



OUR FAMILY OVERVIEW - AUGUST 29, 2021

# HOLY FAMILY PARISH

The 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time



*A Message from  
Fr. Bob Remark,  
Pastor*

Welcome to new parishioners to Holy Family Parish! Perhaps you have just moved into the Forest City. Perhaps you have moved within the City. Perhaps the Lord is moving you closer to him today. Welcome! Welcome!

Almost 13 years ago, on Friday, September 12, 2008, at Our Lady of the Atonement Parish, Windsor, I presided over the funeral of Corporal Andrew Paul Grenon, a fallen Canadian soldier whose life was lost in an exchange of gunfire with the Taliban in Afghanistan. He was 23 years of age. All of Canada tuned into the funeral through national media. Thousands of people lined the streets from the church to the gravesite, silent, in tears, holding Canadian flags as a sign of support for the loss of one of their own. The recent news of all of the Afghan territory taken from the Taliban terrorists by Canadians, Americans, and other international allies 20 years ago, has now fallen back into terrorists hands. How heart wrenching! Were the precious lives of young Canadian soldiers lost in the cause of fighting

for the freedom of the Afghan people been in vain? Has our country done enough to retrieve Afghani friends of Canadians over the past 20 years? I still remember these events of some 13 years ago. I still pray with and for Andrew's mother, Theresa, and family, who continue to valiantly carry the torch of her/their son's/relative's ultimate sacrifice, and the tragic impact of the decisions of political leaders. cont'd...

## HOLY FAMILY PARISH

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Website: [holyfamilylondon.ca](http://holyfamilylondon.ca)

## SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday at 5:00pm

Sunday at 8:30am,

11:00am\*\*, and 2:00pm

\*\*11:00 am Mass will not  
be livestreamed

## WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday at 6:30pm,

Wednesday at 9:00 am

Thursday and Friday at 10:00 am

## CONNECT WITH US

 [@HolyFamilyLondon](https://www.facebook.com/HolyFamilyLondon)

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 [@HolyFamilyParishLondon](https://www.youtube.com/HolyFamilyParishLondon)



**"This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."**

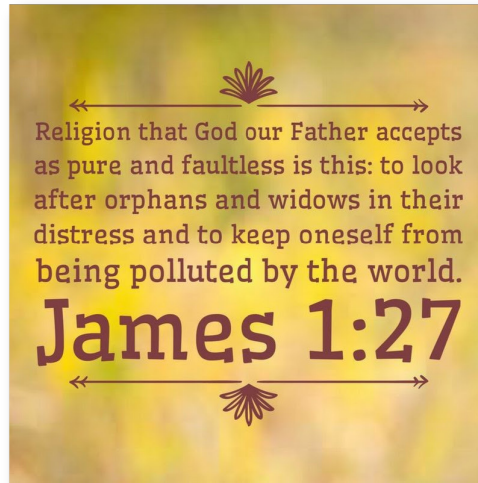
Mark 7. 7-8.





*A Message from  
Fr. Bob Remark, Pastor  
cont'd*

James, in our second reading of this weekend's liturgy, reminds us to 'be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.' Disciples are called to reveal their Christian beliefs to the world through their decisions, their words and by their faithfulness to Jesus. This call to action is directed to family and friends, and also to the wider community. Jesus, in our gospel says it in a different way. He condemns religious leaders for their shallow lives of faith, those who honour God only with their lips and not with their hearts. Our communities are in desperate need of authentic Christians who will challenge our political, business and religious leaders to the highest standards of goodness, integrity, and honesty. Canada has lost ground in being seen as a world leader of justice, truth, generosity and integrity. Canadians are seeing first hand how we are losing ground to the 'dark side'. This is a call out to our physician, lawyer, business, scientist, church and education leaders. We need your wisdom and voice at the service of our communities and our country! Come, Holy Spirit!



A big thank you to all who during this pandemic have continued to serve in positions of leadership to Alpha, Life Groups, Scripture study, sacramental preparation processes, hospitality and outreach to the needy! You have made a difference in the lives of hundreds of people, leading them closer to Christ. As September draws near, we will be inviting you to consider new and not-so-new ways of serving our community. Our faith community, and beyond, needs your generous support. Holy Spirit, please call your people to serve as disciples. Wherever they are needed, even if they don't feel worthy of this call. Stay tuned to more invitations to specific ministries in the weeks to come.

Fr. John Comiskey, V.G., has offered updated COVID information and directives. Please see the next page for this article....



## WEEKDAY MASSES



We continue to welcome all parishioners and visitors to join us at church in-person weekday Masses. For the most up to date information, please see our website at <https://holyfamilylondon.ca/>. There is no pre-registration. Just come but note that our maximum number in the church, safely distanced remains at 74 persons. You will continue to wear your mask and sign-in with our Hospitality as you enter the rear parking lot doors. You are free to select your seat in the church, being careful to sit in open, marked seats and to social-distance yourself between "bubbles of families".



Our weekday Masses will not be livestreamed as we are giving our volunteers a much-needed break as they have been working tirelessly over the past many months. We will continue to livestream for special celebrations (eg: funerals and baptisms).

If you know anyone interested in helping out with this livestreaming ministry, please call the parish office and speak to Marilyn Buggy at ext'n 265 or contact her at [mbuggy@dol.ca](mailto:mbuggy@dol.ca)



Some parishes and people at the Diocesan Centre have received requests for a letter or some form to indicate that a particular person has a “religious exemption” from taking the COVID-19 vaccine.

The Diocese of London is not issuing such exemptions. I was able to find a couple of things which might help you to understand this position.

First, there is an interview from “America Media”, an online Jesuit publication, with Dr. Moira McQueen, a well-known and well-respected ethicist in Toronto, and a medical doctor as well. Dr. McQueen is a consultant for the Canadian Bishops and one of the leading ethicists in the world. The video can be found at this link.

Dr. McQueen refers, in various writings, to the Charlotte Lozier Institute’s analysis which found “that a majority of vaccine candidates did not use abortion-derived cell lines in their production. Several used abortion-derived cell lines in laboratory testing, or their use in testing could not be determined.” You can find that information at this link.

Second, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF) issued a statement in late December 2020, Note on the morality of using some anti-Covid-19 vaccines. This statement was published with the express approval of Pope Francis, and is found at this link.

The statement from CDF builds on earlier statements that speak of the ability for people in good conscience to be able take the vaccine. While it is not the most ethical source for such a vaccine, it is all we have. If another vaccine that is more ethically sourced were available, then we should ask for it and take it. In some cases, we do not have a choice to take a more ethically sourced vaccine.

Some speak about “cooperation with evil” in taking the vaccine. Moral theology makes the distinction between proximate and remote material cooperation. In the case of the vaccine, those taking it are not cooperating proximately. Neither are they giving approbation to abortions by taking the vaccine, which would be formal cooperation. Again, it is a matter of not having a choice to take a more ethically sourced vaccine.

Dr. McQueen points out that we are duty-bound as Catholics to know the scientific facts and the moral facts. She and the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith also point out that in the face of the threat of grave evil and without an alternative vaccine, it is important for us to take the vaccine for the sake of the common good.

The “religious exemption” should not be confused with a “medical exemption” which may be given for such things as an allergy to one of the components in a vaccine. Such an exemption would be given by a qualified medical person.

Bishop Fabbro is in agreement with these statements, and asked that I communicate this information to you.

Fr. John Comiskey (*Parish Briefings ~ Tue 2021-08-24*)



***Please pray for those who are in need of healing and peace...***

- + John & Claire Wells
- + June Girard
- + Leo Vandenberg
- + Marie Crha

***Please pray for those who have died...***

- + Dan Belliveau
- + Janice McMillan
- + Fr. William Reigel



# Year-to Date Financial Update



**Tim Firth**

Mission Support  
Team Lead



While the pandemic has turned many things upside down, financially, our parish is doing well - all things considered. Year to date, our 'Operating Revenue' has been bolstered by the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) program in the amount of \$82,291! This has allowed us to generally maintain full employment levels, invest in small infrastructure projects, and maintain programming where allowed within COVID protocols.

Specifically, our Sunday Offertory giving is down 8.3% (\$35,000) versus budget. The Diocese of London had granted parishes a reprieve on paying their Diocesan assessments last year; however, that is not the case this year. As a result, year-to-date in 2021, this expense is \$50,000 more than it was in 2020. On a positive note, our Operating Expenses are 6.8% (\$25,854) below budget, and our CEWS funding is 10.5% (\$7,921) over what we had forecasted to receive as of August 2021. Our cash reserves remain strong.

We are truly blessed with the support of our parishioners, and we really appreciate the ways in which many people have gone outside of the norm of Sunday envelopes to sustain their giving. Opportunities like 'Plenty' (see below), pre-authorized monthly giving and Interac e-Transfer are seeing an increase in activity, and we suspect that more and more people will go to this type of convenient and contactless giving. If you know of other ways of creative giving...please let us know!

Your continued financial support allows us to focus on our Mission and Vision, and we look forward to the time when our doors are once again wide open to all!

Thank you.

Use the QR code above to scan on your smartphone camera. it will redirect you to our new mobile donation web application. After you scan the QR code and see the mobile app, please save it to your home screen by pressing the 'Add to Home Screen' button and following the instructions.





# COVID 19 PRECAUTIONS

As we continue through the several next steps of reopening with the COVID-19 Pandemic, vaccinations and testing still continuing, we would like to review the guidelines needed to be followed to keep everyone who enters our building as safe as possible.

- **Stay home if you are not well**, or
- you have been outside of Ontario in the past two weeks, or
- you have been exposed to someone with COVID or have been asked to self-isolate in the past two weeks



Please **use the alcohol-based hand sanitizer** provided when you enter the church building.

- **Maintain social distancing** at all times whether in the parking lot, entering the building, being present in the building and on leaving the building for the safety of everyone. The Hospitality Team will assist you with these protocols.



Since July 18, 2020 it is **mandatory to wear a face covering**: either a medical

or non-medical mask; a scarf made of cloth, linen or other similar fabric. The face covering must fit securely to the head and be large enough to completely and comfortably cover the mouth, nose and chin without gaps.

**Note:** Face shields do not replace face coverings. Face shields may provide an additional layer of protection, and they must not be used in place of face coverings.

*We welcome all who will gather with us in the church building; we also welcome all who gather with us online.*



We love to see you here at Mass however if you are not able to comply with these guidelines and to protect everyone present in the Church, kindly join us by following the "**Join Online**" link on the parish website at [holyfamilylondon.ca](https://holyfamilylondon.ca) to be part of the live-streamed Masses (5:00p.m., 8:30a.m., 2:00p.m. only).

**To attend a weekend Mass**, (Saturday at 5:00p.m. and Sunday at 8:30a.m., 11:00a.m., or 2:00p.m.)

1. Click on the "**Join in Person**" button on the main page of our website. It will bring you to a list of Mass times.
2. Using the grey scroll bar on the right side of the page, scroll to the time of Mass you wish to book for that particular Saturday/Sunday.
3. Click on the orange "**Register**" button and it will indicate how many seats are left. Choose the # of seats you want.
4. Again, click on the orange "Register" button and fill out your first and last name. Then enter your email and confirm it once again before the orange "Register" button is highlighted.
5. A final click of that register button will send a confirmation to your email for that weekend.

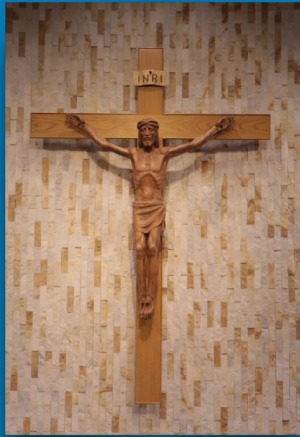
**If you aren't able to register online**, kindly call Claudette McLeod at ext'n #222.

**When arriving for the weekend Masses**, the doors will be open 45 minutes before Mass time. Please enter through the rear parking lot doors only.



# CHILDREN'S CHURCH is still happening online at Holy Family!

If you are home and watching our Masses via live-streaming, we have resources, all related to the Sunday readings to help celebrate and keep young children engaged, Sundays holy and celebrated by everyone in your family. Every weekend, check out our parish website at <https://holyfamilylondon.ca/childrenschurch/> for prayers, videos, activity, colouring sheets, and more!



## OFFICE DIRECTORY

### \*Senior Leadership Team

CHRISTINA BAHATI\*  
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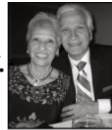
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