

St. Joseph Patron of Canada Parish

64 Church St. E., Acton, ON

Office

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Fr. Mark Sullivan, Pastor

Janet Raats, Office Administrator

Office Hours: Tues. & Wed. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, Fri. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm



A Thanksgiving Prayer

Heavenly Creator,

*In this season of gratitude and abundance,
we give You thanks for our many blessings
as we pray for all who struggle with hunger and want.
Be with them in the dark of night, when all hope seems lost.*

Keep their faith strong as they await relief.

*And let Your goodness flow through our
hearts and hands as we reach out to one
another in the full, true joy of Thanksgiving in Christ.*

Amen

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR:

With this being Thanksgiving weekend, it is very appropriate that the reading involve a sense of thanksgiving and gratitude.

Naaman, from our First Reading and the Samaritan from the Gospel, were both cured from leprosy, however; they had other strikes against them as well. Both were outcasts, not wanted in the community. What we must see is that the real cure was not simply freedom from ailments, but rather an end to isolation. Both individuals were able to find a place within the community. Naaman came to worship the Lord of Israel, and the Samaritan came to be a member of the community of believers.

The image of gratitude is very important in the story of these two men which goes beyond the cures that we witness in our reading today. Gratitude to God is something very short in supply in the modern world and yet the response of gratitude is part of the focus of each reading. Gratitude is something we must find within ourselves and give expression to.

Naaman's act of humble submission to Elisha's command, a difficult thing for a military commander, to wash in the Jordan, not only brought Naaman healing, but it also brought conversion. Naaman begged for soil from Israel, because it was believed that a sacrifice to a god can only be performed in the land of the god. Naaman, needing to return to Syria, took earth with him so that he could appropriately give thanks to the God of Israel. His gratitude also went beyond the miracle. He was grateful for discovering a God that was real.

The Samaritan was not only healed, but he was also converted. His faith in Jesus' command was his salvation. The Samaritan returned in gratitude not only because he had been healed, but because he also came to believe. The other nine, no doubt pleased about their new circumstance, certainly appreciated the miracle, but it changed nothing in their faith. Jesus took the opportunity of the occasion to point out this failure of the other nine.

We must recognize that the mark of conversion to the Lord is gratitude. Today we are asked to examine how we might be showing our gratitude to God. A lack of gratitude implies a lack of faith, or at

least a lack of committed faith. The question of gratitude is, therefore, very important to us.

On this Thanksgiving, we are called to return and give thanks to God, to what He has given to us. Outward signs of gratitude are a profound way of both finding and increasing faith. The more we live with thankfulness on our lips, the more we learn to see the blessing of faith. It took outsiders like Naaman and the Samaritan to recognize God's real gift, faith. We must be careful to not take this gift for granted.

Fr. Mark

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:

"Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good."

-Maya Angelou

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

This week please pray especially for:

***Mary Palmateer, Bob Dzioba,
Anna and Stan Lis***



We pray especially for the following families of our parish:

***Jones, Joseph, Jowett,
Kavanagh, Kelly, Knapton***

The CWL 50/50 Draw

The CWL would like your help in selling their 50/50 tickets. Next weekend we will be distributing them after each Mass. The sold tickets and money can be returned in the collection in a separate envelope marked 50/50 draw by November 23.

This is an important fund raiser and contributes to our ongoing charitable causes and school awards. We thank you in advance for your support.

Parish Office Closure: The office will be closed from October 15 until November 7. Phone messages will be monitored. Please speak directly to Father Mark for any further information.

DAY & TIME	MASS INTENTIONS (October 13 – October 19)	REQUESTED BY:
Mon. 9:00 a.m.	In Thanksgiving	
Tues. 7:00 p.m.	<i>Intentions of Irina Drabek</i>	Mira and Karl Pek
Wed. 9:00 a.m.	Eugene Neuff	Kazi and Zorika
Thurs. 7:00 p.m.	Salvatore and Inez Pupo	Umbrello Family
Fri. 9:00 a.m.	Jane McDowell	Janine Milton
Sat. 5:00 p.m.	Joan Isky	Lippett Family
Sun. 9:00 a.m.	Pro populo	
Sun. 11:00 a.m.	Deceased of the Braida, Duval and South Families	



Sat. Oct 18 5 p.m.
 Lector Patricia
 Ex. Minister Chris

Sun. Oct 19 9 a.m. 11 a.m.
 Lector Jay Lizzie
 Ex. Minister Kazi Aaron

Sacraments of Baptism and Matrimony

Father Mark arranges Baptisms and Marriages personally, by appointment. Please see Father after Mass to set a time for an interview. Marriages must be arranged one year in advance. Completion of a marriage preparation course is required. Applications may be obtained from Father Mark.



CONTACT PERSONS for CWL and K of C

Anyone interested in learning more about our parish Catholic Women's League or Knights of Columbus is invited to call the appropriate contact person:

CWL: Christie deSouza: 519-400-6012 cwl@lartist.com

K of C: Ian Nolan: grand.knight.8050@gmail.com

MEETINGS

Tues. 7:30 p.m. CWL General
 (Please Call Christie if you need transportation to the meeting)

Wed. 8:00 p.m. Acton Sharing

Diocesan Vocations Month

October is Diocesan Vocations Month. Please pray for the men and women of our diocese who are discerning their vocations to marriage, priesthood, the permanent diaconate, the dedicated single life, and consecrated life, that is, as a consecrated virgin living in the world, or as a religious priest, sister or sister. Since it is also the month of Our Lady of the Rosary, you are encouraged to offer the Rosary, in particular, the Luminous Mysteries, for vocations. For more information about praying for vocations, visit: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/pray-for-vocations/> Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of the Rosary and Mother of Vocations, pray for us!

A WALK WITH JESUS RETREAT DAY FOR GRIEVING PARENTS

– The loss of a child is a most challenging event in the life of any parent. This grief is acute and challenging and never truly leaves us. The Diocese of Hamilton invites you to join us as we welcome Deacon Henry DeMena from North Carolina to join us in facilitating a retreat day for parents who have lost a child. Whether the loss is recent or some time ago, we invite you to join us for this day of healing and support. The retreat will be offered at the **Church of Our Lady Basilica in Guelph from 9 am to 4 pm on November 22nd** (lunch is included). Registration is required Register at hamiltondiocese.com under upcoming events or call 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.



Bulletins are available online at:

<http://www.parishbulletins.com/bulletins/097>



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of St. Joseph's invites the ladies
of the Parish to our regular
meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of
each month at 7:30 pm.

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