2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - January 15, 2017

“I will give you as a light to the nations,” writes Isaiah, “that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.” We are the gift that God is offering to a broken world, but how many of our neighbours look longingly over at our homes or our churches and say, “Gee, those people are so full of light; I want what they have!” It’s startlingly few these days, and for lots of complex reasons. But there is one reason over which we all have some control: how bright our own lights are. Are we letting God shine light into our lives? Are we looking for God’s light, celebrating it, sharing it with others, allowing God to transform us, and then sharing that with others? Or are we content to let the bit of light we find be just enough for ourselves? Or simply letting the light give us eyes to see something, while we resist letting it drive away the darkness of our own sin? God is offering us as the gift that God is offering to a broken world, but how many of our neighbours look longingly over at our homes or our churches and say, “I wish for the world. How can we grow this year into the lights God wants us to be for others? 

Dear Parishioners: what a week of weather! I pray our January Thaw – or whatever we’re calling this – will soon pass us by. (Another good reason to have your email address on our parish-wide mail list, in case we need to alert you that Sunday Mass is cancelled again!) As this is my first chance to put pen to paper since returning from holidays, let me again thank our volunteers & staff for the wonderful celebrations throughout the Christmas Season; well done! The big news this week (besides our Deanery putting together all our parish family recommendations) is the return of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Zurich Mennonite Church is hosting the noon-hour lunch & Bible sharing from Monday to Friday (bring a sandwich – soup & beverages will be provided), while St. Boniface will host the Prayer Service next Sunday at 3pm. Each year I have been so impressed with all the people – and the Churches they represent – who come out, encounter their Christian neighbours, and join in prayer for our Churches & our world: please consider joining us! (If you’re not free at noon, how about taking a copy of the daily reflections home – available at the door of the church – and pray them whenever convenient? Pastor Ryan from ZMC will be preaching the sermon at the Service – I’m looking forward to it!) Adult Faith Development Dept.; Lent will soon be upon us (March 1st), and besides a Mission on Prayer & Praying, I would like to get a catechetical series going. (I will need a team for this!) My sense is that people are more interested in in selected topics than a systematic run thru The Catechism; also, people have told me they would like a balance between the large-group presentations & small-group sharing. If you are interested in helping, keep watching our website for more info, and contact the Office. John the Baptist “has seen and testified” – what have we seen? How do we testify? God bless you & your family this week! Fr. Matt

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, Madeline Denomme and Ken Mittelholtz.

Social at St. Peter’s Rescheduled to this Sunday following the 11 am Mass
Due to the weather last Sunday the reception to begin our year of celebrations for St. Andre’s visit will be held this Sunday, January 15 at 12 pm in St. Peter’s Hall. We will also be sharing information about events planned for the coming year. Everyone is invited!
It will soon be time to prepare income tax receipts for the Bro. Bob Bake Sale and Raffle to be held in February. You there. We will be finalizing plans for our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00 pm in St. Boniface Church.

The next CMOB meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 17 at 7:00 pm in St. Peter’s Church Sacristy.

St. Boniface Knights of Columbus
Executive/General Meeting - Wednesday, January 18 at 8 pm at St. Boniface Church.
Card Party - Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00 pm at St. Boniface Church.
Ladies Night - Thursday, January 26 beginning at 6:30 pm in St. Boniface Parish Hall. Hot meal, door prizes and entertainment. All members, spouses & widows are invited. Please call Steve Harburn at 519-236-7160 to let him know how many will be attending.

CMOB
The next CMOB meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 17 at 7:00 pm in St. Peter’s Church Sacristy.

St. Boniface CWL
General Meeting - is scheduled for Tuesday, January 17 at 7:30 pm in the church hall. Patti and Carmel’s group is in charge of the meeting. Hope to see you there. We will be finalizing plans for our Annual Bro. Bob Bake Sale and Raffle to be held in February.

Your Mailing Address
It will soon be time to prepare income tax receipts for 2016. If you have moved in the last year, please contact the church office and provide us with your current mailing address so we can bring our records up to date.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Come join us for some bible sharing during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The noon hour bible study will be held from this Monday, January 16 to Friday, January 20 at the Zurich Mennonite Church; soup and beverages provided. We will end the week with a Christian Service to be held on Sunday, January 22 at 3 pm at St. Boniface Church.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
at The Chapel at Windermere on the Mount
This year, we rejoice in the opportunity to pray with the Christians of Germany. They have chosen as their theme “Reconciliation – The Love of Christ Compels Us,” inspired by 2 Corinthians 5:14-20. They invite Christians around the world to celebrate God’s reconciling grace, call us to recognize the pain of the deep divisions which afflict the Church, and urge us to become ambassadors of Christ’s message of reconciliation. In this year when we commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, the healing of the Church is of utmost importance. King’s University College will be hosting this gathering of prayer at The Chapel at Windermere on The Mount (1486 Richmond Street) on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 7:30. Their choir will lead the assembly in song and they have invited the ministerial team from North Park Community Church to break-open the Word of God. Refreshments will follow in the Parish Hall.

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Ultreya
The January ultreya in Goderich this month is on Sunday, January 22 at 7:30 pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall on 390 Parson’s Court. For further info call Eileen at 519-524-9400 or Marie at 519-395-5261.

5th Annual Men of Faith Conference
All men & young men (16+) are being called to the 5th Annual Men of Faith Conference on Saturday, January 21, 2017 at St. Michael’s Parish, London. Ken Yasinski and Fr. Ben Leudtke will be our keynote speakers. Come and join us for some great fellowship and opportunity to grow in your faith. Sign up online at www.famfi.ca or contact mike@legacypartners.ca for more information. Lunch, prizes and registration kits are included. $25 for students and $30 for adults if you pre-register, and $45 at the door.

Retrouvaille Weekends
Retrouvaille is here to provide hope to couples who are hurting. There are two upcoming weekends in our diocese: January 20, 2017 in London and February 11, 2017 in Windsor/Essex. For more information, contact retrouvailleanewindsor@gmail.com (for the London region) or 1015@retrouvaille.org (for the Windsor/Essex region).

2017 Lift Jesus Higher Rally
Be inspired, encouraged and healed: Come Celebrate the 25th Annual Lift Jesus Higher Rally, on Saturday, March 4 from 9 am - 5:30 pm at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre (255 Front St. W.). Including Sr. Ann Shields, Peter Herbeck and guest speaker Bishop Scott McCaig. High Mass (with Sunday readings) will be celebrated by Cardinal Thomas Collins. There is also a separate youth event (13-18 years) with great music, dynamic talks and inspirational skits. Tickets ($25 for adults, $15 for youth) can be purchased online at http://www.lift-jesus-higher-rally.ca

Daily TV Mass Available Online
The National Catholic Broadcasting Council has made Daily TV Mass available online at www.dailytvmass.com for those who cannot get to Mass. The new website has a number of features including the ability to send a prayer request which will be included in their Prayer Intentions Book; light a virtual candle; as well as view any of the past 14 National Catholic Missions.
Please Support These Local Businesses That Support Our Parish

Events at a glance....

- Devotions & Social (rescheduled) - Sunday, January 15 at St. Peter’s to celebrate St. André’s death (January 6, 1937). Social at 12:00 pm in St. Peter’s Church Hall.
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Noon Hour Study - January 16 - 20 at Zurich Mennonite Church
- CMOB - Tuesday, January 17 at 7:00 pm in St. Peter’s Sacristy
- Christian Unity Service - Sunday, January 22 at 3:00 pm at St. Boniface Church
- CMOB - Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00 pm in St. Peter’s Sacristy
- K of C Card Party - Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00 pm at St. Boniface Church
- Finance Meeting - Wednesday, January 25 at St. Boniface following the 7 pm Mass

SHOW YOUR LOVE FOR YOUR PARISH BY REMEM-BERING TO INCLUDE YOUR PARISH IN YOUR WILL.
Parish Organizational Structure

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

**Parish Office & School Contact Information**

**Parish Office:**  
22 Mary St., Box 81  
Zurich, ON N0M 2T0  
519-236-4291  
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

**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)

**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.