

Mass Schedule and Intentions for the week of October 6—11

Tuesday—Communion Service at Cedarcroft Seniors Residence at 10:00 am.

7:00 pm. at St. Joseph’s Church (rosary & adoration following Mass until 9 pm.)

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. Steve Horenberg                         | Veronica & Gerald Kolkman |
| 2. Keith Whaling                           | Frank Whaling             |
| 3. Kay McGinnis                            | Patrick & Anne Hayes      |
| 4. The intentions of David & Jen Horenberg | Mary Horenberg            |

Wednesday— 8:00 am. at Immaculate Conception Church

- |                                  |                                    |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Judy Purcell and Robb Purcell | Fran Purcell & family              |
| 2. Pat Bannon                    | Stratford & District Right to Life |
| 3. Jean & Pat O’Donovan          | Marg & Jim Brickman                |
| 4. Pauline Butler                | Noreen & Brian Crowley             |

Communion Service at Spruce Lodge Seniors Residence at 10:30 am.

Thursday—10:00 am. at Holy Name of Mary Church (rosary and adoration following Mass until 12:30 pm.)

- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 1. The intentions of Karin Lampe                          | Anita Ruthig |
| 2. The intentions of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul |              |
| 3. Carolynne O’Hearn                                      | Jim O’Hearn  |
| 4. Tony & Dinah Koot                                      | Willy Koot   |

Communion Service at Greenwood Seniors Residence at 2:00 pm.

Friday—8:00 am. at St. Joseph’s Church (adoration following Mass until 9:00 pm.)

- |                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. The intentions of Fr. David Butler |                                 |
| 2. Joshua Powath Sr.                  | The family                      |
| 3. Emma Boersen                       | Rich & Terry Ann DeWetering     |
| 4. Bill Strawbridge                   | Mike & Patty O’Donovan & family |

We ask you to pray...

Please pray for those who have died. May God graciously welcome them into His Heavenly Kingdom.

Please pray for those who are sick, especially Kevin Curry and Don Kocher. May God grant them strength in their healing journey.

Please pray for vocations: Fr. Michael Woods, Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, Fr. Nelson Cabral, Leigh Duckworth (coordinator of Youth Ministry), Deacon John Vezina, Fr. Donald Lococo, Deacon Charles Stillwell, for religious communities, Bishop Ronald Fabbro, and for Pope Leo.

Parish and Parish Supported Ministries

Stratford and District Right to Life “Life” Chain - Join thousands across Canada standing against abortion in a peaceful, prayerful demonstration today, **Sunday Oct. 5 from 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm**. There are 3 Stratford locations: Huron St. in front of St. Joseph's Church, Ontario St. both in front of Walmart and in front of Popeye's. There is also a location in St. Marys on Queen St. in front of the Town Hall. We have some new posters this year! Hope you can come out and stand for life.

Holy Name of Mary CWL Once again this fall we will be collecting feminine hygiene products to be shared with the St. Marys Salvation Army and the St. Marys Library Pantry programs. There are boxes at both church entrances to collect these items. We thank you for your cooperation.

Immaculate CWL We are now accepting new items for the annual **Bazaar & Raffle** being held on Saturday, November 1st in the Parish hall. You can drop off items for the Penny Sale or Wheel of Fortune in the blue totes at the entrances of Immaculate Conception Church. Our last day for items is October 24th. (due to stricter licensing rules). Please start returning your ticket stubs to the ladies selling the tickets at the entrances of the church. Please reach out to Barb Mitchell (Wheel) 519-271-6595 or Mary Kay Lobsinger (Penny) 519-273-5356 or Linda Nicholson (Wheel/Penny) 519-274-1661 for any questions or pickup of items.

St. Joseph’s CWL **To all CWL ladies, please join us this weekend by wearing blue.**

We are hosting coffee socials after both Masses this weekend at St. Joseph’s in the hall. Please stop in for coffee and fellowship and peruse our Parish library. Dues in the amount of \$35 for 2026 are now being accepted. Cheques can be payable to St. Joseph's CWL and e-transfers can be made to stjosephscwl2024@gmail.com. Envelopes should include your name, current address, phone number and email address in order to keep our records up to date. Please place your envelope, clearly marked to St. Joseph’s CWL in the offertory baskets or drop it into our office. Again, we will be offering a draw to return the fee to a lucky member! All memberships should be paid by the end of 2025.

**\*\*All 3 councils are hosting a talk on How We Can Help the Homeless in our Community**

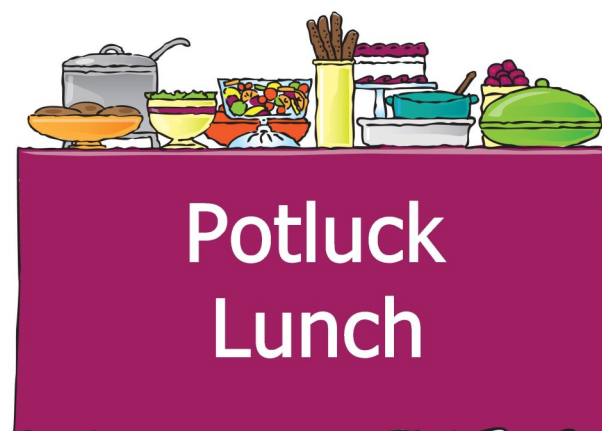
You can make a difference! Help increase awareness of our homeless community. Save the date- Monday October 20th we have invited guest speakers from the Connection Centre and the United Way Perth Huron. Please join us for a night of education and enlightenment.

Mission Committee (a note from recipients of Project Precious financial support—each donation is put to such good use!) “You can't imagine how you help many families in Haiti, especially in the north. Some parents, before choosing a school for their children, ask if there is a canteen there. The meal that you and your benefactors help us to provide to the children is really important for them and for us as well because you help me to do my job. Big thanks to you and all of your benefactors. Jesus knows all and will give you all back and more." Fr. Patrick Alexis "Your presence is a blessing for us. You do a lot in Haiti and God sees your work and you're full of God's blessings." Fr. Charles Pierre "With this transfer of money, we experience the power of prayer. Although times are difficult, you managed to find something to send. Thank you all for your loyalty to Haiti." Msgr. Jacques Mary Charles "Your help makes a meaningful difference, especially when it comes to education. Thank you so much, I appreciate it." Theonel Destama (Parish and Parish supported Ministrie continued next page)

### Parish and Parish supported Ministries continued...

**RCIA** Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith? Do you know someone who is considering becoming Catholic? RCIA begins this year on Wednesday, October 15th. We welcome inquiries and are happy to answer questions. For more information or to sign up, please reach out to Erika at [eeaglesham@dol.ca](mailto:eeaglesham@dol.ca) or call 519-271-6722 ext. 228.

**Avon-Thames Catholic Family of Parishes Potluck** We are gearing up for a new initiative for our Family of Parishes! Please join us for a potluck lunch and good fellowship on the third Sunday of each month at St. Joseph's Parish Hall. Our first gathering will be **Sunday, October 19th** from 1:00 pm and 3:30pm. Due to the Christmas Market being held on November 15th, **we won't gather again until Sunday, December 21st.** The Divine Mercy Chaplet to be recited at 3:00 pm. as we wrap up the afternoon. Please bring a dish to share. The side door of the Parish Hall will be open at 11:00 am. to drop food dishes off on your way to the 12:00 pm. Mass. This is a family friendly affair and a spot will be designated in the hall for children. Please bring some in-door or board games with you. Come on your own, bring a friend, or bring your family and join in on fun, food, fellowship and build community.



### Upcoming Stepping Up Fundraiser!

**Question:** What is the name of the super fun evening to gather together, have snacks and drinks and answer random questions that will probe the very depths of our knowledge?

**Answer:** It's the Stepping Up for St. Joseph's Trivia Night fundraiser being held **Thursday, October 16th!**

Everyone is invited to register a team of four (4) players and come on out to the barn of Martin and Kathryn Ritsma, 75 Kelly's Lane in Stratford. The evening begins at 7:00 pm. Snacks will be provided and refreshments will be available for purchase. \$25 per player (\$100.00 per team) with the option of purchasing a set of "mulligans" for \$10. Prizes awarded to the winners. Additional prizes such as gift card draws and 50/50 draws will also be available that night.

Please contact John Selbie at [jselbie@huronperthcatholic.ca](mailto:jselbie@huronperthcatholic.ca) for details and to register your team.



Website: [www.avonthamescatholic.dol.ca](http://www.avonthamescatholic.dol.ca)

Email: [avonthamescatholic@dol.ca](mailto:avonthamescatholic@dol.ca)

Parish Family Office: 519-271-6722

96 Huron Street, Stratford ON N5A 5S6

Office hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### Sunday, October 5th, 2025 The Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Elementary School Retreats Begin!

Each year we offer retreats for all 5 of our elementary schools within our Family of Parishes. Our Grade 4 retreats are up first, planned with the beautiful theme:

**'I am the Vine; you are the branches.'** (John 15:5)

These retreats will run at Immaculate Conception Church on October 7th and 8th and over to Holy Name of Mary Church on October 9th. If your child is home-schooled or goes to a public school, they are more than welcome to join us – please call Amanda at the office.

Please pray for our Retreat Team during the week as well as our little ones who will come to know Jesus in a very special way!



#### Avon Thames Catholic Family of Parishes Library

All are welcome to take advantage of our newly updated Parish libraries located in each of our churches. You can borrow books any Sunday! These libraries are all self-served; please complete the available cards so we can keep track of the borrowing.

We have lots of material to choose from—books for children, some fiction and lots of non-fiction writing on the Saints, Popes throughout the ages, theology, our Catholic faith, Sacraments, etc. Both light reading & reading with reflection.

Here are our library locations:

- **Holy Name of Mary Church** along the ramp going into the church from the accessible sliding door off the parking lot.
- **Immaculate Conception Church** located at the back of the church in the shelving on the back wall.
- **St. Joseph's Church** located at the back of the church under the balcony stairs. The rest of the collection can be viewed at the Coffee Socials including today!

Keep an eye out for new titles as we rotate books from the main library.

