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**London South
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of Parishes**

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On Thanksgiving,
Give thanks to the Lord for His many Blessings

October 9, 2022 - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Naaman the Syrian - the foreigner, the leper, comes to faith in the Living God through his miraculous restoration to health. He is restored to family and community, and brought into the company of believers.

Jesus restores to health ten lepers, and it is the foreigner who comes back and thanks the Lord.

Jesus, in the gospel according to St. Luke today, enters a village and is approached by lepers. It says in the Gospel account "Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" They keep their physical distance from Jesus because they know they are "unclean", they are leprous. What a sad saying this is. What a terrible life it must have been for these leprous people to be completely defined by a disease, who were kept from family, society, temple, and synagogue because of their illness. Even when they would cry out unclean if someone approached them - how this must have made them feel subhuman.

We can remember back to the worst days of the pandemic - when we were advised to shelter, to keep six feet away, to avoid congregating. Did we see others as possibly unclean, infected, to be wary of? Luckily those days passed, but for the lepers of the days of Jesus, their isolation was a life sentence.

Here Jesus sends them to the priest, fulfilling the mosaic law after a healing, and on their way, they are made clean, they are restored. They can live in the city or village now, they can see and love their family and friends, they can rejoin public worship in the synagogue and in the temple - they are whole again.

What needs to be touched by Jesus in our lives. Where do we "keep our distance" from the Lord? What are our leprous spots? What makes us feel isolated, unwelcome, set apart? What healing are we still in need of? Invite the Lord this week in prayer to touch what is untouchable in our lives. May the Lord restore us.

London Public Square Rosary Rally

Come pray the Rosary with us in honour of our Holy Mother's apparitions and requests at Fatima. This year marks the 14th anniversary of the Rally in London. **Venue:** Victoria Park Bandshell, London **When:** Saturday, October 15 at 11:55 a.m. *If you have to sit, please bring a chair!* For more info, contact us at: ourladyofrock@gmail.com

Ministry Discernment Evening — Wednesday, October 19 at 7 p.m.

At St. Justin's, we will be hosting a ministries night—if you feel called to actively participate in the life of your parish, come out! We need compassionate people to be trained and to bring Holy Communion to our home bound and those in Long-term Care facilities. We need readers for our weekend and weekday Masses. We also need altar servers from those who have made their First Holy Communion up to and including seniors. We are training Sacristans—those who care for the sacred vessels and vestments, and set up for Masses and Liturgical celebrations. We need more! Those who count the offertory collections are needed. Come out and be open to God's call. We need you; GOD NEEDS YOU!

A Saint in Our Midst!

On **Tuesday, November 1st, 2022** at 2:30 p.m. the Major relic of St. Andre Bessette (Br. Andre) will be visiting our Family of Parishes at St. Justin's. We will be calling on the various groups within the family to participate in 30 minute "vigils" before the relic throughout the afternoon until Mass at 6:30 p.m. We will be having devotions to St. Joseph, the Oil blessed at the Oratory, and prayers to St. Andre as well. Please come out and join us for the great event.

Our Annual Memorial Mass — Wednesday, November 2 at 7 p.m.

We will be holding our annual Memorial Mass for those who have died (within the last year) at 7 p.m. at St. Francis-St. Martin's this year. If you have a loved one buried from St. Francis-St. Martin's, St. Justin's or St. Leopold Mandic (or clergy from the parish came to the funeral home for a service), you should be getting an invitation to this Mass sometime in October. There will also be sign up on our website as well as a bulletin insert for you to sign up in the month of October. More information to follow.

Frankenmuth Christmas Shopping Adventure — Monday, November 7 — 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

This is a bus trip to Frankenmuth you won't want to miss!

Tour includes stops at Bronner's Christmas Store, Zehnder's Famous Chicken Restaurant & the quaint Village Shops of Frankenmuth. Cost: \$110.00/person CAD. Valid Passports /Vaccination Required. To register, contact Mary Catherine Bishop by phone at 519-685-2795 x-29 or by email at mcbishop@dol.ca.

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