“going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary; and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.” (Matthew 2:22-12)

We once again come to celebrate and ponder this historical moment when Jesus, the Christ, is born in human flesh. Like the wise men of this Gospel account, we meet Jesus with his mother Mary and we fall to our knees. We bend the knee only to God. As we bend our knee, we recognize that Jesus is God who takes on human flesh. Like the wise men, we offer gifts to the King of Kings: Gold to speak to the world that this child is King of the Universe, Frankincense that this child is not only human but is God, and Myrrh is offered because we know that this Christmas joy is touched by the Cross of Calvary because Jesus will die so that we can live forever. (God so loved the world, that he gave his only son so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost, but may have eternal life (John 3:16)).

As you read this letter, we the People of God, are in the midst of Advent, preparing for the Feast of Christmas, but we also are praying that Christ will fulfill His promise to return at the end of time. Try to make this Advent a special time of reflection, not just a time to decorate the house and shop frantically. Many times there is a family member we have fallen out of touch with or maybe are out of favour with: Is an apology or forgiveness in order? This annual ritual of reaching out to friends and relatives near and far with Christmas cards may be a perfect vehicle to accomplish the apology or the gift of forgiving.  

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**Christmas Celebrations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Christmas Eve: Monday, December 24</th>
<th>5:00 pm</th>
<th>7:00 pm</th>
<th>9:00 pm</th>
<th>12:00 Midnight*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Day: Tuesday, December 25</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
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*Midnight is the traditional time for Mass when He, who is light, breaks the darkest time of the year and night.

**Feast of Mary Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday, December 31, 2012</th>
<th>5:00 pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, January 1, 2013</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
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**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday, December 14</th>
<th>9:00 - 8:00 pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, December 18</td>
<td>10:00 - 11:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 19</td>
<td>10:00 - 11:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every Saturday</td>
<td>10:00 - 11:00 am</td>
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May this newsletter warm your hearts over the Advent and Christmas season. As we collect articles for a new issue, we realize that many people in our parish community devote much of their time and talents to serve their brothers and sisters, profess their faith, answer their baptismal call, and to rejoice as they walk with Christ.

In this issue Fr. Murray reminds us not to forget the elderly and to visit shut-ins and those living in nursing or senior homes. Philomena Jacques echoes a similar message as she updates us on the formation of the new Ministry of Care. As we continue to feature articles on the sacraments, Sr. Kathy brings the sacredness and the symbols of baptism to life. This year has been remarkable in terms of the proliferation of youth activities in the parish. Parents know that the media often presents views that go against their values and has an unhealthy influence on their children. We have an example in Natalie’s article of someone doing something about it. Read what grade 7-8 students thought of a presentation by Nicole Clark on the media’s manipulative perspective of body image and beauty. Katerina Leung describes a new activity called Theology on Tap, initiated by the parishes of St. George and Holy Family, for young adults in London. In this issue we meet our new pastoral minister Helen Green and the seminarians from St. Peter’s who serve in our parish.

The newsletter committee members begin each new issue with a meeting and 16 blank pages. However, we know from experience that each new issue will come to life because there is life in the parish. We think you will agree as you turn these pages.

We take this opportunity to thank the pastoral team at St. Michael for their commitment and devoutness in the parish community.

Our Newsletter Team members are Carmen Gigante, Terry McBride, Keith Rodrigues, Paul Tremblay, Joanne Tremblay, Louanne Henderson and Nicholas Snary

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Quoted 24/7
visit www.may-mcconville.com

Tel: (519) 673-0880
Fax: (519) 645-8764
“... it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.” (Psalm 139: 13-14)

In creating us, God intended that we be united with God and with all of creation in this life and for all eternity.

“You are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you.” (Isaiah 43: 4)

God loved us first.

“I have called you by name, you are mine.” (Isaiah 43:1)

God knows each of us intimately and desires all that leads us to the fullness of life.

Live out your life with one desire only; to be always what God wants you to be in nature, grace and glory, for time and eternity.” (Maxim 73 of Maxims of Love by Jean Pierre Medaille, S.J.)

In the words of Fr. Jean Pierre Medaille, S.J., the founder of our religious community of Sisters of St. Joseph, we are exhorted to live in such a way that this one amazing life, with which each of us has been gifted, will make a difference to the whole of life. We find our deepest meaning in life through our faith in God. For it is in God that “we live and move and have our being.” (Acts 17: 28)

“See what love (God) the Father has given us that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are.” (1 John 3:1)

In the Sacrament of Baptism, we, God’s beloved children, are responding to this incredible invitation from God to live a life of love and interrelatedness with all that is. Baptism is a time of wonderful celebration, special joy and blessing. It is a birth into the Christian community. As Church we, the People of God, welcome new members into our midst surrounding them with our love and prayer.

The Sacrament of Baptism is full of rich symbols and loving gestures that tell us how cherished and valued we are in God’s eyes. The sign of our faith, the sign of the cross, is the gesture of one who belongs to Christ. Being one with Christ Jesus, means that as we experience life, with its many joys and sorrows, we are accompanied by the presence of our Gracious God.

**Water** supports all of life. As we are baptized in the name of our Trinitarian God, the life of the risen Christ is given to us. We become one with our brothers and sisters in Christ. “*For just as the body is one and has many members ... so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body ....*” (1 Corinthians 12: 12-13)

People in need become our concern because each of these persons is cherished by God, and we are disciples of Jesus who follow the way of compassion. Twice we are anointed with *oil* during the Baptismal ceremony. Anointing is a very ancient practice, offering strength for the journey. Royalty, priests
and prophets were anointed. With our anointing in this sacrament, we are united with Christ as king or queen, priest and prophet. “As for you, the anointing that you received from him abides in you ... Abide in him.” (1John 2: 27) Claimed for Christ, we are to offer worship to God, and to listen to and speak the Word of God. We are sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit — understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, reverence, wonder and awe, and wisdom. These gifts are forever available for us to be used to meet life’s many challenges.

The beautiful white garment has special significance. “As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.” (Galatians 3:27) St. Paul’s Letter to the Colossians gives us a wonderful description of what this means. "As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.” (Colossians 3: 12-14)

The godparents are given a baptismal candle that is lit from the Paschal candle which was blessed at the Easter Vigil. Godparents share their faith with the newly baptized person, thereby aiding him or her to grow in his or her spiritual life. The baptismal candle symbolizes what Jesus calls us to:

“You are the light of the world ... let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5: 14, 16)

Baptism is once-in-a-lifetime event that is lived out daily throughout the course of our days. When this life ends in death, at the Eucharistic Celebration of the Resurrection for the baptized person, many of these wonderful symbols play a prominent role once again.

“... we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.” (2 Corinthians 4: 7)

On Sunday, October 21, 2012, I attended the final Mass at the place of worship where I was baptized, St. Joseph’s Church in Kingsbridge, ON. As a community of faith, we bid a final farewell to an old friend. Although the building will be demolished, the faith of the Church, as the People of God, is alive and well in Kingsbridge, ON. With a profound sense of gratitude to our loving God, I pondered the magnificent gift of Baptism that continues to shape my whole life.
In light of the call for the New Evangelization, St. George’s Parish and Holy Family Parish teamed up to address the need for a ministry for Catholic young adults in the London and surrounding area. Theology on Tap is a discussion series for Catholic young adults and their friends, married and single, in their 20s & 30s. The Theology on Tap ministry program originated in Illinois by Fr. John Cusick, Fr. Jack Wall, and the archdiocesan Young Adult Minister. The program was so well received and successful that the Archdiocese of Chicago teamed up with the Catholic ministry organization, RENEW International, to provide the program to parishes all around the world. The program is simple: share the Catechism and engage with young adults to challenge and develop their faith through fellowship and conversation, all in a casual approachable setting for all young adults at all stages of their faith journeys.

September 11, 2012 marked the kick-off for St. George’s Parish and Holy Family Parish Theology on Tap Ministry held at Bernie’s Bar and Grill (Sherwood Forest Mall). Fr. Graham Keep from St. Boniface’s and St. Peter’s parishes (Zurich, ON) came to speak about the New Evangelization. The Lord’s abounding Grace through the Holy Spirit was working throughout the night from all who were gathered to the event, from the discussions among the tables and the insightful and challenging questions brought forth by attendees yearning to better understand their call to evangelization.

On the heels of an amazing first night, we were excited and honoured to have His Excellency Bishop Fabbro come to speak on October 9 about the Year of Faith in the Diocese of London, which began two days later. He touched upon the need for developing a relationship with Christ, the need within the parish for works that flow from that faith and apologetics surrounding the faith within the current culture and modern life.

It is with the sincerest hope that the Lord continues to work through this ministry and that it may be fruitful in bringing young Christian adults together to grow with one another towards Christ and towards the Church through the Catechism.

Check us out on Facebook
www.facebook.com/ToT.SGHF

Held every second Tuesday of the month
(September 2012 – June 2013)

Recent events:
November 13
God’s Plan: Holiness for All
Fr. Bernie Carroll, s.j.
(Pastor at the Martyrs Shrine in Midland)
Bernie’s Bar and Grill (1225 Wonderland Rd. N)

December 11
Grill the Priests: Ask all your burning questions
Various priests from the Diocese of London
St. George’s Parish (1164 Commissioners Rd W)
Youth discover some truths about the power of the media

By Mrs. Grady’s Gr 7/8 Class

On Thursday November 1, the grade 7-8 students from St. Michael’s School attended a talk by Nicole Clark. Nicole is a former Elite Fashion Model turned champion for girl’s self esteem whose mission is to speak out against the media’s manipulative perspective of body image and beauty. Nicole offered practical ways that young people can appreciate their own giftedness and develop their self-esteem in the midst of the media’s pressure to conform. For more information about Nicole and her recent documentary called “Cover Girl Culture,” see her website at www.nicoleclark.com

The following are reflections from the students who attended the talk.

My favorite part of the Nicole Clark presentation was when she was talking about the “love yourself” letter because she showed us how you can develop higher self-esteem just by writing down things you like about yourself. Erika

Now I know all of the media’s tricks. I won’t believe commercials and other advertisements. This presentation showed how the media can trick you. Heather

I learned that, in the media, all they care about is tricking you and making as much money as they possibly can. I think Nicole Clark has changed the way I look at things. Fox

This talk will have a large and positive impact on my life now that I know the truth about the media. Katie

My favorite part was when Nicole Clark explained the self-esteem shield and related it to things people watch on T.V. Gabe

I learned that self-esteem is important because without it we could be taken advantage of. Francis

I learned all about self-esteem and what is good and bad about the media. Kendy

I learned that I should be myself no matter what and that I don’t need new clothes or to be fancy and that people should love me and accept me the way I am. The play taught me that I shouldn’t believe everything. Juan

My favorite part was when she talked about the self-esteem shield. Crystal

It will have an impact on my life because now I know the tricks of the media. I used to believe them, but now I know their scams. Peter

I learned that the ads really stretch the truth, that the media makes you feel bad about yourself, and how to protect yourself from the media. The talk is going to help me make wiser decisions on what to buy. Brady

My favorite part was when Nicole Clark was talking about the self-esteem shield and how easy it is to break by being too deep into the media. Madison

I learned that you should compliment people on their personality. Even though it is still ok to compliment on items but it means more to the person if you like them for who you are. Nicole

My favorite part of the presentation was when she told us that we all have a “Self-Esteem Shield” and that it can be broken and/or can be strengthened. Henry

I will watch out for the media and not believe it or be obsessed. Daniel

She taught us that not everything on T.V. or in magazines is real. Luis

This presentation has shown me that you don’t need to be fake, you need to be yourself. Courtney
For everything there is a season and as we prepare our hearts for the season of Advent, let us call to mind all those who mourn. When a beloved has died, the sorrow is palpable, echoing through the lonely heart. The chorus of peace and joy fades into darkness. How does one reconcile the emptiness to receive the gifts of consolation and peace? May these offerings fill your heart with gentleness and hope as you continue to draw comfort from the bond that unites.

Grief extends an invitation for self care. Be gentle and compassionate with yourself as you learn to adapt to this new reality. Embrace your circle of support and allow them the opportunity to be there for you during this time of healing.

Engage in a daily Spiritual Work Out, a time to write a journal, to meditate, to walk, to pray. Trust God as your own GPS (God Provides Solutions). Invite God’s grace to guide your healing journey.

Welcome the myriad of feelings experienced in grief. Accept all as friends of your soul. Giving grief a voice offers freedom. After all, the heart is a muscle and when a muscle is worked hard, it is vulnerable to a tear. Tears are the sweat of our heart. Listen to the whisperings of your heart. Saying No is sometimes saying Yes to YOU!

There is healing in the helping. It is often in our weakest moments that we recognize the inner strength of our spirit. Become an active member of a Church Ministry, volunteer at a soup kitchen, invite others who are alone for dinner, visit the lonely and shut-ins, donate to a charity in memory of your loved one.

Seek the balance between activity and quiet to eliminate the stress of the holidays. Listen to your own personal barometer to care for your body, mind and spirit.

Our thoughts create our beliefs, our beliefs create our actions and actions create our reality. Continue to believe in your ability to heal, hold onto hope. Nourish yourself with Soul Snacks: Inspirational movies and writings, music, church, tea with friends. Practice an attitude of gratitude.

Take naps, simplify, one moment at a time. This will allow you the necessary energy to focus on the necessities. Grief is emotionally, spiritually, and physically draining.

Decide as a family what Christmas will look like this year. Grief is akin to making soup; each of us has our own special recipe! There is no right or wrong way. Once your family has decided how you will handle the day, be respectful of the feelings of children and family members by communicating your intentions.

May you rest your heartache in the compassionate arms of God each day and find comfort from this Enduring Love. ~ Joyce Rupp

The Good Grief Resource Centre
519-697-4541 | www.patchforkids.ca
Feast Day Photos

St. Michael’s Parish

WELCOME TO THE FEAST DAY

2012
Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Helen Green and I am the third child in a family of five girls. My parents, Nellie and Antoni Frydryszczyk, were very faith filled people. They made sure that we received a sound Catholic education and a strong spiritual life and that we realized the importance of family. I was born and raised in London, attended St. John’s School, and graduated from CCH in London. Post graduate studies included attending London Teachers’ College in the two year program. During my teaching days, I took many Ministry of Education courses so that I could be a better teacher.

I taught grades one and two for seven years in St. Thomas, Ontario. I married in 1969 and had two children, Jennifer and Marc. We lived on Harrison Ave from 1970-1978 and so were a part of St. Michael’s parish at that time. I returned to teaching in 1981 and taught grades seven and eight until I retired in 2004. I began my ministry at All Saints Parish in Strathroy as the first Lay Pastoral Minister in that same year. During my time of working in the parish, I also took 20 courses at St. Peter’s Seminary to be certified in Advanced Pastoral Leadership. It took me seven years to complete that qualification.

As Lay Pastoral Minister, I was involved in many ministries. The Baptism team was a well-oiled machine, and the ladies who were a part of that ministry did a fantastic job of assisting at the celebration of this Sacrament. I was responsible for parent meetings for First Reconciliation and First Communion. I taught the RCIA process and loved journeying with those who wanted to learn more about the Catholic Faith and how to practise it. The Bereavement Ministry was vital and its members were very compassionate, caring and understanding of the grief process. We were very active in planning the funerals and providing support for those who wanted it. I ran a support group for widows and widowers as well as for families who lost a child to tragedy. On First Fridays, I would take communion to the shut-ins and visit with them for a few minutes. I also counselled people who were going through a tough time with experiences such as divorce or separation.

In 2011, I was told that my position would be permanently eliminated, so I was on permanent layoff. During that time, I was able to visit my grown children and their families more often. I did a little travelling and a lot of visiting.

My position here at St. Michael’s Parish is on a half-time basis and involves leading the RCIA process and preparing the grade two children for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. I am looking forward to working with the families of these children as we bring them closer to Jesus. I am also looking forward to journeying with the adults who want to know Jesus and to share in the Eucharist on a regular basis. Father Murray has asked if I would help him to re-establish a Liturgy Committee in the parish, and we have been working hard to get that set up.

It is a life-giving experience to be a part of a parish that knows how to share their faith, have lots of laughs, and celebrate the gifts that God has given each and every one of us. I look forward to meeting you and working with you as we “work in the vineyard” together. Many blessings to you and your families.
The past year has indeed been busy for the Finance Committee. Following the successful celebration of the 100th Anniversary of our Parish, we began a review of the Building Condition Assessment of Church & Parish Centre at St. Michael Parish, prepared by Allan Avis Architects Inc. This comprehensive building and facilities audit was a requirement of the Diocese of London prior to the approval and undertaking of any capital construction. This report was presented to the Parish at a special meeting on May 12th, 2011. The report outlined the capital projects into four levels and identified the projects that would need to be undertaken over the next 10 years in order to maintain the integrity of our parish facilities. The estimated cost for the work was $1.2 million. Three major elements of the Avis Report have already been completed: the replacement of the roof over the parish hall along with required upgrades, renovations to the parish hall kitchen, and the installation of emergency lighting and exit signs. These projects have resulted in a Loan Fund debt to the Diocese of just over $280,000 as of mid-October 2012.

Now comes the question, of not only how to repay the existing debt, but also how to raise the necessary capital funds to accomplish future identified capital requirements. We have the blueprint for future capital needs, but we need to establish the same clear direction and parish commitment to the associated financial needs. The Finance Committee and the Pastoral Council contacted Paul J. Mack & Associates Inc. to undertake a capital campaign feasibility study, which was completed this past spring. A sample of parishioners were contacted to share their views on a capital campaign and to evaluate the level of their potential financial commitment. The final report was presented to a joint meeting of the Pastoral Council and the Finance Committee in June 2012.

The report once again confirmed the strong commitment of St. Michael’s parishioners to their parish and their desire to financially support the maintenance of our facilities for future generations. The Pastoral Council and Finance Committee discussed the pros and cons of undertaking a capital fundraising campaign and hiring a consultant to manage the campaign. This was a difficult decision given our awareness of the very real capital needs of our Parish as detailed in the Avis building audit. At the same time, we were aware of the current economic conditions and the financial impact of having a consultant undertake the fundraising campaign. We finally agreed not to hire the outside consultant.

The need for capital fundraising remains very real and immediate. Over the next number of months we will continue to plan for a major fundraising campaign but this time with the intention of using the leadership and expertise which exists within the St. Michael’s Parish family.
Once again this year, some of the seminarians from St. Peter’s Seminary are involved in different ministries at St. Michael’s Parish. The seminary is divided into four “formation groups”; these are small communities within the larger community of the seminary. The seminarians that are involved with St Michael’s are from group A. Our group is led by Father Peter Amszej who, as well as Associate Pastor of St. Michael’s and our formation advisory, also teaches some courses at the seminary.

For us at the seminary, ministering to the St. Michael’s community gives us a chance to experience and grow in different types of ministry. Our moments spent with members of St. Michael’s are important to our overall formation and to our discernment of the call to the priesthood. Exposure to different forms of ministry helps us know our strengths as well as where we need to grow in order to better serve the people of God. Our time at St. Michael’s is also a reminder of what our time in the seminary is all about: preparing to serve the people in the pews.

This year there are several seminarians you will see at St. Michael’s, most of whom are involved in specialized ministry in the parish. Alex de Melo is in his first year at the seminary, entering into first arts; he is from the Diocese of London. Andrew Manera, from the Diocese of Hamilton, is in his second arts year and is ministering at Extendicare. Glen Ball and Tim Theriault, both from the Diocese of London, and Shaun Shmyr from the Archdiocese of Winnipeg, are all in their first year of theology and are ministering at the elementary schools affiliated with St. Michael’s. Trevor Plug, from the Diocese of St. Catherine’s, is in his second year of theology and is participating in the RCIA program at the parish this year. Peter Melanson, from the Diocese of Saint John, and Andrew White, from the Diocese of Conner Brook and Labrador, are both in their fourth year of theology and are visiting members of the St. Michael’s community who are ill or home-bound. Deacon Allen Varlaki from the Diocese of Hamilton is in his fifth and final year of theology at St. Peter’s; you will see him preaching at the parish a few weekends this year. Finally, one member of our group, Greg Smith-Windsor, is back in his home diocese of Saskatoon doing his pastoral year.

We look forward to another great year of working with St. Michael’s Parish, and we hope all of you enjoy the experience as much as we do.
Attention all men 18 years of age and older. St. Michael’s Knights of Columbus Council #12820 is looking for good practicing Catholic men who are seeking an organization wherein they will find like-minded, dedicated individuals who want to make a difference in the world.

On the 2nd day of October in the year 1881, Father Michael J. McGivney, the 29 year old assistant pastor of St. Mary’s Church, in New Haven, Connecticut, and a small group of men gathered together to find a way to assist the widows and orphans of men from their parish.

The group officially assumed corporate status on the 29th of March 1882 under the name of the Knights of Columbus. Membership in the group expanded rapidly in the United States and the first council in Canada was chartered in 1897.

Today there are over 1.8 million members belonging to councils throughout the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, the Dominican Republic and Poland. Additionally, very active K of C councils are found in colleges and universities in Canada and the United States and on military bases throughout the world.

During the first and second World Wars, the Knights operated canteens for soldiers in Canada, and the USA. In Mexico during the 1920s and early 1930s, the Knights, under the banner of Our Lady of Guadalupe stood up against a violent and oppressive anti-Catholic government which was in power at that time. Immediately after September 11, 2001, the Knights were there, to financially assist all families of all “first responders” who died in the terrorist attack, regardless of the families’ membership in the Knights or of their religious tradition. Forty-five Knights were killed that day. Following the recent disasters in Haiti, the Knights were immediately there, and still are there, distributing wheelchairs and prosthetic limbs and therapy to those in need.

The Knights are well known for their outstanding charity work. Whether it is “Winter Coats for Kids,” “Special Olympics,” “Free Throw” basketball, assisting our Brother Knights who are in need due to illness or injury, helping maintain our parish church grounds, the Blood Bank, the “Global Wheelchair Mission,” “World Youth Day,” the “Pro-Life” Movement, the right to Catholic education, “Out of the Cold” & “School Breakfast” programs, praying for and assisting our parish priests and fellow parishioners, “Keeping Christ in Christmas,” and much more, the Knights are there!

Additionally, due to their outstanding management and consistent high rates of return, the Knights of Columbus are rated by Standards and Poor’s and AM Best among the top providers of Life Insurance, RRIFs, TFSA and TFEA for our members and their families. If you are concerned about investing in your future or ensuring that you have sufficient insurance to protect your family, then you should look into this now.

If you are interested in knowing more or perhaps are considering joining the Knights of Columbus, who our Holy Father the Pope has referred to as the “right arm of the church,” then we encourage you to contact us:

Bud Jardin 519-432-8850 | emilymbud@aol.com
Dave Westlake 519-433-4837 | adeleclewlow@sympatico.ca
Ministry of Care

At our Ministry Fair on October 21st, parishioners were invited to be of service to individuals in our parish community who may not be visible or feel connected to the community often due to isolation, loneliness, depression, loss of a loved one, chronic illness, physical disability or lack of mobility. Many reasons can propel us to offer care to these people.

- Service to others changes people. It refines, purifies, changes perspective, and brings out the best in us. It gets us looking outward instead of inward. It prompts us to consider others’ needs and be grateful for our own blessings.
- Service helps us establish true values and priorities by distinguishing the worth of things of lasting, even eternal, value. Find someone who needs your service, and you will discover the path to a happier, more blessed and fulfilled life.
- Service to others helps us establish a righteous tradition. This is so necessary, particularly among young people. Growing up with this tradition will encourage our youth into more community/church service.
- Service is unselfish and constitutes a positive power for good.
- Service fosters love and appreciation. We come to know people—their circumstances, their challenges, their hopes and aspirations—by serving them.
- Service is the principal way of showing gratitude to our Savior.
- Service channels our desires and energies into righteous activity.
- Service helps us do as the Savior did. His whole ministry was one of reaching out and helping, lifting and blessing, loving and caring.

We all know as true Christians we are called to help our fellow men and women. By our baptism we are called to serve as Jesus did. I am sure we have many good people in this parish who are willing to help but don’t know how, where, or when ….We also have many good people in this parish who need help, connection with us or an occasional home visit, to bring the “spark back in their eyes” and acknowledge their Faith. We are all called to be God’s disciples. We can volunteer our individual “gifts” both professional and otherwise to assist the more needy and underprivileged in our parish community.

Deacon Gaston recently joined our Ministry of Care team as Chairperson, and he shares Fr. Murray’s enthusiasm about this Ministry. I would like to urge you all to seriously contemplate your part in volunteering to make this Ministry a success. We want to help:

- those who need special care or who want the Holy Eucharist brought to them,
- those who are “shut-in” or elderly persons who might want someone to visit them now and again, at home or in the hospital,
- those who are ill and need a priest to visit them to perform the blessing of the sick.

If you can volunteer professional help or know of others who would, if you can help bring someone to the weekend service, or if you would like to help but do not know in what capacity, please leave us your name and telephone number, and we will contact you with available choices. Feel free to fill out the short information sheet beside the ballot box in the foyer of the church and drop it in the box. All information will be treated with the utmost confidentiality. We very much appreciate your input.

14
Using the gridlines copy the picture. Try drawing one square at a time.

Nativity Word Scramble

STRA _ _ _ _
MAGREN _ _ _ _ _
MYAR _ _ _ _
SEPHE _ _ _ _ _
DOEYKN _ _ _ _ _

AEGLN _ _ _ _ _
JPHOES _ _ _ _ _
JSSEU _ _ _ _ _
KIGSN _ _ _ _ _
STBALE _ _ _ _ _
Information

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

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
(St. Josephine Bakhita)
4th Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m.

Pastoral Team
Father Murray Sample, Pastor
msample@dol.ca ext. 202
Father Peter Amszej, Associate Pastor
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Father John Sharp, Weekend Ministry
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Deacon Gaston Mabay, Deacon
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Sr. Kathy O’Keefe
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Helen Green, Pastoral Minister
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Natalie MacKay, Coordinator of Youth Ministry
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Staff
Pat Estabrooks, Receptionist / Secretary
stmichlon@dol.ca ext. 201
Jolanda Squire, Financial Secretary
jsquire@dol.ca ext. 208
Sid Wocks, Hall Coordinator
swocks@dol.ca

Parish Council Chairperson
Ozzie Buhrmann

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 – 11.00 a.m. and 4:00 - 4:30

Free Bus Service to
10:30 a.m. Mass
The route . . .
9:50 64 Wyndham
Blackwater east of Adelaide - Bus Stop
Grenfell just east of Blackwater
Fanshawe/Trossacks - Bust Stop on Corner
770 Fanshawe - East of Fremont (Bus Stop)
Fanshawe - west of Fremont
Adelaide/Fanshawe - Bus stop south of Fanshawe
Kipps/Lane Adelaide - Bus Shelter just east of Adelaide
Kipps/Lane Barker
Kipps Lane - Bus Stop east of Barker
Kipps Lane/Kenmore Place - Bus Stop
295 Briarhill
Cheapside/Boullee
Huron/Wedgedood - Bus Stop east of Wedgewood
10:15 Royal Oak Apartments - 3 Stops
Go To St. Michael’s Church

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

Calendar of Events
Christmas Day December 25
Feast of Mary mother of God January 1
Parent Meeting – First Eucharist January 15
Wedding Anniversary Celebration February 10
Pancake Supper February 12
Ash Wednesday February 13
Family Day February 18
Marriage Prep Weekend February 22 – 24
Easter Confession – All Day March 6