

Lucan Northwest London Catholic Family of Parishes

# The Beacon

EASTER 2025

## Signs of Hope



Vol.Iss  
III.3

[wearelighthouse.ca](http://wearelighthouse.ca)

# The Beacon



Jesus said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life' (John 8.12). He draws every person to himself to experience in him unimaginable love, unconditional mercy, and peace which flows from the heart. When we bask in that light long enough, we become like him. He says to his disciples, 'You are the light of the world' (Matthew 5.14). We become like the 'light' and Jesus sends us out to be the light for others, drawing them closer to Christ through our own witness of life.

We have come to understand that our new Family of Parishes' Vision and Core Values serve as a Lighthouse of Jesus. He is using us as his humble servants and this simple invitation: to call everyone to Christ. Each person is able to experience his life not only in our present life, but also in eternal life.

Saint Patrick Parish, Lucan and Holy Family Parish, London (Lucan Northwest London Catholic Family of Parishes) is obediently responding to Jesus' great commission 'to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching [all] to obey everything that [He] has commanded' (Matthew 28.19-20).

**Come and allow yourselves to be drawn by Jesus, the Light. Find in him what you can find nowhere else and in no one else. Come and see for yourselves!**

## What is *The Beacon*?

Jesus invites us to be **Beacons of Hope**. We do this by sharing our stories of how we are being transformed by encountering Jesus and the Holy Spirit. *The Beacon* is how we are sharing the stories of transformation from members of our community.

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## JOIN OUR TEAM



We are building a team of talented and passionate people who have a desire to help prepare our publications, including *The Beacon*.

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Saint Patrick  
Holy Family

Lucan Northwest London Catholic Family of Parishes

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Snowdrop (*Galanthus nivalis*) photo by Tim Firth  
Taken outside Holy Family Parish

Snowdrops are among the first bulbs to bloom in spring and can form impressive carpets of white in areas where they are native or have been naturalized. (from [Wikipedia](#))

## OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we praise and thank you for bringing us together as a Family of Parishes, called to be the light for the world.

We thank you for giving us a vision to become an invitational community of disciple-making disciples who have Jesus at the center of everything we believe, say, and do.

May we rely on the Holy Spirit to inspire us to love the Scriptures, to share our faith stories, to foster right relationships, and to be warm-hearted.

We entrust our Family of Parishes to the care of Our Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph, the Holy Family, and Saint Patrick as we work together to bear witness to our core values and to become the people you desire us to become.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.

Amen.

## INTERPRETIVE KEY TO OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES LOGO

The cosmic Christ shines throughout the universe to every land and to every person.

Symbols of Jesus as the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and End of all, sit on top of the Lighthouse.

The gold band reminds us of our 'Communion in Christ' embracing Saint Patrick & Holy Family Parishes. It also speaks to us of the gift of the Eucharist.

The stripes on the Lighthouse refer to the formation path of disciples, up toward Christ. The path equips the saints for ministry.

Turbulent seas surround the base of the Lighthouse, never to be overcome by them.

The base of the Lighthouse is open. Everyone is invited to enter on the path of encounter and formation as disciples.

Jesus is the light of the world, reaching out first to those who have not yet encountered Jesus Christ; second, to those whose Christian faith has grown cold or who are lost; and finally, to those who struggle to live faith wholeheartedly.

So here we are with these Core Values.



**Jesus is our Light, our Lighthouse.**



## FROM THE PASTOR

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### Ebenezer Scrooge!

You probably find it strange to bring up the infamous character named above to begin a reflection on “Signs of Hope.” Bear with me!

Hope is not the first word that comes to mind when we think about Scrooge. If anything, he is the personification of hopelessness! The question that comes to mind is, “Why was he so hopeless?”

Hope, one of the Theological Virtues (Faith and Charity [Love] being the other two), begins at the very core of our being. One might say, it is knowing internally “who we are,” and “who God is,” and “why.” For us as Christians, hope is based on the truth of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and that one day we will participate fully in the Paschal Mystery.

**Scrooge didn't see any signs of hope because his heart was closed to others who could have shown him the way.**

Such hope is nurtured in many ways. One such way comes to us from the outside – in our relationships with others and participating in the daily events of life. Ebenezer Scrooge did neither! He didn't see any signs of hope because his heart was closed to others who could have shown him the way.

If we want to see and experience signs of hope, we must and need to be engaged in the lives of our brothers and sisters. The call of Christ, that is, being a disciple-making disciple, necessarily means to be genuine in our efforts to relate to others.

**It is in our being out in the world that allows us to see truly!** 



Fr. Thom Blondin

FR. THOM BLONDIN, PASTOR  
Saint Patrick, Lucan and Holy Family, London Parishes  
Lucan Northwest London Catholic Family of Parishes



## Our Vision

**Saint Patrick and Holy Family will become an invitational community of disciple-making disciples who have Jesus at the center of everything we believe, say, and do.**



### Warm-Hearted

We recognize every person as an image-bearer of God. By joining people in their suffering and walking with one another, we are mutually transformed by Christ's love.



### Spirit-Reliant

We are dependent on the Holy Spirit's prompting and direction that we might respond more fully to Jesus' mission to make disciples of all nations.



### Scripture-Soaked

By taking time everyday with the Word of God, we soak in His Word and are better able to imitate the life of Jesus. We do this because we want to know Jesus and what He wants for our life.



### Repentant

We believe in right relationship with God, others, and the environment. This implies that we must own up to our wrongdoings, ask for forgiveness from God and those who we've hurt, and do what we can to restore true peace.



### Beacons of Hope

We want to be a lighthouse on a dark sea and lead souls to the safety of Jesus, the Light. We do this by sharing our stories of how Christ is transforming us.

# Pope Francis on Signs of Hope

BY MARK ZOMER

***"In hope we were saved"*** (Romans 8.24) wrote Pope Benedict and that by virtue of hope "we can face our present," knowing that we have a future and our life will not end in emptiness. Hope then "makes things happen and is life-changing"<sup>1</sup> in the present.

Pope Francis reflects on what should be signs of hope and where hope is needed, first in the signs of the times, in "the immense goodness present in our world ... lest we be tempted to think ourselves overwhelmed by evil," and in the desire for peace."<sup>2</sup>

Hope is needed today in "enthusiasm for life and responsible parenthood. The future depends on the young, the very embodiment of hope, so the Church must reach out to them with renewed passion to demonstrate care and concern for the rising generation."<sup>3</sup>

We are called to be tangible signs of hope for all who experience hardships of imprisonment, sickness, poverty, migration, and old age. "Forms of pardon" rebuilding individuals' confidence and "reintegration with commitment to law" are needed for prisoners. Respecting personal dignity and human rights should also be signs of hope shown to the sick and those most vulnerable, granted to the poor who lack the essentials of life and are often homeless, going without sufficient food for the day. Hope should also be present for migrants seeking a better life in a spirit of welcome without prejudice and rejection to "guarantee security and access to employment and education to find their place in a new social context." Also, the elderly with the treasure of their wisdom and life experiences deserve signs of hope with support and gratitude for their passing on of faith, wisdom, and encouragement to the younger generations.<sup>4</sup>

"Through prayer, action and suffering, and in God's judgement (its justice and grace), we learn and practice hope. Therefore, to do our utmost for our own salvation, we should also ask: what can I do so others may have hope to be saved too? As Pope Benedict wrote, "[our] greater and lesser hopes that keep us going day by day are not enough without the great hope, which can only be God, who encompasses the whole of reality and who can bestow upon us what we, by ourselves, cannot attain: a life that is "truly" life."<sup>5</sup>

Through [Mary's] "yes", the hope of the ages became reality. Then at the foot of the Cross, [her] faith, even in the darkness of Holy Saturday, bore the certitude of hope towards Easter morning.<sup>6</sup> 



**READ POPE FRANCIS'  
SPES NON CONFUNDIT  
HERE:**



[vatican.va/content/francesco/en/bulls/documents/20240509\\_spes-non-confundit\\_bolla-giubileo2025.html](https://vatican.va/content/francesco/en/bulls/documents/20240509_spes-non-confundit_bolla-giubileo2025.html)

<sup>1</sup> Benedict XVI. *Spe Salvi*. Encyclical Letter 2007.

<sup>2</sup> Francis. *Spes non confundit*. Bull of Indiction of the Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Benedict XVI. *Spe Salvi*. Encyclical Letter 2007.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

# Ministry of Charity – Signs of Hope

## Called to Serve: Signs of Hope Among the Vulnerable

BY NIKITA FONSECA

### A Ministry of Presence and Hope – with Deacon Jim Van Lanen

As Pope Francis reminds us in his message on Signs of Hope,<sup>1</sup> "Signs of hope should also be shown to the sick, at home or in hospital. Their sufferings can be alleviated by the closeness and affection of those who visit them." This spirit of mercy and presence is vividly reflected in the ministry of Deacon Jim, who serves at a local hospice.

#### What is your role in the ministry of charity at the hospice?

**DJ:** My ministry is one of presence. I accompany families and individuals at the hospice, offering spiritual support through prayer, the sacraments, especially Communion, and simply by being present. Often, that means sitting quietly with people, listening to their stories, and making sure they feel known, recognized, and heard. It's about helping them feel that their life on Earth meant something and that they are loved and cared for until the very end.

#### What first inspired you to serve in this particular ministry of charity, and how has it shaped your own faith journey?

**DJ:** I was drawn to hospice care after experiencing the loss of my sister. I saw how powerful and comforting it was when people offered support to our family at the funeral home. That personal experience helped guide me toward this ministry. In being present to those who are grieving or near the end of life, I've found that I receive as much as I give. It helps me feel fully alive because God is generous with His blessings when we make ourselves available to others.

#### Can you share a moment from your work at the hospice that stands out as a sign of hope?

**DJ:** There have been many moments of hope, but one that stays with me is when people nearing the end of life - sometimes in pain or facing memory loss - still join in prayer. Even when they've forgotten many things, they remember the words of the Our Father or the Hail Mary. That shows me the faith is still alive, deeply rooted in their hearts. It's a quiet but powerful sign of hope.

#### How do you see the presence of Christ in the people you serve, especially in moments of vulnerability or suffering?

**DJ:** I see Christ especially in those who, even in their suffering, continue to give themselves to others. I've met people of deep faith who are enduring tremendous pain, and sometimes even memory loss and confusion, yet they find ways to care for their family members as well as show kindness to the nurses and staff. And there's something sacred in those who are ready to go to their eternal home - it's a grace that offers hope to all who witness it.

In his encyclical *Deus Caritas Est* (God is Love), Pope Benedict XVI says "the Church's deepest nature is expressed in her three-fold responsibility: proclaiming the word of God, celebrating the sacraments, and exercising the ministry of charity." This ministry of charity is an essential expression of the Church's love in action.

As we reflect on *Signs of Hope*, we look to the quiet but powerful witness of Deacon Jim and Deacon Victor. Through their ministries – one offering compassionate presence at the hospice, the other walking alongside migrant workers - they embody this call to love, becoming living signs of hope in our community.

#### How do you see your role as a deacon living out the ministry of charity?

**DJ:** The ministry of charity is truly at the heart of what we do as deacons. We spend most of our time reaching out to the vulnerable - the poor, the homeless, the sick, and the suffering. The role of the deacon was created by the Church for this very purpose: to serve. We are the Church's feet on the street, called to go out into the community and care for those in need. That's the essence of being a servant in Christ's name. 



<sup>1</sup> Bull of Indiction *Spes non confundit* (Hope Does Not Disappoint) of the Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025, no. 11

## A New Beginning, A Shared Faith – with Deacon Victor Salazar

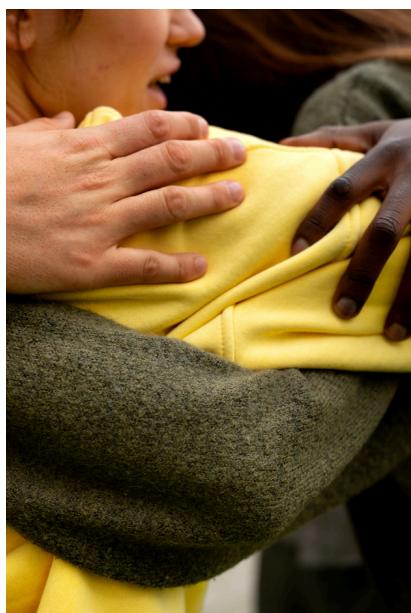
Pope Francis, in his reflection on Signs of Hope,<sup>2</sup> writes "Signs of hope should also be present for migrants who leave their homelands behind in search of a better life for themselves and for their families ... May the Christian community always be prepared to defend the rights of those who are most vulnerable, opening wide its doors to welcome them lest anyone ever be robbed of the hope of a better future." These words are lived out in the ministry of Deacon Victor, who serves with migrant workers in our region.



### What is your role in the ministry of charity with migrant workers?

**Deacon Victor:** My role is to offer spiritual support to migrant workers. I began this ministry back in 2015 here in London largely because of the language barriers that many migrants face. After my ordination, I felt a strong call to continue this work, which was supported by the priests at Holy Family, especially visiting migrants in the hospital and supporting them spiritually.

The ministry itself began around 2003, and I've tried to carry forward its mission: to share light, hope, and faith with those who often feel alone or invisible in a new land.



### What first inspired you to serve in this particular ministry of charity, and how has it shaped your own faith journey?

**DV:** As a migrant myself, I've walked a similar path. Migrant workers come here for a time and then return home, but during their stay, they often start from scratch - a new life, a new language, a new culture. I've lived that. In my fourth year of formation, during a retreat in the chapel, I felt God's voice reminding me that He is the center of this ministry. That moment grounded me. Language wouldn't be a barrier if I focused on God's love.

I've formed strong connections with the workers because I identify with their struggles, and I admire their deep faith. It's also taught me that God calls us to grow together, not just with migrants, but with all newcomers in our communities.

### How do you see the presence of Christ in the people you serve, especially in moments of vulnerability or suffering?

**DV:** I truly believe that to serve the people of God, we need to feel their pain. That's how we draw close to them, how we connect. Vulnerability isn't a weakness - it's a gift. In those tender moments, Christ is so present.

### Can you share a moment from your work with the migrant workers that stands out as a sign of hope?

**DV:** Visiting the places where they live and praying with the migrant workers - those are some of the most powerful moments. These workers are here without their families, working long hours, often in solitude. Yet they still find strength in surrendering to God. They trust Him to take care of their families back home. That kind of faith, that trust, is a reminder to me, and to all of us, that God does take care of us. It's a quiet, profound kind of hope.

### How do you see your role as a deacon living out the ministry of charity?

**DV:** The whole purpose of my vocation is to serve. Whether I'm at mass proclaiming the Gospel, preaching, or ministering to people in need, it's all rooted in that call to serve. For me, this ministry is a way to be deeply connected to God. We nourish ourselves with the Word, and the dismissal at mass sends us out to live the Gospel. That's where charity comes in. Serving God's people is how I continue growing in faith. Here at Holy Family, we have such a beautifully diverse and multicultural community. And in that diversity, there are so many opportunities to grow together, united by Christ's love.

<sup>2</sup> Bull of Indiction *Spes non confundit* (Hope Does Not Disappoint) of the Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025, no. 13

# Signs of Hope after a Stroke

BY MARTHA COLE

A fellow CWL (Catholic Women's League) sister in the parish I attended in May 2023 invited me to join the March for Life in Ottawa. It was an eye-opening experience to partake in a candle light service held at the Life Monument in Ottawa and to hear women and one young man give testimonials. Upon my return to London, God inspired me to help. I decided to volunteer at the London Pregnancy and Family Support Centre. The centre offers a program for women and their children on Tuesday evenings called GRIP – God Real in People. The women and children eat a meal prepared by volunteers, and then the women learn about topics, such as healthy choices and nutrition while the children go to a playroom. I was responsible for cooking and serving a meal for about 50 adults and 18 children of varying ages. It was such joy to see the moms socialize and eat a meal they were not burdened to cook. Volunteering at the centre was an opportunity for me to be *Warm-Hearted*, one of the Core Values of the Lighthouse Vision at Saint Patrick Parish, Lucan and Holy Family Parish, London.

I also was very active in the CWL. Working with faith-filled women, I learned so much and made many friends. I was motivated and filled with the desire to contribute and make a difference with the gifts given to me by God. In addition, I taught ESL to immigrants in Windsor, helped a couple of women start a thriving home business, and led the Rosary on Zoom one day a week for several people.

## In September 2023, I suffered a stroke that changed my life dramatically.

I did not know at that time that God had plans for me that would challenge me and my resilience. In September 2023, I suffered a stroke that changed my life dramatically. When I first realized what happened, I immediately wanted to do everything I was able to do before. But it was wishful thinking. Always a fast walker, I could no longer walk without support and a nurse close by my side. This was a totally different world for me. I had much to learn in this new life, and I would encounter many more challenges as the days and weeks passed.

Did I feel sorry for myself? No, I thank God each Day He lets me live. Many people and priests prayed for me, which I believe contributed to my recovery. Prayer can bring about great change or overcome even the most challenging obstacles. Faith and belief can inspire extraordinary outcomes, often beyond what seems possible. This concept symbolizes hope, strength, and the transformative power of divine intervention.



However, I am disappointed that I am not allowed to volunteer. I must rest to help heal my brain. As my eyesight on the left side was affected, my driver's licence was taken from me until it improves.

### What have been the blessings throughout all of this?

- More time for prayer and reading religious books, often by Matthew Kelly or Bishop Robert Barron
- Watching Bible stories on TV to grow deeper in my relationship with God
- Learning more of the life of Jesus in Scripture readings (Being Scripture-Soaked is another Core Value at Saint Patrick Parish, Lucan and Holy Family Parish, London)
- Trying to be more patient with myself
- Working at relearning lost skills due to the stroke

## God is Good.



Stock photos from Canva



### Spirit-Reliant

We are dependent on the Holy Spirit's prompting and direction that we might respond more fully to Jesus' mission to make disciples of all nations.



### Warm-Hearted

We recognize every person as an image-bearer of God. By joining people in their suffering and walking with one another, we are mutually transformed by Christ's love.

# Signs of Hope for the Homeless

by DONNA McCARREY

When I began volunteering several years ago with the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVP) Youth Conference at Holy Family Parish, I never anticipated where my life would take me and how it would change. The Saint Louise de Marillac Youth Conference engages in many different projects within our church and throughout the city. In the last number of years, we began to focus especially on social justice issues and street ministry. The initiative that has had the most impact on me is our "On the Street Giveaway".

We provide our friends on the street with some necessities that they might need in February, May, and December. We have listened to their requests over the years and added to our list of essentials. We offer clothing, hygiene products, hardware, and food items. My favourite part of the event is when I get to go around and chat with the people. They are always grateful for all we do and can't thank us enough for hosting the giveaway. Everyone leaves with two or three bags of goodies. The giveaway is the culmination of many weeks of making connections with donors, gathering supplies, picking up equipment, setting up stations, sorting through thousands of items, and connecting with the many volunteers.

I make a point of conversing with those that I see panhandling on the street. Recently, I spoke with a man who was outside a local grocery store. I picked up some healthy items for him and offered them to him on my way out. We exchanged names, and I found out he had spent the previous night outdoors in -20 C. He was hoping a friend would offer him a place to sleep that night. I found out he had had a work injury and ended up homeless after a few other unfortunate incidents.

Another time I asked if I could get him something in the store, and he asked for two bus tickets. I bought him a strip of six, for which he was very thankful. Making my way back to my car, something told me to go back and ask to shake his hand. When I did, he looked down at his dry, cracked and dirty hands, but that didn't matter to me. He said it had been a long time since anyone had touched him. That made me so sad for him, as I thought of all the love and affection that I receive from family and friends. As we talked, I noticed people walking by and staring at us. Had I been one of those who would have just passed by a short while ago as if he had been invisible?

Recently, he told me that someone had shredded his tent while he was away. Our Saint Vincent de Paul Youth came to the rescue and donated a new tent to him. He was so thrilled and very thankful. I realized that our friends on the street are just like everyone else except for the fact that they have had to deal with circumstances that have led them to where they are today.

**I realized that our friends on the street are just like everyone else except for the fact that they have had to deal with circumstances that have led them to where they are today.**

Some are just down on their luck, and some have had to deal with difficult life situations while others just make bad choices. We are not to judge. We are all God's children and should treat all of our brothers and sisters with dignity and respect. As Christians, we are called to serve. As members of Saint Patrick Parish, Lucan and Holy Family Parish, London, we are called to live out our Core Values of being **Warm-Hearted** and **Beacons of Hope**. That is our mission. Too often we underestimate how a smile, a kind word, or simple gifts can impact a person's life. We will keep a prayer for our friends close to our hearts, and I encourage you to go out of your comfort zone and reach out and help to bridge the gap between homelessness and society. 



Stock photos from Canva



## Beacons of Hope

We want to be a lighthouse on a dark sea and lead souls to the safety of Jesus, the Light. We do this by sharing our stories of how Christ is transforming us.

# In Serving, We are Signs of Hope

BY LORETTA WILSON

In this Jubilee Year, Pope Francis reminds us that “we are called to be tangible signs of hope for those of our brothers and sisters who experience hardship of any kind.” He also asks “with all [his] heart that hope be granted to the billions of the poorest we must not close our eyes to the dramatic situations that we now encounter all around us … Each day we meet people who are poor or impoverished; they may even be our next-door neighbours. Often, they are homeless or lack sufficient food for the day.”

Lighthouse Living (Lighthouse Core Values) embraces what Pope Francis is inviting us to do. We are called to be Warm-Hearted, Repentant, Scripture-Soaked, Spirit-Reliant, and Beacons of Hope. This is a Jubilee year, and we who have so much are sometimes cold and indifferent to those suffering around us. At the Lucan Northwest London Catholic Family of Parishes, we are working on making a difference. As we draw closer to Jesus, He gives us warm hearts that show respect, compassion, and forgiveness to those who hurt us.

The Holy Spirit guides us as we soak in God’s Word and act upon its message. Above all, we encourage others to trust God and have HOPE as we share our stories of His mercy and love.



Photos: Members of the Jeremiah 29:11 Life Group gather with leaders of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Holy Family and Youth Conferences to prepare bagged lunches for members of our communities on the streets. Photos courtesy Loretta Wilson



Our Family of Parishes has been actively serving our new immigrants, the sick and elderly in nursing homes, the elderly in our parish, the hungry and the homeless in our city, families who are struggling to make ends meet, and the lost who are looking for a meaning in their lives. The light of Christ invites all; we are all God’s children.

Last week, one of our Life Groups chose to feed the homeless on our streets. So with the assistance of the Saint Vincent de Paul leaders, we were able to put together 100 lunch bags for our hungry brothers and sisters. The time and effort it took us was so filled with grace that we have decided not only to do it again, but to encourage some of other life groups and ministries to offer this service to our community as well. 

**Jesus said, “And the King will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’”**



## About Life Groups:

**Life Groups** are intentional medium-sized groups gathering 10-15 people meeting regularly to **connect, pray, grow, and serve**.

The purpose is to form meaningful relationships, pray with each other, grow in our faith, and serve others with love and humility. There are groups that meet during the day and also in the evening.

If you have any questions please email Stacy Paneras at [hplifegroups@dol.ca](mailto:hplifegroups@dol.ca)



BY FR. MATTHEW SAWYER

When we go into Catholic churches, we are often greeted by statues or stained-glass windows with pictures of the saints. Every age has their Catholic heroes. You are probably familiar with many of them. What had been missing in the Canon of Saints is a Saint of the New Millennium, one who grew up in the beginnings of this new age of technology. One who grew up in pop culture and lived his faith to the fullest, a true Millennial Saint.

On Divine Mercy Sunday this year, April 27th, the Church has decided to remedy this problem by canonizing Blessed Carlo Acutis. Born in May 1991, Carlo was baptized as a baby as many Catholics are, but his parents weren't very religious. Carlo first learned of the faith through his beloved Polish nanny. He would be forced into going to the church with his grandma to pray the Rosary where he began to love it. He also loved playing video games, such as Halo and Mario Kart, and watched Pokémon but would limit himself to 1 hour of video games a week, so he wouldn't get addicted. He especially loved going to Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. When he was 12, he began teaching the faith to the younger children at church. He loved the Eucharist so much that he created a website showing all of the Eucharistic Miracles throughout history, and it is still operational today!

What strikes me most about the life of Carlo is that he would have been only a year older than I if he hadn't died of cancer in 2005. He was practically my age, and he was so 'normal.' He didn't give away all his earthly possessions as many saints have felt called to do. Neither did he lead a revolution like Joan of Arc or change the world like the Apostles. He just had faith and knew how to live it out by teaching the younger kids, using the internet to share Christ, and being a Beacon of Hope to his classmates, spending time with the kids who didn't have a lot of friends at school. He hung out with the outcasts just like Jesus did.

Our Family of Parishes is going to have the opportunity to celebrate this amazing saint's canonization on **April 27th at Holy Family Parish**. We are welcoming his canonization like any good millennial would – with games, food, fun, and prayer! We will have some time for crafts, games, a chance to play Carlo's favourite video game, Mario Kart, and spend time in Eucharistic Adoration accompanied by our amazing praise and worship music ministry. The event will run from **3:30pm – 5:30pm**. I invite you all to register if you can, so we can have an idea for numbers. Everyone is welcome!

**Help us celebrate Carlo and welcome him into the Communion of Saints!**

**"The Eucharist is the highway to heaven."**

**"Continuously ask your guardian angel for help. Your guardian angel has to become your best friend."**

**"By standing before the Eucharistic Christ, we become holy."**

**"The only thing we have to ask God for, in prayer, is the desire to be holy."**



**– (Saint) Carlo Acutis**  
May 3, 1991 – October 12, 2006

From a very early age, Blessed Carlo showed a great aptitude for computers – a gift he used in his service to others and for the sharing of contents for Christian formation, such as the exposition of the Eucharistic miracles. In September 2006, the first symptoms of an illness appeared and, upon diagnosis, *fulminant leukaemia*.

With complete confidence, he gave to God the little time he had left. He died on October 12, 2006 and was beatified on October 10, 2020. He will be canonized a saint on Sunday, April 27, 2025.

**His feast day is celebrated on October 12.**

learn more: [carloacutis-en.org](http://carloacutis-en.org)



**FAMILY DAY WITH SAINT CARLO**  
Celebrating the First Millennial Saint

April 27, 2025  
3:30 pm – 5:30 pm  
Holy Family Parish

**JOIN US**

**• Fellowship**  
**• Video games**  
**• Fun crafts**  
**• Eucharistic Adoration led by our Praise and Worship team!**

**Register Here**

scan the QR-code  
or go online:  
[forms.office.com/r/JtqFCzhgj4](http://forms.office.com/r/JtqFCzhgj4)

**wearelighthouse.ca**

**YOUTH, YOUNG ADULT & FAMILY MINISTRY**

# Signs of Financial Hope for our Family of Parishes

BY TIM FIRTH

As Pope Francis stated in *Spes non confundit*, "In addition to finding hope in God's grace, we are also called to discover hope in the signs of the times that the Lord gives us."

We are very pleased to report that you, our amazing parishioners, have responded to the calling of sharing God's gifts, and it has resulted in both parishes exceeding targets in many areas of our respective budgets. Most notably, our operating deficits have been reduced from last year, and less than what we had budgeted for the period ending March 31, 2025. It is important to remember that although our expenses are fairly constant from month-to-month throughout the year, our revenue (primarily Offertory giving) is weighted towards Easter and Christmas. As a result, a small deficit this time of year is not unexpected, as shown in the budget numbers put forward by your Finance Council.

We are anticipating a launch of a couple of Capital Campaigns for Holy Family before the end of the year as we would like to bring All Saints Hall into the 21st century, and the parking lot needs some love! Stay tuned for those.

We pray that your engagement in our Family's Mission continues and that God continues to bless us with abundance and hope. 

Tim Firth  
Mission Support Team Lead



## Financial Results for January–March, 2025

Saint Patrick Parish	YEAR-TO-DATE		PRIOR-YTD
	Actual	Budget	Actual
<b>Revenue</b>			
Total Offertory	\$ 42,350	\$ 45,000	\$ 36,044
Other Collections	\$ 11,536	\$ 10,100	\$ 21,685
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<u>\$ 53,886</u>	<u>\$ 55,100</u>	<u>\$ 57,729</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Compensation	\$ 27,180	\$ 31,400	\$ 30,956
Facilities	\$ 22,741	\$ 20,700	\$ 22,998
Other	\$ 9,617	\$ 10,300	\$ 18,192
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>\$ 59,538</u>	<u>\$ 62,400</u>	<u>\$ 72,146</u>
<b>Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<u>(\$5,652)</u>	<u>(\$7,300)</u>	<u>(\$14,417)</u>

Holy Family Parish	YEAR-TO-DATE		PRIOR-YTD
	Actual	Budget	Actual
<b>Revenue</b>			
Total Offertory	\$ 240,565	\$ 219,670	\$ 214,360
Other Collections	\$ 39,742	\$ 41,550	\$ 62,777
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<u>\$ 280,307</u>	<u>\$ 261,220</u>	<u>\$ 277,137</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Compensation	\$ 153,931	\$ 153,250	\$ 147,622
Facilities	\$ 69,787	\$ 65,790	\$ 65,995
Other	\$ 61,025	\$ 63,370	\$ 84,031
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>\$ 284,743</u>	<u>\$ 282,410</u>	<u>\$ 297,648</u>
<b>Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<u>(\$4,436)</u>	<u>(\$21,190)</u>	<u>(\$20,511)</u>

# PLEASE SUPPORT OUR MISSION

GIVING AT SAINT PATRICK

WAYS TO GIVE



GIVING AT HOLY FAMILY

WAYS TO GIVE



For all the ways to support, please go to the Giving page on our website.

[LEARN MORE HERE](#)

## OUR FAMILY TEAM

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RACHAEL WRIGHT  
Communications Support Assistant  
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\* Senior Leadership Team advises and helps the pastor create long-term goals based on the Family of Parishes' vision (The Lighthouse)

We want to support you in prayer

### ONLINE PRAYER MINISTRY

Join our Prayer Line to receive weekly prayers, reflections, music, and prayer.

To sign up or submit a prayer request, scan the QR-code or go to our website.

Submit your prayer requests on line or email them to [stp.hfp@dol.ca](mailto:stp.hfp@dol.ca)



 The Prayer Line is powered by Flocknote

[wearelighthouse.ca/online-prayer-line-ministry](http://wearelighthouse.ca/online-prayer-line-ministry)



### WELCOMING NEW PARISHIONERS

If you are new to Lucan Northwest London Catholic Family of Parishes – Saint Patrick, Lucan and Holy Family, London, please take a moment and click [here](#) for more information, or call the Parish offices: Saint Patrick at 519.227.4726 x20, or Holy Family at 519.472.0057 x201.

Please visit our website (under Worship > Mass Intentions) to see our Mass Intentions for the Week and Weekday Mass Schedule. Updates, including funerals, will be posted there.

Saint Patrick

519.227.4726  
[stpatlucan@dol.ca](mailto:stpatlucan@dol.ca)

To meet the Team, please click here or scan the QR-code



Holy Family

519.472.0057  
[hfp.parish@dol.ca](mailto:hfp.parish@dol.ca)

  
Stay connected with us – sign up with Flocknote!



[wearelighthouse.ca](http://wearelighthouse.ca)

# Hope

Come journey with us as we become signs (Beacons) of hope for our community

## PRAISE & PROMISES

YOUTH FROM 13-18 YEARS

ALL SAINTS HALL  
HOLY FAMILY PARISH

FRIDAY, MAY 2  
7-9PM

FAITH. FELLOWSHIP. WORSHIP.

[wearelighthouse.ca/praise-and-promises](http://wearelighthouse.ca/praise-and-promises)

# We are signs of hope

## WISDOM & WORSHIP

YOUNG ADULTS AGES  
18-25 YEARS ARE  
WELCOME!

MONTHLY!

SATURDAY, APRIL 26  
7-9PM

HOLY FAMILY  
PARISH

SCRIPTURE. WORSHIP. FELLOWSHIP.

**Let us pray...**

### The Jubilee Prayer



Father in heaven, may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope* for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

Franciscus

Canadian Conference  
of Catholic Bishops

Saint Patrick  
Holy Family

[wearelighthouse.ca](http://wearelighthouse.ca)

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Celebrating the First Millennial Saint



- Fellowship
- Video games
- Fun crafts
- Eucharistic Adoration led by our Praise and Worship team!

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Register here!



[forms.office.com/r/2iNjEc2h9d](http://forms.office.com/r/2iNjEc2h9d)

## The CHOSEN Scripture Study

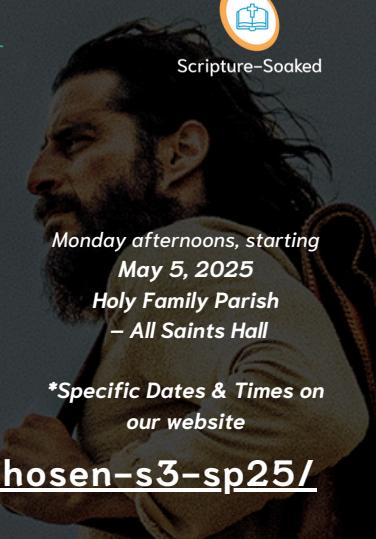
Come and join us for  
Season 3 of  
“The Chosen”  
followed by table  
discussion.

Monday afternoons, starting  
May 5, 2025  
Holy Family Parish  
– All Saints Hall

\*Specific Dates & Times on  
our website



Scripture-Soaked



[wearelighthouse.ca/chosen-s3-sp25/](http://wearelighthouse.ca/chosen-s3-sp25/)