

St. Michael's Parish

29 Elliott St. Leamington, Ontario N8H3M4

smpleamington.ca

DECEMBER 15, 2019 - The Third Sunday of Advent

It is hard to believe that 18 years ago (or so) Fr. Frank Murphy approached me on a contract basis to help with Youth Ministry and Sacramental preparation. The "yes" I gave at the time was the best decision of my life.

My faith journey began as a child. One of my earliest memories was having my mother teach me how to pray the rosary. My parents instilled in us the importance of having God in our lives. As a family we attended Mass together and that's where I met many of you; also being witnesses of faith to your own children and to those around you.

Some highlights of my teenage years occurred when I participated in our youth ministry and COR retreat weekends. Due to these experiences, a sense of community began to grow within me.

As a young adult, I became involved with the ministry program. At one of our events, a young man approached me admitting that he was having suicidal thoughts. A week later I learned that he had indeed attempted suicide. My first thought was "Oh God, what have I done?" At that moment, I heard God telling me that I needed to go back to school and learn more theology in order to work for His church. Since then, I have met so many wonderful people with generous hearts that go beyond the call of duty.

Thank you to the Catholic Women's League, the Knights of Columbus and the St. Vincent de Paul Society who have shown me what it means to have a servant heart.

Thank you to all the families who I have met. Your desire to instill the faith in your children leaves me breathless. I love watching you place your child's hand in the holy water and showing them how to bless themselves.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped me throughout the years. There are too many of you to list by name but I'm sure you know who you are. The many hours that you have dedicated to this parish has built it into the great parish that it is.

Tauren Wells wrote a song entitled "God's Not Done With You" and part of the lyrics say "God's not done with you . . . It's not over, it's only begun. So don't hide, don't run, 'cause God's not done with you."

I'm not quite sure where God is calling me next but I know he has great plans for me. With all my heart I thank you for loving me when I wasn't always loveable. Thank you for your servant hearts, for showing love to those around you and for being the face of Christ to all those you meet. . . . with my utmost gratitude.

Yours in Christ, Veronica Costa, Servant of God

Weekend Liturgical Schedule

St. Michael's

29 Elliott Street Leamington, Ontario N8H 3M4 Phone: 519-326-2643 Fax: 519-326-2644 smp@dol.ca

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m.- Spanish 6:00 pm.

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament

22 Middleton Line Wheatley, ON

Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

Divine Mercy

Every Friday at 3:00 p.m.

Reconciliation

St. Michael's ½ hour before each Mass 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Saturdays

Bulletin Submissions

In writing or by email by Monday at 4:00 p.m.

Sunday School

Every Sunday from September - June at the 10:00am Mass.

Pastoral Team

Rev. Tom Ferrera Ext 222
Parish Administrator

Rev. Steve Marsh Ext 223
Parochial Vicar
www.FrSteve.ca

Alex Litt (retired)

John Vezina

Deacons

Rev. Kazimierz Lorencowicz, C.S.M.A. Ext 225 Hispanic Ministry

> Avery Fuerth Ext 251 Life Teen Co-ordinator

> Parish Advisory Chair Bill Cervini

Finance Committee Chair Pat Fox

Knights of Columbus

Don Bedore

Catholic Women's League Mary Di Milo

> St. Vincent de Paul Carol Lesinky

Office Staff

Sandy Foldesi Ext 0
Secretary

<u>Sacraments</u>

Baptisms - Call office

First Reconciliation Preparation begins in September

First Holy Communion - Preparation begins in September

Confirmation - Confirmation to begin in September

Marriage - Meeting with Clergy minimum six months in advance. Marriage classes Spring and Fall

Holy Orders - See clergy

Sacrament of the Sick -Upon request

RCIA and RCIC - Call office

ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH WELCOMES YOU TO OUR CHURCHES!



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

CHRISTMAS EVE - Tuesday, December 24

4:00pm at St. Michael's (Children's)

6:00pm at St. Michael's

7:00pm at Our Lady of Blessed Sacrament

8:00pm at St. Michael's

Midnight at St. Michael's

CHRISTMAS DAY - Wednesday, December 25

8:00am at St. Michael's

10:00am at St. Michael's

3:00pm at St. Michael's (Spanish)

NEW YEAR'S EVE - Tuesday, December 31

5:00pm at St. Michael's

NEW YEAR'S DAY - Wednesday, January 1

8:00am at St. Michael's

10:00am at St. Michael's

10:30am at OLBS - Wheatley

3:00pm at St. Michael's (Spanish)

6:00pm at St. Michael's

**The Parish office will be closed from December 24th through January 1st (except for the collection count days). We will re-open on Thursday, January 2nd at 9:00am.





Please note that the Parish Office will be closed all day on Thursday, December 19th.



2020 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

The envelopes are now at the back of both churches. If you do not see yours, please call the office and we will make sure we

prepare some for you. Please consider automatic withdrawals - call the office for more information or fill out the Pre-Authorized Payment form.



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Michael's Church offers Eucharistic Adoration on Tuesdays 9:00am-6:30pm. On mornings with funeral Masses, Eucharistic Adoration will follow.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS

This year we will be collecting donations in memory of our loved ones to offset the cost of both decorating the church and for the Christmas flowers. The names of your loved ones will be inserted in the bulletin on

December 22nd. Please bring in your donation to the



church office or put it in the collection on any given Sunday with the names clearly written of the person or persons you wish to have in this memorial along with your name and phone number. The deadline for submissions is December 18.



DAILY MASS INTENTIONS December 16 to December 21

Mon. 8:00am	Elio Testani Deceased Family of Tony Braga All Souls in Purgatory
Tues. 7:00pm	Tom and Mary Nohra, Mary Ann Whittle Bahige, Joseph and George Omar Deceased St. Pierre and Dewaele Families
Wed. 8:00am	Peter and Mary Holzberger, Deceased Family Joaquim Mirao Edward B. and Eduardo G. Araujo
Thurs. 8:00am	Joao Inacio DeMelo, Cecilia Pavao, Dec. Fam. Olivia Cabral Graziella and Joe Chinnici
Friday 8:00am	Fr. Pat Fuerth Emilio Cervini Intentions of the Parent Family
Sat. 8:00am	Frank and Ida Moauro, John Fast Jenny Guardado, Isabel Reis, Antonio Andrade Joe, Antoinette and Tony Semaan

MENNONITE HOME

DECEMBER 18

Wed. 10:00am

ROSEWOOD/ERIE GLEN

DECEMBER 19

Thurs.	Maria Carmo
10:00am	Pete Boutros
	For the Intentions of Gaspare Adragna

Please pray for the Intentions of our Brothers and Sisters working in the Diocese of London:

Dec. 15 All Parish Musicians

Dec. 16 Deacon Brian MacDonald

Dec. 17 Rev. Eugeniusz Dziedzic

Dec. 18 Rev. Augustine Ogundele

Dec. 19 Deacon Daniel Lemire Dec. 20 Rev. Matthew George

Dec. 21 Mrs. Lynn Di Pinto



Divine Mercy is cancelled for this week until after Christmas. We will begin again in the New Year on Friday, January 3rd.

Please pray for those in our Parish Family who have recently passed away: ROCCO RICCI

The Leamington Ministerial Association Prays for: WHEATLEY EVANGEL TABERNACLE



DECEMBER 22, 2019 - 4th Sunday of Advent First Reading (Isaiah 7:10-14) Second Reading (Romans 1:1-7) Gospel (Matthew 1:18-24)



CWL Memberships are available at the Church office for \$25.

~28 members attended the Potluck Supper/White Elephant auction on December 4. We shared great food, fellowship and fun. St. Vincent de Paul

will be receiving the proceeds from the auction sale. A huge thanks to all who attended and helped with setting/clean up.

- ~Youth group members/CWL members will be distributing approximately 25 Christmas gift bags to the ill/shut-ins in our Parish.
- ~The CWL are also hosting a Reception/Social Hour on Tuesday, December 17 in the Parish Hall after the St. Louis School Community Mass -

7:00pm. Call Mary at 519-326-8253 if you are willing to provide Christmas cookies for the reception.

"Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it most." Charles Dickens – A Christmas Carol



KNIGHTS NEWS:

The Knights of Columbus Meetings will be held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month from January to March to accommodate ALPHA. ***PLEASE NOTE***

The Knights of Columbus Executive meeting for December 23rd has been cancelled.

A January Ultreya for Windsor/Essex County is being held at Sacred Heart in LaSalle, 219 Sacred Heart Drive on Friday, January 10 at 7:30pm.

If you have made a Cursillo weekend, please come and share in a faith-filled evening.

All Cursillistas are welcome!

2019 INCOME TAX YEAR

As we approach the end of the year, we want to remind everyone that donations to St. Michael's for this tax year need to be brought in as soon as possible.

Donations must be received no later than **January 5**,

2020 and dated by the end of this year if you are making a donation by cheque. Thank you!

HOW DO I BECOME CATHOLIC?

The preparations for Christmas include buying or making gifts for those whom we love. You can give no better gift than the gift that God has given to us - his Son Jesus. Invite someone who is not Catholic to attend Mass with you at Christmas. For information about the RCIA, please contact **Fr. Tom at (519) 326-2643.**



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY CIRCLE "God's Work, Our Hands" Our next gathering is Saturday, December 21st from 10:00 - 11:30am in the Sun Room.

Running out of wool? Please come to the church office lobby where there is a table set up for you to help yourself with any wool you may need to complete or start your prayer shawl. Anyone wishing to donate wool can also drop off their wool at this table or in the round bin in the lobby of the church. Thank you!

"Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love." Saint Teresa of Calcutta.



CHRISTMAS CAROLLING

We're going Christmas Carolling and you are invited! Join us on Sunday, December 22 at 2:00pm at the Sun Parlor Nursing Home as we bring good cheer to the residents.

Please RSVP to the office if you are coming so that we can let the Sun Parlor Home know.



LIFE TEEN MASS AND EDGE YOUTH

PROGRAM - Every Sunday evening beginning with the 6:00pm Life Teen Mass. After Mass join us for the Edge Youth Program for those youth in Grades 6 through 8 from 7:00-8:30pm in the Parish Hall. There will not be a youth program on December 22, December 29 and January 5th.

Please join us again in the New Year on January 12th. (The Life Teen Mass at 6:00pm will still be held on these dates.)

MARRIAGE ANNULMENT

Are you hoping to get married in the Catholic Church or to have a new union blessed? Are you simply looking for some closure after a painful divorce? If so, consider applying for a Declaration of Nullity (annulment) from the Marriage Tribunal of the Diocese of London. The process is free of charge. We are here to help - feel free to call us at 519-439-1553 or toll free at 1-866-603-4317 or email tribunal @dol.ca.



CANDLELIGHT PRAYER SERVICE

For those grieving the loss of a loved one this Christmas season. Heavenly Rest Cemetery, inside St. Francis Mausoleum
Thursday, December 19 at 7:00pm
Presider: Fr. Gary Goyeau
Candles will be provided
Please join us......all are welcome.



St Michael's is excited to announce that we will be offering the Alpha program in our Parish in the coming year. Alpha is a wonderful program where we can come together to have dinner, watch a short video

and have discussion together. It will begin on **Monday**, **January 6th and continue on Monday evenings** here at our church. Daycare will be provided. To register, please call the parish office or Luis & Dina Sardinha at **326-0994** or **sardinha600@gmail.com**



Please note that the chapel area of the church is a scent-free zone to accommodate those who are sensitive to fragrances.

Collection for December 8, 2019

360 Regular Sunday Loose 1636.55

Total \$7982.55

Building Fund \$285.00

Christmas: 70.00

Solemnity of Mary: 10.00

Easter: 5.00

PAR Building Fund: \$40.00 / Envelopes: \$1490.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT! **NEXT COLLECTION - TEAM #3**



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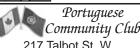
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