Palm Sunday - March 25, 2018
The Father responds to Jesus’ willing self-sacrifice by raising him to glory. As we begin to recall and commemorate the events of that first Holy Week, when Jesus willingly laid aside his glory and embraced the cross for our salvation, may we be filled with gratitude and awe at one who loves us so much.

Dear Parishioners: who would have guessed that God is Catholic? (At least he seems to be following the Liturgical Calendar, warming things up for Holy Week!) I thank God for the safe arrival of Arram El Mohammed, son of Rustem & Felek, our refugee family. Even after a sooner-than-hoped-for C-section, both mother & child are doing well: stay tuned for a date for the Baby Shower, so we can properly celebrate. We have 14 young Candidates preparing for First Communion (my thanks for their presence at our retreat) this Easter season: please pray that this important step in their faith journey is a grace-filled one and a source of joy for the whole Church. Must Be Losing It Dept.: it’s one thing to forget myself & have a non-RC clergy proclaim the Gospel at Mass, but it’s another thing entirely for me to forget to wear my rose-coloured vestments two weeks ago on Laetare Sunday! Preaching Amoris Laetitia has really preoccupied me – I better eat more fish or something! (Our study groups are taking a break for Holy Week & Easter Week, but feel free to join us when we resume – new members always welcome!) Could we all please remember to make a contribution towards the lost funds from the Canada Summer Jobs Grant? We should not leave our Bishop as a voice in the wilderness to which no one responds. As a citizen, I am furious that my government has determined that there is a “right way” of thinking about abortion & euthanasia, and all who fail to follow the party line have to suffer! Our youth across the diocese will need your help this summer – those organizing & leading them need to know now that the money will be there. My thanks for all the Sharetalent contributions that are coming in: Development + Peace focus on peacebuilding in four continents has helped me focus my own efforts on being a more peaceful person. Palm Sunday also serves as World Youth Day in every “off” year (when there is no international gathering): pray for our youth, that in all the world’s attractions & distractions, they will have the grace to recognize the Son of David when he passes by. A blessed Holy Week to one & all!
Fr. Matt

Prayer List
Please remember in your prayers the members of our parish family suffering from illness, Louise Merner, Reese Thomson, Steve Brock, Fr. Martin Nyland, Shirley Bedard, Madeline Denomme, Marie Cyr, Michael Frijters, Theresa Davies, Martha Risi, Janet Durand, Steven Overholt, Fr. Henry Cassano and all who minister in hospitals.

Mass of Chrism
Everyone is invited to the Mass of Chrism to be celebrated at St. Peter’s Cathedral Basilica on Monday, March 26 at 7:00 pm. Your presence in this celebration is an important sign to be strengthened in your ministry of service to the People of God by gathering together with our bishops at the Tables of the Word and Eucharist.

Bulletin News & Office Hours
The office will be closed on Good Friday, March 30. Please make sure to have all bulletin news to the office by no later then Wednesday, March 28 at noon.

Parish Community Card Party
Tuesday, March 27 at 7:15 pm at St. Boniface Church. Everyone welcome!
**St. Boniface CWL**

**Blessings Easter Food Drive** - We will be collecting non perishable food for Blessing’s Food Bank until **Monday, March 26**. Some of the items they are in need of are tomato juice, diced tomatoes, toilet paper, shampoo and conditioner, deodorant, peanut free school snacks. There will be a large box in the narthex. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

**St. Peter’s Bible Study**

St. Peter’s Bible Study will resume after Easter on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am in the parish hall. We will be studying the Psalms. Anyone interested in joining please contact Martha Mungar at 519-236-7321.

**COR Youth Retreat**

Another exciting COR retreat will unfold during the weekend of **April 13-15** in Dublin. It is a weekend where teens (youth in grade 11 & 12 and up to age 21) discover more about themselves, respecting others, experience a reconnection with God, meet new friends, and just have a whole lot of fun through games and music. Pick up an application form at St. Mike’s or St. Anne’s High School, by contact Vicki or Mike Whelan at 519-319-4171 or by email at vickiwhelan@rogers.com. Please submit applications by **April 9** for this amazing weekend!

**Reese Thomson Fundraiser**

Reese is a young girl in our Parish Community with Vanishing White Matter Disease, a rare neurological condition. Reese and her family are needing to purchase a wheelchair accessible van. There will be a fundraising concert held at the Trivitt Memorial Church in Exeter, on Sunday, **March 25 at 3:00 pm** by the Waterloo Regional Police Male Chorus, who are donating their talent and time for this cause. Tickets are $20 and may be purchased at the door. All funds raised will be applied to this fundraiser.

**Development & Peace**

**2018 Share Lent Campaign**

Thank you for your generous support of the 2018 Share Lent campaign! Development and Peace – Caritas Canada thanks you for your Share Lent donation. These donations will help support the actions of our sisters and brothers in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East. If you have not had a chance to donate, there is still time to place your Share Lent envelope in the Offertory or to donate online at devp.org/give. Thank you for continuing to pray for all those who are working to build a world of peace and justice.

**Priestly Ordinations**

The Diocese of London and St. Peter’s Seminary announce the ordinations of Rev. Mr. Paul Kim and Rev. Dr. Robert Weaver to the ministerial priesthood. The sacrament of Holy Orders will be celebrated by Bishop Fabbro on **Saturday, April 28 at 11 am at St. Peter’s Cathedral Basilica**, London. All are welcome to attend. We assure Deacon Paul and Deacon Robert of our support and prayers, as they prepare for ordination.

**Goderich Ultreya**

Ultreya in Goderich this month is on **Sunday, March 25 at 7:30 pm** at the Knight’s of Columbus Convention Centre at 390 Parson’s Court. For further info call Eileen at 519-524-9400 or Marie at 519-395-5261.

**Mexican High School Exchange Students**

Five families needed with students attending St. Anne’s High school to billet Mexican high school students from April 1 - 14. Stipends paid $25/day includes trips to Toronto and Niagara Falls. If interested contact the church office.

**Spring Education Focus**

You are cordially invited to attend the Blue Water Rest Home “Spring Education Focus” - dealing with various aspects of having a loved one in Long Term Care. **Wednesday, April 4 from 7 - 9 pm** in the Blue Water Rest Home Chapel.

**Family Foundations Institute’s Annual Women’s Seminar**

Saturday, **April 7 from 10 am - 3:30 pm** at John Paul II High School, London. Theme: Resilience – Facing Life’s Challenges and Landing on Your Feet. Key Address/3 Practical Afternoon Workshops/ Lunch & Social/Resources. Cost: $35 advance, $40 at the door. Lunch included. Register online at famfi.ca or contact info@famfi.ca.

**Men of Faith Conference - Listowel**

All men are invited to attend another informative and inspiring day. “Faith Explained” with Cale Clarke on **Saturday, April 14, 2018** from 8:30 - 3:30 pm at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, Listowel. Also hear from Fr. Patrick Beneteau, Vocations Director for the Diocese of London. For more information about the day and a detailed schedule, visit famfi.ca. Cost: Early Bird - $10/person; at the door $15/person. The day includes coffee & refreshments and a hot lunch.

**Ordination Day Breakfast**

On **Saturday, April 28 from 8:30 - 10 am**, parish priests along with interested men (ages 14 and up) are invited to a pre-ordination breakfast with Bishop Fabbro, Bishop Dabrowski, and seminarians from St. Peter’s Seminary. There will be a brief presentation by Fr. Patrick Beneteau, Vocations Director, and the Bishop will explain the Rite of Ordination. For more information or to register contact Fr. Patrick at vocations@dol.ca.

**Wedding Anniversary Mass - Save the Date**

The Most Reverend Ronald Fabbro, C.S.B., Bishop of London, invites all married couples to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage at the **Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 3 at 3 pm** at Good Shepherd Parish, Tecumseh. More details will follow at a later date.

**Spring Ham and Chicken Dinner**

Saturday, **April 14 at 5:30 pm** at St. Peter’s Lutheran Church. Catered by Jerry Rader’s Homestyle Catering. Adults $25; 12 & under $15; 3 & under free. For tickets contact Kelly Jeffery 519-236-4350 or leave a message at the Church Office 519-236-4697.
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Please Support These Local Businesses That Support Our Parish

Events at a glance....

- Sung Evening Prayer - Sunday, March 25 at 7:00 pm at St. Peter’s Church
- Parish Community Card Party - Tuesday, March 27 at 7:15 pm at St. Boniface Church
- Stations of the Cross with St. Boniface School Students - Thursday, March 29 at 9:15 am at St. Boniface Church
- Holy Thursday Mass - Thursday, March 29 at 7:00 pm at St. Boniface Church
- Good Friday Services - Friday, March 30 at 11:00 am (Simple Service) at St. Boniface & 3:00 pm (Solemn Service) at St. Peter’s
- Easter Vigil - Saturday, March 31 at 8:00 pm at St. Peter’s
- Amoris Laetitia Study Group - Tuesday, April 3 at 6:30 pm in St. Boniface Hall

St. Andre 100 Years Website - http://standre100.weebly.com

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St. Boniface and St. Peter Parishes

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

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.