4th Sunday of Advent - December 18, 2016

God promised to send a Savior to the world, and Jesus came among us. In return, we are called to serve Christ and proclaim him to all. This is easily overlooked as we get caught up in our own pride, or focus on worldly matters. As we look to the Nativity of the Lord, let us shake off distractions and strive to serve Jesus and share him with others.

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** MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 19 - 25 **

**MONDAY: December 19**
(We pray for Rev. Maurice Charbonneau)

**TUESDAY: December 20**
(We Pray for Rev. Matt George)

St. Peter’s Church - 12:00 pm
“Devotions to St. Joseph & St. Andre”
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Int. of Fr. Matt George - Teresa Kozlowska
+(4th Ann.) James Truckle - Jan & Greg Denomme
+(1st Ann.) Margaret & Max Ducharme - Peter & Evelyn Jeffrey & Family

**WEDNESDAY: December 21**
(We Pray for Mrs. Lyn Di Pinto, Youth Ministry)

St. Boniface Church - 7:00 pm
“Devotions to Our Mother of Perpetual Help”
+Phil Overholt - Vonnie Overholt
+Barb Regier - Sister Mary Regier
+Leo & Cecile Meidinger - Their Family

**THURSDAY: December 22**
(We Pray for Deacon Joseph Manzara)

Bluewater Resthome - 3:30 pm
+Don Ducharme - Virginia Denomme

**FRIDAY: December 23**
(We Pray for Rev. Michael Ryan)

St. Boniface Church - 9:15 am
+Ivan Meidinger - Marjorie Meidinger
Int. of Karl Regier - Ray & Janice Hartman
+John VanderBurgt - Francis & Doreen Hartman & Family

**SATURDAY: December 24 - Christmas Eve**
(We Pray for Rev. Albert Williams)

St. Boniface Church - No Morning Mass
St. Boniface Church - 5:00 pm - Vigil Mass
St. Peter’s Church - 7:00 pm - Vigil Mass
St. Boniface Church - 12:00 am - Midnight Mass

**SUNDAY: December 25 - Christmas Day**
St. Peter’s Church—11:00 am
Bluewater Resthome - 1:00 pm

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**Dear Parishioners:** finally some winter weather! (Unless, of course, it has warmed up & rained again.) I was afraid Christmas would sneak up on us and we’d miss it. Our recent blustery weather meant that not many people were present for our Family of Parishes Recommendation Meeting. (You’ll recall that the Deanery’s first recommendation didn’t save us any priest personnel & as a result, wasn’t accepted by the diocesan Taskforce.) We had (what I thought was) a good discussion and examined every alternative possible (I don’t recall us discussing the possibility of de-clustering our two communities at the previous meeting) and came up with the following **two options**: 1) St. Boniface, St. Peter & Immaculate Heart of Mary (Grand Bend – our original cluster configuration) served by 1 priest or 2) St. Boniface, St. Peter, Precious Blood (Exeter), Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (Mt. Carmel), Immaculate Heart of Mary & Sacred Heart (Parkhill), with 2 priests serving. No one at the meeting supported joining one or both of our parishes with St. Peter’s (Goderich) or St. James (Seaford) and its cluster. If you would like to **add your comments**, please do so in writing (please include your name so we can ascertain that you are a registered parishioner) to the Parish Office, either by email or on paper: I don’t think we’ll have the opportunity to meet again before Christmas, and we need to have this to the Deanery by January so that all the local recommendations can be put together & submitted to the Diocese. I trust everyone is aware of the Live Nativity the Zurich Churches put on at the Ball Park: take advantage of this opportunity to be inspired by the beauty of Bethlehem! Have a blessed week. Fr. Matt

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**Happy Birthday Fr. Matt!!!**

Happy Birthday wishes go out to Fr. Matt who is celebrating a birthday on **Monday, December 19.**

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**Decorating of St. Boniface Church**

We are looking for volunteers to help with Christmas decorating at St. Boniface Church on **Sunday, December 18 at 11 am.** During this busy Christmas season what a great gift it is to give of your time.

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**Bulletin News for the Weeks of December 26 - January 8**

Please have any bulletins news from December 26 - January 8 to the Church Office no later than **Wednesday, December 21 at 3:30 pm** as we will be doing a 2 week bulletin next week.
Prayer List

Please remember in your prayers the members of our parish family suffering from illness, Joyce Waller, Roxanne Rau, Louise Merner, Reese Thomson, Joyce Cole, Steve Brock, Fr. Martin Nyland, Patrick Mihm, Shirley Bedard, Barbara Rau, Ed Smith and Madeline Denomme.

The Newly Baptized

Welcome to our parish family Adeline Mary & Everly Marie Cantin, daughters of Andrew & Julie who were baptized at St. Peter’s last weekend.

Knights of Columbus

Executive/General Meeting - Wednesday, December 21 at 8:00 pm at St. Boniface Church.

Please Note: The card party for December has been cancelled.

A Message from your Finance Committee

Our Parishes appreciate and depend on your generosity especially at Christmas time for the financial needs for the mission of our parishes. Last year both St. Boniface and St. Peter’s ended up in the black. Currently both parishes are operating in a deficit [St. Boniface – ($5,150) and St. Peter’s ($1,640)] and we are going to need a little more help than normal to make a balance budget by years end. Hopefully with your help we can meet our operating needs at both parishes for this year. Thank you! The Finance Committee

Donations for 2016

Please have all donations for 2016 into the church office no later then Friday, December 30 at noon to ensure that your donations are included on your 2016 income tax receipt. Any donations received after noon on December 30 can only be included on your 2017 income tax receipt.

Offertory Envelopes for 2017

Your 2017 offertory envelopes are available for pick up in the entrance of the Church. Those who do not already have offertory envelopes and would like some, or if you would like to make your offertory donations through automatic monthly bank withdrawal please sign the sign-up sheet in the entrance of the Church. Please do not use your previous years envelopes in 2017 as envelope numbers have changed and your contributions will not be recorded properly.

Annual Live Nativity

The Live Nativity will take place at the Zurich Pavilion (behind the ball diamond at the park) on Sunday, December 18 starting at 7 pm. Plan to attend and dress warm.

Update from St. Boniface Building Committee

St. Boniface Building Committee is pleased to provide you with the following update of projects that have been completed or are in the process of being completed. A patch in the back parking lot has been repaired by Arts Landscaping; Bluewater Windows and Doors have installed new windows in the rectory and Rathwell Refrigeration and Heating will be installing our new thermostats and complete zoning system for the office, narthex and hall. This is something that has been on the books since before we as a building committee were formed but just put off till now due to financing. On December 13th Allan Avis came to do an Internal Study of the entire church building. Once we receive the report from Allan Avis which should be by the end of January we will call a Building Committee Meeting to discuss his findings. We are hoping that in the spring we can continue with more projects pending on our finances so stay tuned for further information to come. Thanks, Doug Debus, Building Committee Chair

Have a Rosary - Need a Rosary?

There is a box at the back of our Churches containing several rosaries. If you wish a rosary, please feel free to take whichever one you like. If you have extra rosaries at home which you are not using, please put them in the box. At the end of the year, if there is a large number, we will send them to the missions.

FRIENDS OF ST. ANDRE

St. Peter’s at St. Joseph is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the first visit by St. Andre to our parish. We have decided to celebrate a special occasion for each month of the year.

Jan 8th, 2017, we will celebrate his death (Jan. 6, 1937) with dedications and a social in the parish hall.

Feb. 19th, we would like to commemorate Feb. 20, 1874 when he pronounced his final vows.

March 19th is the Feast of St. Joseph.

Aug 8th (his birthday was Aug.6th) will be called Reunion Sunday. Ancestors of the 1917 original families will be invited to visit. A History Wall is being set up in the hall with pictures and stories of any encounters with the saint.

Oct. 22 is another big day - the actual anniversary of his first visit and canonization. The major relicary will be here from Montreal.

Events are being planned for the other months as well.

You are invited to any of these dates, but the Aug 8th and Oct.22nd are going to be extra special. It was such an honour to have this Canadian saint visit our parish and touch so many lives. Volunteers are needed to make these celebrations a success. Please contact a member of the parish pastoral council for more information.
Please Support These Local Businesses That Support Our Parish

Events at a glance....

- Sung Evening Prayer - Sunday, December 18 at 7:00 pm at St. Peter’s Church
- K of C Meeting - Wednesday, December 21 at 8:00 pm at St. Boniface Church

Christmas/New Year’s Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve - December 24
5 pm St. Boniface; 7 pm St. Peter’s
Midnight Mass at St. Boniface

Christmas Day - Dec 25 - 11 am St. Peter’s;
1 pm BWRH

New Year’s Eve - Dec 31 - 5 pm St. Boniface

New Year’s Day - 9 am St. Peter’s; 11 am BWRH

Bayview Golf Club Inc.
R.R. #2, Zurich, Ontario N0M 2T0
Phone: 519-236-4030
Fax: 519-236-4684
Email: bayviewgolf@bay.net
Website: www.bayviewgolfclub.ca
Hwy. 21, 7 miles North of Grand Bend
Have a great game!
Weekend Masses

Sat 5:00 pm  St. Peter (mid April to mid October)
St. Boniface (mid October to mid April)
Sun 9:00 am  St. Boniface
11:00 am  St. Peter

Pastoral Staff:
Pastor:  Fr. Matthew George
Secretary:  Lori LaPorte
Office Hours:  Tuesday - Thursday
8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Friday - 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

MISSION STATEMENT
And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:18-20 (NRSV, Catholic edition)

Parish Organizations

Parish Advisory Council: A combined council meets every month to discuss and plan pastoral initiatives and practical functioning of the parish. If you have suggestions please consider contacting one of the members.

Youth Ministry: Youth from grades 5 to 8 gather regularly for fun, faith and friendship. See the website for information.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word: Every Sunday at the 9:00 am mass.

Catholic Cemeteries: We have the privilege of having cemeteries associated with St Peter and St. Boniface Churches. Information can be found on the website.

Other Organizations: Catholic Women’s Leagues, Knights of Columbus and others.

Parish Office & School Contact Information

Parish Office:
22 Mary St., Box 81
Zurich, ON NoM 2T0
519-236-4191
bluewater@dol.ca

St. Boniface School:
24 Mary St., Box 128
Zurich, ON NoM 2T0
519-236-4335
stbonifaces@hpcdsb.ca

St. Anne’s Catholic Secondary School:
353 Ontario St., Box 490
Clinton, ON NoM 1Lo
519-482-5454

Parish Pastoral Council
Cynthia Forler
Lynette Graham
Phil LaPorte
Kathryn Regier
Janet Soudant
Marg Suplat

Website
Our website is regularly updated. There is a monthly calendar of events, important information and great pictures.
www.bluewater.dionet.ca

Celebrating Our Faith

Baptism
Please contact the office as you await the birth of your child or while you are awaiting adoption.

Reconciliation
God sent His Son so that we might be saved! Experience God’s healing through the sacrament of reconciliation after the 12:00 pm Mass and Devotions on Tuesdays at St. Peter’s or before Mass on Saturday mornings from 8:00 - 8:45 am at St. Boniface or by appointment.

Marriages
The sacrament of marriage is a beautiful expression of God’s love for the world! Minimum six months notice is required during which time the engaged couple must attend a Marriage Preparation Course.

Sacrament of the Sick
If you know of a person who is in hospital, or who is homebound because of illness and is desiring the sacrament of the sick, contact the office to make arrangements.

Bluewater Nursing Home
A weekly mass is offered on Thursdays at 3:30 pm in the chapel. All are welcome.

Devotions
St. Joseph and Saint André - Tuesday after the 12:00 pm mass - St. Peter’s.
Our Mother of Perpetual Help - Wednesday after the 7:00 pm mass - St. Boniface.
Every first Friday at St. Boniface Church there is exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm—come be transformed by the healing power of Jesus.