 am and they went to see Fr. McCarthy! He wasn't too excited but still welcomed them and sure enough married them!

The Season of the Year (Ordinary Time) begins Monday, January 14. At this time we transition again with the options used in the Liturgy, including our **music options**. For the **Penitential Act** we use the 3rd Option: "*You were sent to heal the contrite of heart....*". For the **Memorial Acclamation**, we also use the 3rd Option: "*Save us, Saviour of the world....*"

Are you growing in being a **missionary disciple**? There are some sure signs especially in our **changing priorities**. As we grow in discipleship we should more and more emphasize the importance of: **worship, prayer, service, generosity, studying our faith, and discernment**. Meaning that an authentic disciple will pray and ponder over significant decisions. How are we doing?

Our preparation is well underway for the **Sacrament of Confirmation, as it has for our children for Holy Communion and Confession**. Please pray for their faith and that of their families.

Coming soon is a **mission trip to the Yukon**. There will be a mission trip to the Diocese of Whitehorse, Yukon from **May 27 to June 4**. Whitehorse is a sister diocese to London. While in the Yukon we will be helping restore a church and museum in Burwash Landing. We will also be doing some work in Dawson City. Accommodations will be quite simple! All are welcome but especially those with carpentry and electrical skills. Please let me know if interested in helping. The average temperature for the month of May is a high of 14 degrees with a low of 1 degree. We are going at the end of the month and into June itself! The cost will be approximately \$1000. We are flying out of London on Air Canada. We will also have one day of cultural touring to Skagway, Alaska through the mountains to the ocean. So far 12 people have registered. **Only 2 spots left!**

CD spotlight. Check out our display of Catholic CD's. The display is located near the handicap washroom at St. Ben's. At OLM they are in the hallway near the entrance of the Baptismal Font. While at St. Joe's they are on the bulletin board near the front entrance. The cost is \$4/CD. You can also **download** all of these talks through the mp3 download of the month: <http://www.lighthousecatholicmedia.org/mp3club> The latest CD is **Trent Horn's How to Talk about same sex marriage**.

Looking for some good spiritual reading? Check out the **Magnificat booklet Building on Love: Pope Francis on the Family**. The cost is just \$7. There are helpful questions for self reflection and with your spouse. Also we have a few copies of the older publications Love in Marriage: Pope Francis on Living and Growing in Love. Cost is just \$4. Books are available from the office.

Quote of the week... The brother of two of the 21 Coptic Christians murdered in Libya last week has thanked their killers for including the men's declaration of faith in the video they made of their beheadings.... because they were "a badge of honour to Christianity".... The last words of some of those killed were "Lord Jesus Christ". Beshir Kamel thanked ISIS for not editing out the men's declaration of belief in Christ because he said this had strengthened his own faith. He added that the families of the ex-patriate workers are "congratulating one another" and not in despair: "We are proud to have this number of people from our village who have become martyrs," He said: "Since the Roman era, Christians have been martyred and have learned to handle everything that comes our way. This only makes us stronger in our faith because the Bible told us to love our enemies and bless those who curse us." Asked... what he would say if he were asked to forgive ISIS, he related what his mother said she would do if she saw one of the men who killed her son. "My mother, an uneducated woman in her sixties, said she would ask [him] to enter her house and ask God to open his eyes because he was the reason her son entered the kingdom of heaven." Invited to pray for his brothers' killers, Beshir prayed: "Dear God, please open their eyes to be saved and to quit their ignorance and the wrong teachings they were taught." Archbishop Charles J. Chaput. Strangers in a Strange Land.

St. Thomas Aquinas Lecture Series - On Monday, Jan. 28, the St. Thomas Aquinas Lecture Series will be hosting the following lecture: "G.K. Chesterton and the Gift of Gratitude" with special guest speaker Herman Goodden. The talk will take place in the St. Peter's Seminary auditorium and is sponsored by the seminary faculty. Parking and admission are free.

Prayer for Christian Unity Week - *Lord, hear the prayers of your people and bring the hearts of believers together in your praise and in common sorrow for their sins. Heal all divisions among Christians that we may rejoice in the perfect unity of your Church and move together as one to eternal in your kingdom. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Youth Ministry Certification - Finally, after 5 years without there being a good option to obtain a Certificate in Youth Ministry, there is some great news to share! The Diocese of London has partnered with the Catechetical Institute at the Franciscan University of Steubenville to provide for the training of those interested in Youth Ministry. This program will be the expected standard for those who desire to work as a Coordinator of Youth Ministry in the Diocese of London. Additionally, anyone can participate in the workshops to enrich their existing ministries. More information is available at www.dol.ca/ymcertification

Learn for Life Series - No papers, no exams, just learn for Life! Assumption University invites you to register for the Learn For Life 2019 Winter/Spring courses at www.assumptionu/learnforlife. Upcoming topics include An Introduction to the Health Care Ethics Guide, Religion and Politics, and a study of the Pope's encyclical, Laudato Si'.

Retrouvaille Program - You Can Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry at each other? Do you argue... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about the program, or to register for the February program beginning with a weekend on Feb. 1 – 3, 2019, please phone 519-243-0687, email retrouvaillelondonstthomas@gmail.com or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com

Thank you for your support of the parish.

Please remember your parish in your will.

Is there someone you could discuss the Gospel or the homily with? Around the kitchen table? In your family?

Do you have a question or need help with something? Please ask.

Is there anything you think is needed for the parish? Please let us know.

Are you new to the parish? Welcome! Please contact the office to register.

St. Benedict's CRA Charity Registration Number #11910 9817RR0128

Our Lady of Mercy & St. Joseph's CRA Charity Registration Number #11910 9817RR0125

What is God telling me this week?

What is one thing from Mass today that will help me to become a better person this week?

How did I do last week?

PARISH REGISTRATION FORM

If you are seeking a church home, we gladly welcome you! Please complete this registration form and drop it in the weekend collection basket or bring to the parish office. Our parish communities welcome you and we hope that you will feel at home.

Last Name _____

First Name(s): (Mr. & Mrs. Mr. Mrs. Miss) _____

Children's Names (if applicable) _____

Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone _____ E-mail Address _____

Church in which you wish to be registered: Our Lady of Mercy St. Benedict St. Joseph

Do you wish to be issued a set of Sunday Offertory Envelopes: Yes No

St. Vincent De Paul - Our Lady of Mercy Conference

Balance Forward Jan. 1 2018	672.90
Total of all funds	<u>17431.40</u>
Funds available	18104.30

Expenses

St Vincent De Paul Food Bank & SVDP Programs	6655.00
Christmas Hampers	<u>7198.50</u>
Total all expenses paid	13853.50

Cash carried forward Jan. 1 2019	4250.80
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Thank you to all donors of Our Lady of Mercy Conference. In Dec 2018, we hosted the sorting of Irish Miracle donations and preparing Food Hampers for both OLM and St Benedict conferences. Thanks to all volunteers who assisted in any way to complete this large undertaking. Our conference distributed approx.140 hampers along with children's gifts and food vouchers for perishable items. There continues to be a growing need to provide basic needs of food, rent and hydro in our community.

This year our **donations decreased** by nearly **\$5000**. Several one-time donations not repeated and the number of donors decreased due to the passing of long-time parishioners. Your continued financial support is very much appreciated and needed. The current year end balance on hand will be donated to the Food Bank this month. Donations can be made via envelopes in your church envelope box set or place donations in the St. Vincent de Paul box in the parking lot entrance beside the door to the children's room. If using a regular envelope, please mark on it SVDP Donation and the parish name, your name and address, and place it in the collection basket. The food Bank is always in need of extra hands and your involvement will be appreciated. For information contact Loraine Michieli through the Help Centre 337-1058. Your 2018 SVDP Tax receipts will be included with the parish receipts in order to save on postage costs.

Don Heit, Treasurer

St. Vincent De Paul - St. Benedict's Conference

Balance Forward, Jan. 1, 2018	1,928.33
Total Funds received in 2017	<u>43,279.13</u>
Funds available	45,207.46

Expenditures:

SVDP Food Bank and programs	29,365.00
Food vouchers & costs of Christmas Hampers	12,878.96
Bank Charges	<u>35.00</u>
Total Expended	42,278.96

Balance Forward Dec. 31 2018	2,928.50
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Once again the parishioners of St. Joseph and St. Benedict's have kindly supported the disadvantaged in our community. This year St. Joseph prepared 103 Christmas hampers & St. Benedict's prepared 139 Christmas hampers, sponsored two families through Save a Family Plan and contributed to various SVDP programs including the SVDP Help Centre (Food Bank). The Help Centre assists people with food, rent, utilities and other life essential needs. The needs in our community continue to grow. Thank you for your generous donations.

Financial donations can be made using SVDP envelopes provided in your envelope box set, or by using a plain envelope and writing on it SVDP, your name, address, phone number and parish. Donations can be deposited in the weekend collection basket or placed in the SVDP box after mass. Volunteers interested in assisting with the work of SVDP are asked to please contact Loraine Michieli at the SVDP Help Centre 337-1058. SVDP tax receipts for 2018 will be attached to your annual parish tax receipt.

Tom Kelly, Treasurer

Analia Davis

Sales Representative

I Sell Sarnia/Lambton From Home to Home

☎ 519.542.9999

✉ isellsarnia@gmail.com

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Daniel J. Gimpel, FIC, EPC, CPCA
Fraternal Advisor

Toll Free: (866) DAN-KOFC
(866) 326-5632

Email: daniel.gimpel@kofc.org
Office: (519) 332-4355



PHARMASAVE

Tammy Maure, BScPhm
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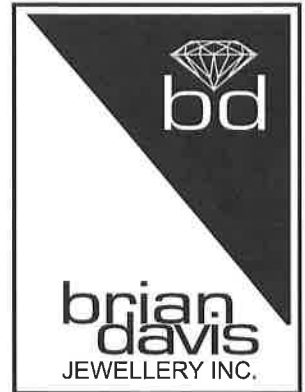
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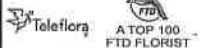
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