26th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sept 30, 2018

Jesus says, There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me. By our baptism we are called to prophecy, and to share the good news of salvation. May we have the enthusiasm of Eldad, Medad and the unknown follower of the Gospel - having no fear in proclaiming the truth and not waiting to be told what to do.

Dear Parishioners: Back into the swing of things! After getting the Sacramental Preparation meeting and a Parish Pastoral Council meeting under my belt I can say the new year of parish pastoral life is well and truly begun! Let’s hold up all our families in prayer this year, especially these with young people preparing for First Reconciliation, Communion, Confirmation and Marriage. Our commitment to our young people should include an effort to grow in our own faith journey: please join in (either by simply reading along at home, joining in an on-line discussion (format tbd) or attending) our informal discussion groups: Tuesday after the noon Mass at St. Peter’s, or Wednesdays following the evening Mass at St. Boniface. Our first encounter will follow the outline of “Courageous Conversations”, a resource I found at the (U.S.) National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry abut clergy sexual abuse. It is surely not the happiest topic to begin with, but if we are not talking about the elephant in the room, we certainly give our world cause to wonder if we are serious. Vocation Prayers Department: for the next nine First Thursdays (we’ll skip November, because it’s All Saints) we’ll celebrate the votive Mass of Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest for an increase in priestly vocations and to aid in the healing of the clergy sexual abuse scandal. Please join us - our seniors would love to see you! - at the Bluewater Rest Home Chapel, Thursdays at 3:30 pm. The PPC was also helpful (I love their deer-in-headlights look!) when it came to talking about small group leaders in relation to our up-coming bereavement groups. While Confirmation preparation for the last two cycles and our Bible Study groups have functioned as small faith-sharing groups the parish at large probably hasn’t seen them since RENEW got started in 1998: no wonder people seemed so confused! Small Group Leaders lead in sharing their faith, their own experience; they are neither teachers of theology nor clinical therapists. By gently encouraging their small (6-10 people) group, they ensure that everyone gets a chance to speak, and that everyone is respectfully listened to. In the case of Confirmation, we need to expose our young people to high school-and-adult-aged Catholics who regularly participate at Sunday Mass; with regard to the Bereavement Groups the most important point is that the group leader has themselves been on the journey of death and loss. Please don’t think you need to be an expert in any particular field: the group leader doesn’t supply the content of the discussion - the program or the presenter does that. You probably know someone (perhaps it’s you) who practices active listening and can help people better understand themselves through confidential sharing: that is the kind of person we will need when we open up our Bereavement Groups. I’m guessing Marriage, divorce and annulments will be one of our topics down the road: from this Sunday’s Gospel reading, it appears it has been a ‘hot topic’ from the very beginning of the Church! Perhaps this week we can offer some extra prayer or gesture of friendship to someone who is separated, divorced or re-married: I know the Lord wants to lay his hands on all of us, and fill us with his blessing! God bless you this week. Fr. Matt

MASS INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER 1 - 7

MONDAY: October 1
(Vocation Support Prayer:
Deacon John White)

TUESDAY: October 2
(Deacon Cap Van Au)
St. Peter’s Church
11:30 am - Rosary & Devotions to St. Joseph & St. Andre
12:00 pm - Mass
+Madeline Denomme - Anna Marie, Mark & Matt
+Giustino Marcello - Anne O’Donnell

WEDNESDAY: October 3
(Rec. Ljubo Lebo, O.F.M.)
St. Boniface Church - 9:15 am***
Int. of Frank & Doreen Regier on the Occasion of their
“70th” Wedding Anniversary - Ursula Regier & Sharon Rau
Int. of Steve Meidinger - George & Marg Suplat
+Janice Jordan - Clarence & Joan Regier

THURSDAY: October 4
(Rev. Stephen Marsh)
Bluewater Rest Home - 3:30 pm
Estate of Velma Cantin

FRIDAY: October 5 - First Friday School Mass
(Rev. Richard Tremblay)
St. Boniface Church - 9:15 am
“12 Hour Adoration from 8 am - 8 pm”
+Philip Overholt - Joe & Sandy Overholt & Family
Int. of Steve Meidinger - Marj Meidinger
+Patsy Rau - Staff & Students of St. Boniface School

SATURDAY: October 6
(Sisters of the Holy Name of Jesus and Mary)
St. Boniface Church - 9:00 am
Sacrament of Reconciliation 8:00 - 8:45 am
+Denny Overholt - Gerard & Rosemary Ducharme
+Rose Overholt - Cecil & Wanda Regier
+John LaPorte - Tillie Rau

St. Peter’s Church - 5:00 pm

SUNDAY: September 30
(Rev. Nelson Cabral)
St. Boniface Church - 9:00 am
St. Peter’s Church - 11:00 am
Prayer List

Please remember in your prayers the members of our parish family suffering from illness, Louise Merimer, Reese Thomison, Fr. Martin Nyland, Shirley Bedard, Marie Cyr, Theresa Davies, Janet Durand, Steven Overholt, Donna Smith, Pat Mihm, Diane Belanger, Carolyn Rau, Steve Meidinger, Fr. Henry Cassano and all who minister in hospitals.

Prayers & Sympathy

Prayers and sympathy is extended to the family of Hermann Tambeau, uncle of Eryk Burns who died last week. May he rest in peace.

The Newly Baptized

Welcome to our parish family Paisley Patricia Swinkels, daughter of Taylor & Jaclyn and Cohen Michael DeGroot, son of Chris & Monica who were baptized last weekend.

NET Retreat for our Confirmation Students

On Wednesday, October 3 our parish/school community will be hosting the NET Team for our confirmation students. The team members act out dramas and give personal sharing’s about their own faith experiences as a way to further emphasize the points made during the large group presentations. During every NET retreat, the youth are given a time of prayer, the sacraments, fellowship and service. The retreat will begin with Mass at 9:15 am at St. Boniface Church - everyone is welcome to join in the Mass. Please keep our students in your prayers on this special day.

Blessing of Animals

The Blessing of Animals will be held this Sunday, September 30 at 3 pm at St. Peter’s Church. Our pets are a blessing please consider getting your animals blessed.

St. Boniface CWL

Thanksgiving Food Drive - we will be collecting non-perishable food items to be donated to Blessings. They are in need of tuna, salmon, apple sauce, can fruit, cookies and crackers. There will be a box in the Narthex of the church to collect the items. Please have all your donations at the church by Monday, October 1st. Thanks for your support in helping to ensure everyone has a “Happy Thanksgiving”.

Catholic Update Study Groups

Starting this week we will begin an informal discussion group (six sessions) on selected Catholic Update articles. The study groups will be offered at St. Peter’s following the noon Mass on Tuesdays and at St. Boniface following the 7 pm Mass on Wednesdays (this Wednesday, October 3 our study group will be begin at 7 pm). Please watch for your weekly Catholic Update articles. Copies will be available at the back of the churches.

Office Closed

The office will be closed on Thurs., October 4.

12 Hour Adoration

There will be 12 Hour Adoration on Friday, Oct. 5 from 8:00 am - 8:00 pm at St. Boniface Church. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex of the Church.

Life Chain

Stratford & District Right to Life invites you to join hands for the LIFE CHAIN on Sunday, September 30, 2018 from 2:00 - 3:00 pm, Ontario and Huron Streets, Stratford; refreshments to follow at St. Joseph’s Parish Hall.

Stratford & District Right to Life Annual Dinner

Stratford & District Right to Life 46th Annual Dinner will be held on Saturday, October 20 at the Christian Reformed Hall, 190 Athlone Ave., Stratford with Keynote speaker Jakki Jeffs. Social: 5:30 pm and Dinner: 6:30 pm. For tickets contact Doreen Hartman at 519-237-3295 - Adults $25 and Students $18.

Happy, Joyous and Free

AA meeting “Happy, Joyous and Free” is now being held at St. Peter’s Church Hall on Tuesday’s at 1:00 pm. All that is required is a desire to stop drinking to attend.

Come and See Weekend

St. Peter’s Seminary invites you to a discernment retreat for men 17-45 years old considering a call to the priesthood. This weekend offers a first-hand experience of the life of a seminarian, spiritual helps for discernment, and an opportunity to meet current seminarians and faculty. For more info or to register, contact Fr. Patrick Bénéteau at vocations@dol.ca or 519-432-1824 ext. 204.

Jeremiah Day Soccer Challenge

The story of the prophet Jeremiah tells us that it is never too early to think about God’s plan for us. The Jeremiah Day Soccer Challenge, on Saturday, Oct. 13 from 10 am – 3 pm, is a day for young men in grades 8 - 12 to grow closer to God and to visit St. Peter’s Seminary. Activities include a tour of the seminary, Mass of Ministries, lunch, soccer tips from Bishop Dabrowski, and a soccer game with our seminarians in the afternoon. Please register by contacting Fr. Patrick Beneteau at vocations@dol.ca or 519-432-1824 ext. 204

CCCB Initiative for Life and Family

Prayer for Families & Small Groups

God of grace, you pour out your wisdom on us and ask us to follow Jesus. As we encounter others, we have chances to see you at work in and through them. Help us to see and celebrate what others are doing in and through you. Guard our hearts and minds from the dangers of trying to be you, and protect us from trying to control or own your grace. Amen.
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Phone: 519-236-4030
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Hwy. 21, 7 miles North of Grand Bend
Call to book tournaments & tee times.

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Are you interested in placing an ad on the back of our church bulletin.
Please contact the church office at 519-236-4191.

Please Support These Local Businesses That Support Our Parish

Events at a glance....

- Catholic Update Study Group - Tuesday, October 2
  at St. Peter’s following the noon Mass
- NET Retreat - for Grade 7 & 8 students - Wednesday,
  October 3 at St. Boniface Church
- Catholic Update Study Group - Wednesday October
  3 at St. Boniface at 7 pm
- First Friday School Mass & 12 Hour Adoration - Friday,
  October 5 at St. Boniface Church
- Catholic Update Study Group - Tuesday, October 9
  at St. Peter’s following the noon Mass
- Catholic Update Study Group - Wednesday October
  10 at St. Boniface following the 7 pm Mass
- Finance Meeting - Thursday, October 11 at St. Boniface
  Church at 7 pm
- Rite of Enrollment - October 13/14 weekend at all
  Masses for all Confirmation candidates
- St. Boniface CWL Bazaar - Saturday, October 27
  from 10 am - 2 pm in St. Boniface School Gym

SHOW YOUR LOVE FOR YOUR PARISH BY REMEMBERING TO INCLUDE YOUR PARISH IN YOUR WILL.

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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.

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.