5th Sunday of Easter - May 19, 2019

We glory in the victorious love of Christ. All true love has its origins in God, who is love itself, and so the Christian believer must seek to love as God loves, and to share love as abundantly as God shares it with his creation. Love is the very hallmark of the Christian life.

Dear Parishioners: hats off to our local meteorologist, Peter Mathonia, for telling me last Sunday that Spring would start this (past) Thursday! At last, it seems like the Earth is trying to do right by us (har, har)! Welcome to all our Sunbirds (I didn’t know that was a thing until I came to Blue-water!): to all cottagers and campers we say “Thank you for your presence and energy.” We are a better community of Catholic faith when you are with us. My chemo-fogged brain and first-ever silent retreat during Easter Week were enough to confuse me about arranging a Blessings of Seeds before all our farmers headed out onto the land, so I will do a simple blessing at the end of each Mass this weekend, and the votive Mass “At Seed Time” this coming Wednesday. If you can bring a small sample of seeds (to mix with the bulk of your plantings) please feel free to attend one or both blessings! I also want to celebrate Mass this holiday Monday, when the Ordo invites us to pray for “the Queen, for Canada and justice and peace in the world”. If you share the concern of our Bishop, please join us for Mass at St. Boniface at 9:00 am. When something like this happens at the last minute, I would love to send a group email, a Facebook post, or a group text message. Have you given the Office your email? Have you ‘liked’ Bluewater Parishes on Facebook? If you’re a cell phone user please text me at 519-476-0122 and we’ll start a text group for last-minute news. Our Bishop has called for a Year of Prayer for our diocese and the Families of Parishes we are forming. Without having the whole year (Pentecost ‘19 to Pentecost ’20) plan in front of me, I would like us to take a few preparatory steps: we’ll have a novena of prayer beforehand starting May 31st, the Visitation of Mary, as well as Pope Francis’ innovation of a Mass for the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church on the Monday after Pentecost. I’m guessing it’s been a while since we have prayed for our diocesean Church! God bless all our parishes as we move ahead. The Lord gives us a new commandment of love: may every relationship we are in be founded on this life-giving principle! God Bless. Fr. Matt

Office Closed

The office will be closed Tuesday, May 21.

Prayer List

Please remember in your prayers the members of our parish family suffering from illness, Reese Thomson, Fr. Martin Nyland, Shirley Bedard, Marie Cyr, Theresa Davies, Pat Mihm, Carolyn Rau, Nanc Wilkins, Fr. Matt George, Tillie Rau, Brent Langan and all who minister in hospitals.

The Newly Baptized

Welcome to our parish family Sam Corey Regier, son of Corey & Lauren who was baptized at St. Peter’s Church recently.

50th Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations to Phil & Patty LaPorte on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary which they will celebrate this Sunday, May 19 with an Open House from 2 - 4:30 pm in St. Peter’s Parish Hall. Best Wishes only - no gifts please.

Cemetery Sunday

We will be celebrating Cemetery Sunday this year at St. Peter’s Cemetery on Sunday, June 2 following the 11 am Mass.
**St. Boniface CWL**

**Meeting** - Tuesday, May 21 at 7:30 pm. Carmel & Patti’s group.

St. Boniface CWL will be doing a collection for the **Goderich Women’s Shelter** during the month of May. Items they are in need of: regular size shampoo, conditioner, mousse, hair spray, deodorant, hair accessories (elastics, hairbands, brushes), tampons, new bras, underwear, and summer pajamas - sizes small, medium, large, journals and pocket size agendas. Please place your donation in the large container in the narthex. Thank you for your support.

**Bishop’s Dinner for London & Surrounding Communities**

The Eleventh Annual Bishop’s Dinner for London & Surrounding Communities will be held on **Wednesday, June 12 at the London Convention Centre**. This annual event gathers our community with Bishop Fabbro in a “Celebration of Faith, Friendship and Charity” to raise vital funds for Vocations London and St. Peter’s Seminary. This year we welcome three-time Juno nominee Emm Gryner with her band. For tickets or sponsorship information, please email Mrs. Frances Barnard at bishopsdinner@dol.ca or phone 519-432-1414 or 1-888-548-9649, ext. 255.

**Merlin Shrine Pilgrimage**

Bishop Fabbro and Bishop Dabrowski invite the faithful to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary on **Tuesday, July 16**. The day will begin with lunch at noon, followed by a concert performed by the Wallaceburg LifeTeen band at 1:00 pm. A rosary procession will take place at 1:30 pm, followed by Mass celebrated by Bishop Dabrowski and benediction at 2:00 pm. The faithful can join a walking pilgrimage to the Shrine, either: a 20 km walk departing from St. Ursula Church in Chatham at 7 am, a 10 km walk departing from North Buxton Museum at 10 am, or a 4 km walk departing from the Merlin Community Hall at 10 am. Parishioners are invited to organize a pilgrimage to this celebration.

**Ultreya**

Goderich ultiyra this month will be held on **Sunday, May 26 at 7:30 pm** at the Knights of Columbus Convention Centre at 390 Parson’s Court, Goderich. For further info call Eileen at 519-524-9400 or Marie at 519-955-9320.

**Healthy Relationships**

Katie Sparling of Victim Services Huron will be the guest speaker on **Thursday, May 23rd at 7 pm**. Hosted by St. Peter’s Lutheran Church in the Fellowship Hall. Refreshments will be provided. This event is a 13+ event.

**Room2Grow**

Room2Grow is a pregnancy and parenting centre located at 9 Rattenbury St. Clinton that supports young families in Clinton, Exeter, Goderich and surrounding areas. We provide material, emotional, financial support to those who need it most and are the most vulnerable in our community. The need is so great. There are so many sad stories. Moms and children have been physically, emotionally abused and do not know where to turn for unconditional love. We see God’s handiwork at Room2Grow every week. We are hosting our annual Baby Bottle Campaign, our main fundraiser, once again until Father’s Day. We ask that you fill a bottle with your loose change…we will count it and any amount over $20 will receive a tax receipt.

**Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board**

The Huron-Perth Catholic DSB is seeking one volunteer Catholic ratepayer to serve on its Audit Committee for a 3-year term effective July 1, 2019. The primary role of the Audit Committee is to assist the Board of Trustees in fulfilling its duties related to governance and oversight.

**Candidate Eligibility:** Must have sufficient accounting, senior financial management or legal expertise to understand public sector accounting and auditing standards; Must not be a current employee or officer of the Board, or of any other district school board or school authority; • Must not have a parent, child or spouse currently employed by the Board.

Interested candidates may submit a letter of interest and resume by 12:00 p.m. Monday, May 27, 2019 to the attention of Mary-Ellen Ducharme, Superintendent of Business and Treasurer at HR@hpcdsb.ca

**Vocation Testimonies**

**Sr. Bethany (Laura Silcox), temporary professed**

Fraternités Monastiques de Jérusalem à Montréal

**Home parish:** St. George, London, Ontario

“Following God’s call has led me to places I didn’t expect!”

Born and raised in London, I’m now a nun with the Monastic Communities of Jerusalem in Montreal. My family’s home parish was Holy Rosary, and after its closing I became a parishioner at St. George’s. I attended École Frère-André and École secondaire Mgr-Bruyère – now that I live in a French-language community in Québec, I am particularly grateful to have been in the French Catholic school system! Despite my mother having had five aunts who were Sisters (five! three Ursulines and two Sisters of Saint Joseph,) it never occurred to me that I might one day become a nun. The turning point in my vocational journey – and in my faith life in general – was World Youth Day 2002 in Toronto. I was sixteen at the time and trying to figure out what career path I should take. Meeting a multitude of young, enthusiastic Catholics at WYD made me realize two things: first, that it was possible to live my faith every day (and not just Sundays from 10 till 11am); and that the consecrated life was possible for young people today – and maybe for me? In the following years, as I attended King’s University College in Religious Studies, I also deepened my faith and my relationship with Christ, through prayer, youth groups, retreats, etc. This helped me be open to God and allowed me to hear and respond to his call to the consecrated life a few years later. God gently led me, one step at a time, until in 2013 I joined the Monastic communities of Jerusalem, a new monastic community which seeks to live the monastic life within today’s big cities. Through our mission to live “in the heart of the city, in the heart of God”, I can fulfill my desire to both give myself entirely to God and live in his presence, and also to be present to this world and the people in it. I hope that by our prayer in their midst they may discover God’s presence, even within the bustle of urban life.

**About the Monastic Communities of Jerusalem:** consists of two religious institutes of brothers and sisters whose vocation it is to provide an oasis of prayer, silence and peace in the “desert” of modern cities. The community was founded in 1975, in the Paris church of St. Gervais, from a desire on the part of the then-archbishop of Paris, Cardinal François Marty and a proposal by Father Pierre-Marie Delfieux, chaplain at Paris’ Sorbonne University and the community’s founder. www.fraternites-jerusalem.ca

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Events at a glance:

- St. Peter’s CWL Bake Sale - Sunday, May 19 after the 11 am Mass
- Community Card Party - Tuesday, May 28 at 7:15 pm at St. Boniface Church
- Cemetery Sunday - June 2 at St. Peter’s following the 11 am Mass
- Feast of St. Boniface School Mass - Tuesday, June 4 at 1 pm at St. Boniface Church
- Feast of St. Boniface - Mass followed by a Social - Wednesday, June 5 at 7 pm
- First Friday & Adoration - Friday, June 7 at St. Boniface Church

Please Support These Local Businesses That Support Our Parish

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

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

Parish Office & School Contact Information
Parish Office:
22 Mary St., Box 81
Zurich, ON NoM 2T0
519-236-4391
bluewater@dol.ca

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

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

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 St. André - Tuesday at the 11:30 am - St. Peter’s.
Our Mother of Perpetual Help - Wednesday at 6:25 pm - 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.