My Dear Brothers and Sisters:

It has been a short night! For some reason, I am wide awake at 3:00am in the morning, so I have made my way over to our parish Church, and I am sitting in the Chapel of the Eucharist; it is a beautiful space. Not many use the small chapel for devotion to the real presence of Christ, so I invite you to come spend some time here. While I was sitting in the presence of Christ, He invited me to turn to St Mark’s Gospel and read:

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. They saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here.” Mark 16:1-8

This is the good news we celebrate at Easter. Like the women, we are present on Palm Sunday to hear the crowd proclaim Jesus as their King. Like the women, who were with the Apostles at the Passover meal, we witness the actions of Jesus when He washed the Disciples’ feet and his invitation; “If you want to be a follower of mine, you must do the same.” In order to do what Jesus did, we need to eat His body and drink His blood; for what we eat is what we become. Like the women, we stand at the cross and witness God offering Himself so that His brothers and sisters might be freed from sin. On Holy Saturday evening, we gather at the tomb to hear the words, “Christ our Light.” Christ has conquered death and sin with His death and resurrection. Because of this, the stones which entomb us can be rolled away through the power of Christ.

We go back to the question: “Who will roll away the stone?” This question confronts the reality of each of us. The stones in our life are the sins we deal with, the addictions we wrestle with and the broken relationships. We cannot conquer these by ourselves; it is only through the power of Christ, who rose from death, that we can silence the question, “Who will roll back the stones in my life?”

Again, I return to this Chapel of the Eucharist where there is a beautiful picture of the Icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. It is a picture of Mary consoling her son, Jesus, who is a child who has been confronted with angels who carry the instruments of His death. My prayer is that you will be consoled by Mary, knowing that the stones, which block the grace of God, can and will be rolled away by the power of her Risen Son!

I warmly invite you to come celebrate with us and to ponder the love of God and the power of God.
To Our Readers

We are pleased to introduce a collection of articles that speak to the vitality of our parish. In his Easter message, Fr. Murray reminds us to spend some time in devotion to the real presence of Christ and to consider the richness of the passage in St. Mark, “Who will roll away the stone?”

We have heard on occasion from new parishioners to St. Michael’s who have recently moved from smaller parishes. They express a bit of uncertainty about how to meet people and to share their talents in a large community like St. Michael. This newsletter is a good opportunity to show that St. Michael’s parish encompasses several small welcoming groups that serve many interests, talents and causes. Bob Brown, for example, takes us with him to a meeting of the Small Christian Communities. Ronnie Moser describes and expresses gratitude for the St. Josephine Bakhita Catholic Community which was inaugurated on November 25, 2007. Cathie Gauthier, a member of the Social Justice Ministry, writes about the situation and history of Haiti.

In this issue we continue to feature schools affiliated with our parish. Donna Hammond, principal at Catholic Central High, describes the rich history and programs at her school. The youth ministry continues to grow with several activities in progress. Meaghen Stock and her parents describe her experiences at the Catholic Christian Leadership Camp last summer. Paul Tremblay reflects on the inspiring words of Fr. Graden who led the parish mission last December. Karen Owens reminds us that the St. Michael’s Centennial is near with many planned activities already in development.

As always, we invite our readers to provide comments about the newsletter including suggestions for future articles. We also invite anyone interested in writing an article to contact the editors (keith@therods.net or ptrembla@uwo.ca) to discuss an idea or to submit an article.

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The publication and distribution of the St. Michael’s Newsletter is made possible by the generous support of our advertisers. Please give them your support.

Our **Newsletter Team** members are Bob Brown, John & Michelle Cavaliere, Terry Dollard, Carmen Gicante, Terry McBride, Keith Rodrigues, Nicholas Snary, Dorothy Solomon, Vincent Taylor, Frances Theilade and Paul Tremblay.
# Holy Week Schedule

## Passion (Palm) Sunday
- **Saturday, March 27**
  - 5:00 p.m. Mass
- **Sunday, March 28**
  - 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. Mass
- **Monday, March 29**
  - 8:00 a.m. 12:00 noon Mass
  - 7:00 p.m. Mass of Chrism at St. Peter’s Cathedral

*The Great Moravac Bishop Fabbro will preside at this diocesan celebration to bless the oils for use in the sacraments during the coming year. All are invited.*

- **Tuesday, March 30**
  - 8:00 a.m. 12:00 noon Mass
- **Wednesday, March 31**
  - 8:00 a.m. 12:00 noon Mass

## Easter Triduum
*Throughout His Pascal mystery Jesus redeemed the human race and gave perfect glory to God. By dying, Christ destroyed our death; by rising, He restored our life.*

### Holy Thursday
*We recall the Passover meal and the Lord's Supper. There is an emphasis on love and service. (John 13:1-15)*
- **Thursday, April 1**
  - 7:30 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper
  - 8:30 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
  - Midnight Night Prayer

### Good Friday
*We recall the familiar story of Jesus’ Passion. (John 18:1-19:42) We fast and abstain today to honour the suffering and death of Jesus and to prepare to share more deeply in the joy of His resurrection.*
- **Friday, April 2**
  - 10:00 a.m. Family Liturgy: The Living Way of the Cross
  - 3:00 p.m. Solemn Memorial of the Passion and Death of Jesus

### Holy Saturday
*We wait as a community before the tomb and look with hope toward the promise of resurrection. (Luke 24:1-12)*
- **Saturday, April 3**
  - 9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
  - 11:00 a.m. Blessing of Easter Food
  - 8:00 p.m. Celebration of the Easter Vigil

*The great victory of Christ is celebrated in joy. We reflect on our history and our roots: we bless and light the Easter candle; we bless the baptismal water, and we renew the promises made in Baptism. Our candidates are received into the family of the Church.*

### Easter Sunday
- **Sunday, April 4**
  - 8:30 a.m. Mass
  - 10:30 a.m. Mass
  - 12:30 p.m. Mass

*There will be two Masses at 10:30 a.m., one in the church and one in the parish hall.*
Our Centennial celebrations will begin on the first Sunday of Advent, November 27/28, 2010 and continue throughout the following twelve months. A banner will be hung outside the church to announce the beginning of our celebrations. The Anniversary Steering Committee has planned numerous events which will make this a year to remember!

One of our first tasks was to design a logo to mark our anniversary year. The visual artwork was sketched by Al Adili, and the computer graphic design was then completed by William Meyers of ArtCal. Special thanks are extended to Wilf Meyers for his expert advice and generous contributions. Many thanks also go to Penny Yip and the Logo and Banner Committee for creating a very impressive and colourful logo which has been on display in the church lobby.

“100 Years - Believing † Remembering † Celebrating – 1911 to 2011” is the belief statement that our committee selected to reflect what our parish celebrations are all about. As a faith community of 100 years, it is believing that we are Christ for one another and that Christ lives within each one of us. This will ensure that our church moves into the next century. It is remembering that our roots of faith have been passed on to us by our ancestors and our parish family throughout these past ten decades. We remember our rich heritage and know that our church was built to embrace a community which to this day continues to welcome, share faith and reach out to all. Our Anniversary Year is indeed meant to be a year for celebrating together and recognizing the good work of all.

We are a large parish with almost 2,700 families. Early this fall, a new parish photo directory will be launched and will help to identify families and members of the parish. Families who have their photos taken before Christmas will have an opportunity to order and purchase their family photos which, of course, will make excellent Christmas gifts!

To begin our anniversary year, Fr. Philip Chircop, S.J. will lead us in an Advent mission. At the end of the centennial, Fr. Jim Williams will call us to think about what we are going to do for the next 100 years. Bishop Fabbro will celebrate the Feast of St. Michael with us in September 2011.

Our Cookbook Committee is well established and encourages all families to submit their favourite family recipe to be included in our Heritage Cookbook. If you have not already done so, please drop off your recipe in the lobby at the Welcome Desk or in the parish office. Orders for the cookbooks will be taken in September for delivery just in time for Christmas.

As the beginning of our celebrations approaches, the Anniversary Steering Committee will continue to meet monthly to finalize many other events. Most of our members are also working with sub committees to provide us with something to celebrate every month! If you wish to join any of our committees, please let Father Murray know. It will take many hands to make our centennial year extra special and most memorable!
These simple words were spoken in 1983 by Pope John Paul II upon visiting Haiti, the poorest country in the western hemisphere.

But how did this once lush tropical island come to its present state? The country’s fertile land was tamed in the 17th century by France, who imported African slaves to produce lucrative crops of sugar and rum. At one time, there were 500,000 slaves on the island compared to 32,000 French. In 1791, the Haitian Revolution took place. It was a brutal fight for emancipation that led to the freeing of all slaves by 1793. Haiti was the first nation of black slaves to gain independence, formally secured from France in 1804. For a short while it enjoyed a measure of prosperity, but most of Haiti’s existence since then has been marked by poverty and political instability. International debt and foreign interests in its crops have brought interference from other countries, including occupation by the U.S. in the last century.

Today more than a quarter of Haiti’s children suffer from malnutrition. Sadly, 13% die before age five, and a full quarter of the population die by age 40. More than half the children do not attend school. Six out of ten are illiterate. The average income is less than $1.00 per day. Charcoal is the main source of energy for heating and cooking. This has caused the complete deforestation of mountains causing further environmental problems. Despite the suffering and abject poverty of Haitians, visitors are always most struck by their spirit of hope and generosity.

We in St. Michael’s have extended our hearts to Haiti over the past years. Through Rayjon, an organization in Sarnia, we have been able to supply dictionaries and, most memorably, buy trees for reforestation. In the midst of chaos, it is a small miracle that the saplings still thrive. They are planted at Saint-Marc, a coastal town about 60 miles north of Port-au-Prince, where there is very little visual damage from the earthquake but much emotional damage, as everyone has lost someone to the quake. Crowds of displaced people and orphans are arriving in Saint-Marc for safety and are being taken in by anyone who is able to care for them.

In crisis there is often an opportunity for change. Haiti’s earthquake in January of this year has brought the world’s attention to this poor little island. For many decades, groups like Rayjon have lived with and worked to help the Haitians surmount overwhelming odds. We can hope recent international attention will bring enough funds to build a lasting and sustainable infrastructure. We can hope that those who have a new interest in Haiti will listen to the wisdom of the many that have worked there for years and have learned much from the Haitians. They continue to be inspired by the courage of the people and to provide the resources and tools that will allow Haitians to direct their own destiny.

For more information about Rayjon, please visit http://rayjon.sarnia.com/
Since the establishment of the St. Josephine Bakhita Catholic Community on November 25, 2007 by the Most Reverend Ronald P. Fabbro, Bishop of London, there have been many positive changes within our community. Through the commitment of Fr. Nicholas (Pastor), assisted by Rev. Fr. Jean Baptiste, Rev. Fr. Willy, and Dr. Gaston Mabaya (who is a participant in the Diaconate Program), we continue to grow, both in faith and numbers.

In June 2009, elections were held for community representatives to serve on the Executive Board. The following positions were filled: Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. Representatives were elected for functions such as Pastoral Care, Liturgy, Social, Music Director, Youth, Outreach, and Altar Servers.

Our first retreat for the executive members was held in October and led by Fr. Willy. The Retreat was a spiritual empowerment for the leaders to enable them to share their gifts for the benefit of the community. A lector’s workshop was also held, and our altar servers obtained further training through the St. Michael’s program. We experienced many joyful celebrations in 2009. The first occasion was the 50th wedding anniversary of Alois and Anna from Zimbabwe, followed by infant baptisms, a first communicant, and the Blessing of Sara and Odwa’s marriage. Congratulations were also in order for Odwa who completed his doctorate at UWO, Mary Poni who graduated from Fanshawe, and Dr. Gaston Mabaya who received a Community Volunteer Award. Also, Sister Njeri (Maryanne) Kamau was presented with an International Research Award, and Helen Awai (UWO student) travelled as a student Intern for the Western Heads East Project to Rwanda, Tanzania and Kenya.

The gift of space at St. Michael’s parish provides the community with the opportunity to join together in the celebration of mass while sharing their African heritage through music and dance. Our meeting after mass allows us to share a meal, provide updates to the community and identify new needs.

A new initiative we hope to launch is the “Women’s Circle”. Through this project, the women of the community will have an opportunity to meet, identify their needs and interests, and discuss how to address and pursue them.

The St. Josephine Bakhita Community acknowledges and is most grateful for the unwavering spiritual and material support we have received from Father Murray Sample and the parishioners of St. Michael’s.
Catholic Central High School Prayer

Loving God
Through these halls, we walk with you.
Grant us the grace to find your light within us.
We stand before you –
the past, present and future of Catholic Central
Teach us goodness – to find your light within us.
Teach us discipline – that we may walk in your love.
Teach us knowledge – to live and to learn.
Blessed Mary, Patron of CCH,
guide us that we may follow your example –
to choose love over hate,
good over evil,
known over mediocrity.
Lord – watch over us and be with us
on our crusade to deepen our faith.
Amen

The cornerstone at Catholic Central High School, inscribed with “Goodness and Discipline and Knowledge” (Psalm 119 v.66) was laid in 1951. As CCH approaches its 60th anniversary in 2011, the flagship high school of the London District Catholic School Board continues its tradition of faith based education with strong academic, fine arts, athletic and extracurricular programs.

CCH is located at Dundas and Colborne Streets. CCH students come from St. Michael, St. Martin, St. Jude, Holy Cross, and St. Mary Choir and Orchestra schools. Some students come from shared boundary schools including St. Pius X and St. Sebastian. As a downtown school, CCH is blessed to have a strong connection to St. Peter’s Basilica, and we walk over as a community to celebrate school masses with Father Jim Mockler and Father Pio D’Oria. These opportunities to celebrate as a community are rich occasions during which the CCH choirs and string ensembles fill the Cathedral with beautiful sound and students serve as readers, altar servers, gift bearers, ushers and eucharistic ministers.

Catholic Central currently has a population of approximately 1200 students and is the home of several programs of the London District Catholic School Board. These programs draw students from the entire district and create a bright yellow presence of some thirty six school buses at the beginning and end of the school day. CCH hosts a Fine Arts Program of String and Vocal which continues the St. Mary Choir and Orchestra Program. The International Baccalaureate Diploma Program creates an additional title for CCH as an I.B. World School and provides students with a unique academic and global challenge. Catholic Central also offers an English Second Language curriculum for students who have immigrated to Canada. Two special system programs available to senior students are Environmental Leadership and Construction Workplace Experience.

Like all secondary schools in the Board, Catholic Central students wear a uniform to school. The CCH uniform is predominantly blue, white and khaki. The school is eclectic, multi cultural, and it has a deep sense of faith, spirit and tradition that is passed from generation to generation.

Often, the Football Program and the Music Program...
are identified as synonymous with CCH. These programs have certainly brought Catholic Central considerable recognition and fame. Crusader Football and Kennedy Field have earned a strong positive reputation over the years. CCH Concert Choir and String Orchestra have received international recognition, and these groups are currently planning a 60th anniversary performance tour of Italy in March 2011. Plans for this tour include performing at the Vatican and some famous World War II Italian Campaign sites (significant to the Canadian Forces) and visiting an International Baccalaureate School in Italy.

Catholic Central has a dedicated staff that provides many opportunities for students to develop their God given gifts, expand their leadership skills and recognize the importance of being responsible citizens who give witness to Catholic social teaching. Student groups such as the Student Council, Crusaders in Action, the Peer Helpers, Student Chaplaincy, and Best Buddies provide students with opportunities to get involved in positive role modeling, discussion and action about social justice issues and community services.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information about Catholic Central High School. For more information, including Alumni, Music and I.B. information, you can check: www.ldcsb.on.ca/schools/secondary/cch

Important Dates
1950 Catholic Central High School, for Grades 11, 12, and 13 is inaugurated with 250 students at the Sacred Heart Convent, including boys who completed Grade 9 and 10 at DeLa Salle.
1951 The Catholic Central Cornerstone is laid.
1952 The official opening of Catholic Central Separate School with an enrolment of 475, Grades 7 to 10; principal is Sr. M. Elaine Dunn, CSJ.
1959 The New East Wing is opened.
1960 The Madonna Mosaic is installed over the Colborne Street entrance to the East Wing.
1967 Separate School (Grade 9 and 10) and High School (Grade 11, 12 and 13) are amalgamated and physically linked by a tunnel and operate as Catholic Central High School; principal is Fr. J. Conway, OMI.
1986 CCH Celebrates its 35th Anniversary.
1989 Kennedy Field is officially opened.
2000 Renovations are complete, including a new CCH Chapel which incorporates the original Madonna Mosaic, a spacious atrium and gymnatorium.
2011 Catholic Central will celebrate 60 Years of Success!
"We need to plug into God." That is how Fr. John Graden introduced the four-day mission at St. Michael last December. This should be an easy message to remember; after all, it has become second nature to us to recharge cell phones/smart phones, iPods, portable computers and video game players on a regular basis. However, unlike our gadgets that alert us to a low battery charge, the recognition that we are nearing spiritual depletion requires a more effortful self-examination. Jesus understood the need to reconnect with the Father as he wandered into solitude in the desert.

Father John Graden is an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales from Stella Niagara, New York. He is a two time cancer survivor, but that has not stopped him from an active life of singing, acting, telling stories, and using humour in his presentations. He preaches the message of St. Francis de Sales (1567-1622) and St. Jane de Chantal (1572-1641) which is essentially “a practical spirituality for busy, everyday life.” This is an optimistic message in today’s busy and hectic world because it reminds us that these conditions are not obstacles to the devout life.

**Being the Beloved: Identity as God’s Own.** On the first night Fr. Graden reflected on our difficulty to really understand how much God loves us. I am the first to admit that difficulty. However I embrace this message of God’s love by meditating on John 15:13 “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” Also, in his encyclical *Deus Caritas Est (God is Love)*, Pope Benedict XVI reminds us that “In the love-story recounted by the Bible, he comes towards us, he seeks to win our hearts, all the way to the Last Supper, to the piercing of his heart on the Cross, to his appearances after the Resurrection and to the great deeds by which, through the activity of the Apostles, he guided the nascent Church along its path.”

Fr. Graden pointed out that Henri Nouwen, a Catholic priest who wrote several books on the spiritual life, has been a passionate messenger of this vision. Nouwen encourages us to claim the fact that we are the beloved sons and daughters of God, but he acknowledges the difficulty of this action on account of our brokenness. It is a brokenness in our hearts, and each one of us knows what that means: in relationships, somewhere, we feel that people did not love us the way we wanted. Some people do not even feel welcomed into the world. Nouwen tells us that being the beloved means being chosen and being unique for a role to play in God’s story. Being chosen also implies that we are holy. How holy? As holy as the cup that Jesus drank from at the Last Supper suggests Fr. Graden.

**Responding to God: Sin and Reconciliation.** Parables are very powerful, and people tend not to forget them. On the second night, Fr. Graden shared the Cherokee parable of the “Two Wolves.”
An old Cherokee chief was teaching his grandson about life. “A fight is going on inside me,” he said to the boy. “It is a terrible fight and it is between two wolves. One is evil - he is anger, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, self-doubt, and ego. The other is good - he is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion, and faith. This same fight is going on inside you - and inside every other person, too.” The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather, “Which wolf will win?” The old chief simply replied, “The one you feed.” Author Unknown

To me, this evocative parable is simple, yet it captures the essence of human nature. I am reminded in it that I have the freedom and the responsibility to choose which wolf I will feed. I am human, and sometimes I will feed the wrong wolf, but I will catch myself, start over and will not be estranged from the good wolf. How does this parable resonate in your heart?

Being in Christ: Ministry of the Baptized. On the third night, Fr. Graden talked about being “Christ’s hands for one another.” What have I done with my life? We were reminded to think about small but important gestures such as acknowledging someone on the street. Here I am reminded of the butterfly effect in chaos theory. In scientific terms, this metaphor refers to “a small difference in an initial condition of a nonlinear system that can have a huge impact on the long term behavior of the system.” As the metaphor goes, the butterfly flaps its wings on one side of the earth which leads to a tornado on the other. What is to stop a simple gesture of love from being the spark that ignites someone’s heart into a life of compassion?

Fr. Graden shared with us a small booklet from St. Francis de Sales titled the Golden Counsels. St. Francis encouraged people of all occupations and situations to pursue “the devout life.” In the Golden Counsels he states: “Do not think that God is further away from you when you are in the midst of the busyness to which your vocation calls you than he would be if you were enjoying a tranquil life” (p. 13).

A Faith to be Shared: Liturgy of the Eucharist. On the fourth night, I sensed a bit of sadness within myself at the end of the journey with someone who helped us see our path more clearly. Who sowed the seeds of God in your heart? For Fr. Graden it included his mother who recited a Rosary every day following his first cancer, his father who sat him on his knee to watch in reverence the awe and majesty of a lightning storm, and the young infirm man in India who radiated with the glory of God. We reflected on the seeds that we sow in others and the need to be patient. Fr. Graden left us with the following message “Go home and make a list of the people who have sowed seeds in your life; carry that list with you and cherish it; choose a saint and imitate that person.”

For more information about Fr. John Graden and his work see www.desalesresource.org
It was May 2009, I was going into grade nine, and I had never been to a camp. Then I heard about this Catholic Christian Leadership Camp and decided I wanted to go. I was nervous on my way there, as I didn’t know anyone there, I was going to be away from home for a week, and I had other worries like that.

When I first got to the camp on a Monday evening in July, one of the counselors came to help me get settled. He led me to a nice cabin with eight bedrooms. A list of names indicated which room we were assigned. When I got to my room, there was already stuff inside, and the two top bunks were taken, but I didn’t mind. After putting my stuff inside, I went outside to join everyone else. We all told each other our names, where we were from, and what high school we were going to attend. When going to camp, I thought all be kids would be from London like me, but I was wrong. There were people from places like Amherstburg, Simcoe and Zurich. I found out there was only one other girl from London, but she didn’t come until the next day, and she turned out to be my roommate.

After that, we all started playing games to get to know each other. Before I knew it, it was almost midnight and time to go to our cabin. Girls got to sleep in the cabins, while the guys slept in covered wagons.

When I got to my room, I met my roommates and soon got to be best friends with Jordan and Kiley. They already knew each other, but I got to know them too. Finally we went to sleep.

The next day we woke up at 7:30 a.m. and went to a room to have breakfast which included cereal, toast, and fruit as part of the menu. After breakfast, we went outside and started the activities for the day. Some of the main activities were I.D sessions, mass, small groups and Jam sessions. Jam sessions and I.D sessions were a lot alike. We would do an activity or talk about a topic in small groups. I remember one time our group decided to go hiking, and our leader was planning to show us something, but we got lost and found random cows instead and went to visit the cows. It was a lot of fun. At camp, we had mass everyday, but each mass was different and fun. We would always have mass at different times and the priest was awesome.

The food at camp also surprised me. When you think of food at a camp, you think of normal camp food like hotdogs and hamburgers, but we ended up having meals like pasta and tacos, and it all tasted really good.

I enjoyed this camp so much that I didn’t want to leave. I still talk to all of my camp buddies today. In fact for my birthday, my roommate from camp, Jordan, came to my house, and she lives all the way in Amherstburg. I miss CCLC camp so much, and I plan to go back this summer.
From a parent’s perspective we thought that the CCLC Camp was a wonderful opportunity. Although we were a little apprehensive at the start, we told our daughter that she could call us at anytime. She called the second night and said we would probably not hear from her again because she was too busy having fun to miss us. It was really nice that the kids were all around the same age, had all just been confirmed and were heading into high school. The priest made the mass sessions a lot of fun, and even if some were in the very early morning, there were no complaints. We would definitely recommend this camp for fun, faith building, and to make new lasting friendships. It helps with the transition into high school by learning how much fun it can be to meet new people. The staff were all excellent and very helpful. The cost is very reasonable and, for our family, it was a great experience.

Bernie and Dona Stock

Are you going into Grade 9 or Grade 10 this coming September? Then Catholic Christian Leadership Camp is for you! The campsite is located at Camp Sylvan, which is located about 40 minutes northwest of London. CCLC will be held from July 12-16 and will include campers from all over the London Diocese. The registration cost will be approximately $190, which covers all meals, lodging and activities. For more information about registering and receiving parish sponsorship, please call Natalie Simek at the Parish Office at 519-433-6689 ext 206.
It is a Monday night. Like many January nights in London, to describe the night as dreary is an understatement. It is an ideal night to cozy up in front of the fire with a good book or catch a good film on television. But there are people on their way to a meeting room on the second floor of the parish hall of St. Michael’s Church. Slowly the room comes to life as people filter in finding a seat around a table. They are a small group. They come from a variety of backgrounds including homemakers, security workers, and others who work in health care. All are here for one thing - to study the Word of God focusing on the readings for the next Sunday in the church year. This is a small Christian community church meeting.

The meeting begins with a prayer to invoke the Holy Spirit. As the meeting unfolds, members read the passages aloud and, if so inclined, express their thoughts about the observations and questions presented. Discussion and responses are usually lively with active participation due to the confidential culture of the gathering. The group also spends time praying for various members of the church community and the needs of the world.

At the beginning of the session, each member is given a copy of *Celebrating the Word* by Father Frank Ruetz who works at the Resurrection Centre in Waterloo, Ontario. Father Ruetz produces this mini publication every week of the liturgical year and the interested parishes and individuals subscribe to the service. These pages are made up of several sections that serve as great motivational leads to the scripture passages and that enable and encourage participants to relate the readings to their own lives. The fact that this publication is distributed to several countries is a testament to its value. The small Christian community also provides an opportunity for people to get to know other parishioners in this small setting, one that may be especially attractive to newcomers or anyone seeking to get to know God better in an intimate setting. Membership is open with new groups being formed as needed in order to keep the numbers small.

It is a Monday night. As the lights in the remote meeting room at St. Michael’s Church are extinguished, the members of this small Christian community meeting go their separate ways out into the dreary night. Each has taken the time to brave the weather and to step back to consider the Message and its application to their lives. This is their way to bring the light of Christ to the night and to their world.

*If you would like more information, please call Penny at 519-642-7662.*
TANGLED LETTERS
Follow the path of each letter, write it into the circle and discover the mystery message.

CEIROJRIESHSEENJASUS

PLAY WITH A FRIEND

X’s and O’s
One player marks a square with an X, the other player marks a square with an O. Keep taking turns until a player marks three squares in a row - vertically, horizontally, or diagonally. The player who does so is the winner. If no one wins, it’s a “Cat’s Game”.

CONNECT THE DOTS
Player #1 draws a horizontal or vertical line to connect two dots (not diagonally). Player #2 connects two dots. When a player creates a square - YAY! - that player parks the square with his or her initials, then takes another turn. When all the dots are connected, the game is over. The player with the most boxes marked is the winner!
Parish Information

St. Michael’s Parish, 511 Cheapside St., London, ON N5Y 3X5
Phone: 519-433-6689   Fax: 519-433-2301
E-mail: stmichlon@rcec.london.on.ca    www.stmichaels.dioceseoflondon.ca
Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Pastoral Team
Father Murray Sample, Pastor
msample@rcec.london.on.ca    ext. 202
Father John Sharp, Associate Pastor
jsharp@rcec.london.on.ca     ext. 205
Mary Taylor, Pastoral Minister
mtaylor@rcec.london.on.ca    ext. 203
Natalie Simek, Coordinator of Youth Ministry
nsimek@rcec.london.on.ca     ext. 206

Staff
Pat Estabrooks, Receptionist/Secretary
stmichlon@rcec.london.on.ca     ext. 201
Jolanda Squire, Financial Secretary
jsquire@rcec.london.on.ca       ext. 200
Sid Wocks, Hall Coordinator     ext. 210

Parish Council Chairperson
Karen Owens

Sunday Masses
Saturday: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m.

Weekday Masses
Tuesday & Thursday: 12:00 noon
Wednesday & Friday: 8:00 a.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m.

African Caribbean Catholic Community Mass
4th Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m.

Children’s Ministries
Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Mass
Liturgy of the Word: Grades 2, 3 and 4
Sunday School: Aged 3 to Grade 1
Babysitting: Infants to age 3

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday: 10:00 - 11 a.m. and 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Free Bus Service to 10:30 a.m. Mass
The route . . .
9:50 Richmond & Windemere
770 Fanshawe Park Rd. east of Fremont
10:00 Adelaide St. & Fanshawe Park Rd. bus stop south
Adelaide/Kipps Lane 1st bus stop
Kipps Lane/Barker St. bus stop west
McNay/Huron St.
Huron St. bus stop east of Wedgewood Dr.
10:15 Royal Oak Apartments 1136 Adelaide St.
St. Michael’s Church

The bus will stop at regular bus stops or wherever it is hailed along the route.

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Calendar of Events
Palm Sunday March 28
Holy Thursday April 1
Good Friday April 2
Holy Saturday April 3
Easter Sunday April 4
First Communion April 17/18, 24/25
Pentecost Sunday May 1/2, 8/9
Parish Picnic May 23
Inquiry Process for New Catholics September 26
starts (RCIA) October 6

New Parishioners? Moving? We invite all new parishioners to register with the Parish. The registration form is available at the Welcome Desk or parish office. If you have recently changed your address or phone number, please advise the parish office.