## OUR FAMILY OVERVIEW - OCTOBER 3, 2021



# HOLY FAMILY PARISH

#### The 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time



A Message from Fr. Bob Remark, **Pastor** 

In the last week, the Canadian Catholic Bishops have issued an official apology for the role that the Catholic Church has played in the Residential Schools system over the past 150 years, along with their action plan in support of our Indigenous sisters and brothers. That apology is posted on our parish website for your review. Our own Bishop Fabbro has also issued a formal apology, with his action plan. It is also posted on our parish website. You may know that on the first Sunday in July, after participating in the Turtle Island Healing Walk on July 1st starting in Victoria Park downtown, with 10,000 others in support of our Indigenous sisters and brothers, I gave as my homily, my own public apology to the First Peoples of this land. cont'd on page 2

## **HOLY FAMILY PARISH**

777 Valetta Street London, Ontario N6H 2Y9

**Phone/Fax:** (519)472-0057 Email: hfparish@dol.ca Website: 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 6:30 pm and Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at 10:00 am

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## We are all brothers and sisters in Christ.



## A Message from Fr. Bob Remark, Pastor

cont'd



Words are not enough; they never are. I will be inviting the good people of Holy Family Parish to work with the action plan of Bishop Fabbro and to continue our own plan of Truth and Reconciliation. One piece of information that is good for us to know is that the Canadian Bishops, since their foundation as an Episcopal Conference in Canada in 1943, have issue 83 official statements in support of our Indigenous sisters and brothers across those years. The Bishops spoke up in matters of justice and solidarity with our foremothers and forefathers. Our Canadian media and political figures would have us believe that that has never been offered before. This past week, one of our wonderful parishioners suggested that we might post an acknowledgement of the Indigenous lands that we now inhabit. Northwest London, where tens of thousands of people now live, work and shop, was once part of the vast forestland of our Indigenous sisters and brothers. We now acknowledge this as follows:

We acknowledge that Holy Family Parish is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenausaune, Lenaapeewak, and Attawandaron peoples, all of whom have longstanding relationships to the land of Southwestern Ontario and the City of London.

The First Nations communities of our local area include Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, and Munsee Delaware Nation. And in our region, there are eleven First nations communities, as well as a growing indigenous urban population. Holy Family values the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations, and all of the Original Peoples of Turtle Island (also known as North America).

We would like us to acknowledge that reconciliation is not a single act or simply an apology, it is an active and participatory process.

We would like to shed light on and be mindful of the broken covenants and the need to reconcile our history and relations with the Indigenous Peoples here and across this Continent.

Let us be especially mindful of the 2015 Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action and engage in a process of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples of Canada. We acknowledge that we walk upon the territories and original nations of the first peoples of this land, whose children and families continue to seek justice.

We are all sisters and brothers under one Creator. May we acknowledge this in our minds and in our hearts. Together, may we co-create a land where all peoples respect and love one another. May we defend this deepest truth and publicly work against those who would falsely believe otherwise. *Come, Holy Spirit!* 





Session 3 - Michelle Zinck

**Moving Forward** ~ Michelle opened her final talk with a review of the first two sessions. The Dene relationship with the land has been concerned with and practicing their ancient wisdom around sustainability from the beginning of time, as the land is their life. They have healing traditions and medicines that kept them well. The medicines also came from the land, so the health of the land is critical to their life in all aspects, as it is to all humans. Michelle had previously given an example of pond lilies having been used by the Dene as medicine. Western medicine more recently has acknowledged the medicinal properties of pond lilies, now catching up to what their ancestors have known for many years. Indigenous medicine does not need to be validated by Western science; it is their science and it allowed them to be healthy and well pre-contact.

Michelle briefly spoke about land back. Land back is about confronting colonialism at it's root. It is returning some of the physical land but also making systemic change and it's about their right to their relationship with the earth. It could be about receiving a portion of the money from the economic gain from taking the resources from the land which in turn negatively affects their health. The operating uranium mines that result in a lack of clean water, which is a 3rd world country condition in a 1st world country is one possibility for financially giving back.

Intergenerational trauma, stressors from systemic racism and discrimination, and not receiving adequate care from health care providers because the reporting of their ailments are not believed due to racism are all factors that are having a negative impact on their health. Not all Indigenous people are unwell but a statistically disproportionate number are. With truth and reconciliation, the truth that they are survivors of genocide has also brought forth the truth that there is not just something wrong with them as a people but they are having trauma responses. In the Indigenous communities, they have not time to heal from this trauma with the disproportionate levels of death, murder and suicide occupying the here and now.

It is important for us to work with Indigenous communities, engaging with them and alongside them; giving back rather than taking from them. We need to do our own reading to gain further understanding of the truth. We need to consider that a seemingly negative reaction from the Indigenous community to our actions might be rooted in their history with how they have been treated before – as less than human. An example that Michelle provided was unethical research that was done on Indigenous children in residential schools to develop information on nutrition and malnutrition. These studies were the basis for developing Canada's Food Guide and were done without the informed consent or knowledge of the Indigenous people involved.

It is difficult to understand and recognize the magnitude of settler colonialism. Globally, Indigenous people are renewing their knowledge systems and adapting them according to today's cultural factors. We need to be aware of racism around us and aware of our privilege. We need to educate ourselves; be an ally; be willing to make mistakes; ask for clarification if not sure about something. Know whose land you are on; whose settlement you are on.









## Holy Family Parish - Fr. Bob Remark

Fr. Bob Remark explains that we all need each other and we need God's support and love.

We pray for these gifts.

To listen to Fr. Bob's message go to: <a href="https://youtu.be/TpiBp1uSS3Qo">https://youtu.be/TpiBp1uSS3Qo</a>



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## **ANNUAL THANKSGIVING APPEAL**

## TO WHOM MUCH HAS BEEN GIVEN, MUCH WILL BE REQUIRED (LUKE 12:48)

Your support in giving to the Thanksgiving Appeal this year is so greatly appreciated. It allows us to commit more wholly to our Vision, and to ensure that we are in the best possible position, financially, to embrace it.

Remember, 100% of your Thanksgiving Appeal offerings stay in the parish.

Please make note of this "Thanksgiving Appeal" donation on your offertory envelope or when making your weekly offertory donation on-line at <a href="https://dol-holyfamily.pllenty.com/">https://dol-holyfamily.pllenty.com/</a>

If you have any further qustions, please contact Tim Firth, Mission Support Team Lead at tfirth@dol.ca or call him at (519 472-0057, X 224.

WE CANNOT BUT SPEAK ABOUT WHAT WE HAVE SEEN AND HEARD. (ACTS 4:20)

World Mission Sunday October 24, 2021



go to
www.missionsocieties.ca
for more information.
Further details in next
week's Family Overview



# Sacramental Preparations



## Preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist

• For those in grade 2 or 3 who have not yet received the Sacraments of Reconciliation or the Holy Eucharist.

"I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." ~ John 6:35

• opportunities to prepare for and receive these most blessed sacraments will be offered twice a year (Fall 2021 and Winter 2022)



## Fall sessions will begin the week of October 4th, Register by September 24th.

- Sacramental Preparation will occur online this year, in a beautiful parent small group format. **To register**, or for more information, visit our website https://holyfamilylondon.ca/sacraments/first-communion/ Or contact Lisa Wright at <a href="mailto:lwright@dol.ca">lwright@dol.ca</a> or by calling 519-472-0057, x266
- Parents of children, aged 7 years and up, who have not yet received baptism, please contact Lisa Wright for more information.



## **Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation**

- For those in grade 8 or older.
- Opportunities to prepare for and receive these most blessed sacraments will be offered twice a year (Fall 2021 and Winter 2022)

"and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness." ~Acts 4:31



- Fall sessions begin the week of October 18th, Register by October 2nd.
- Sacramental Preparation will occur online this year, in a beautiful child/parent small group format. To register, or for more information, visit our website https://holyfamilylondon.ca/ministries-2/youth-and-family/family-movie-night/confirmation/ Or contact Lisa Wright lwright@dol.ca; 519-472-0057, x266



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 <a href="https://holyfamilylondon.ca/">https://holyfamilylondon.ca/</a>. There is no pre-registration and our maximum capacity remains at 74 persons in the church. Continue to wear your mask and sign-in with our Hospitality as you enter the rear parking lot doors.



We welcome all to Confessions, held here each Saturday starting at 11:00 a.m. There is no pre-registration but kindly continue to wear your mask upon entering the building. Our Hospitality will greet you as you enter the rear parking lot doors, ensure a COVID tracing sign-in and safe distancing while you wait to see one of our priests.





The Valetta St. construction has reached the front of our church building this past week. The only access to the church parking lots will be from Deer Park Circle (Deer Park Circle is accessed from Freele St. or Juniper St., both of which run south from Oxford St.

If you know anyone interested in helping out with this livestreaming ministry, please call Marilyn Buggy at the parish office at ext'n 265 or contact her at <a href="mailto:mbuggy@dol.ca">mbuggy@dol.ca</a>



#### CHILDREN'S CHURCH is till happening at HOly Family!

for prayers, videos, activity, colouring sheets, and more!

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 <a href="https://holyfamilylondon.ca/childrenschurch/">https://holyfamilylondon.ca/childrenschurch/</a>



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

Ziggy Ozcko Lenore Perdue Jean Richardson Mary Fleetwood-Ryan

Please pray for those who have died... Dennis Novakowski, Stephen Sands, Mary Murray, Suzanne Bailey



## OFFICE DIRECTORY

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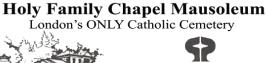
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