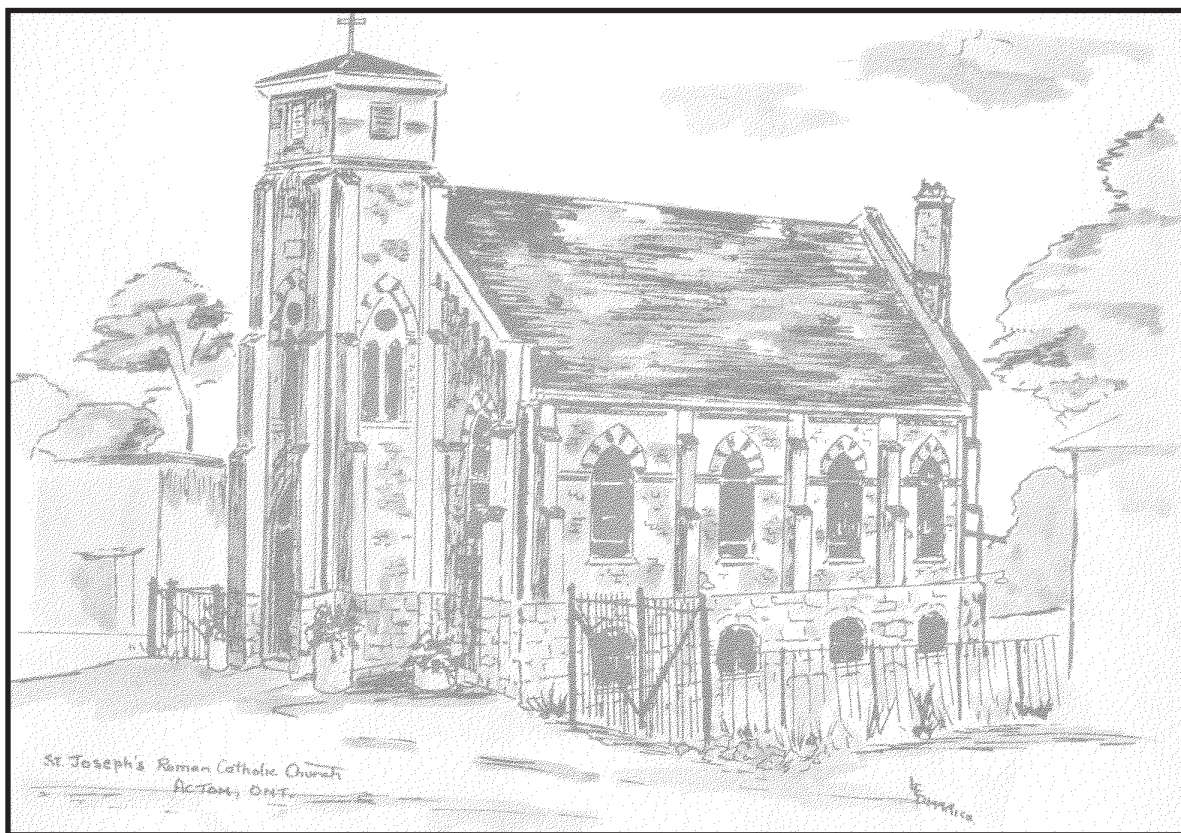


St. Joseph Patron of Canada Parish

64 Church St. E., Acton, ON
Office

39 John St. S. Acton, ON, L7J 2A8 Tel: 519-853-0784 Fax: 519-853-5941
e-mail: stjoseph.church@bellnet.ca



Fr. Mark Sullivan, Pastor
Janet Raats, Office Administrator

Office Hours: Tues. & Wed. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, Fri. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

SUNDAY MASSES:

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am
11:00 am

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS:

Catholic Women's League
Knights of Columbus
St. Vincent Charities



BAPTISMS:

By arrangement with the pastor.

MARRIAGES:

By arrangement one year in advance.

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday 4:00 - 4:30 pm
or by appointment.

SCHOOLS:

St. Joseph 519-853-3730
Christ the King 905-702-8838

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS

We invite you to register in our parish community
by filling in a blue registration form.

A Word From Our Pastor:

On this Fourth Sunday of Easter, the Church celebrates the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. On this day we are reminded that all of us have a responsibility to pray for and to encourage vocations to the priesthood and religious life through our own faith lives.

None of us wish to be called a bunch of sheep. This insinuates that a person or a group of people are simply blind followers, unable to think for themselves and are incapable of being leaders.

This does make some sense as sheep are utterly defenseless and are dependent on shepherds for protection. Sheep are not very bright. They will wander off without a thought about danger. Shepherds must ward off predators, guide the sheep to food and water, or even keep them from foolishly falling off a cliff while eating grass.

In the time of Christ, there were two kinds of shepherds, the 'hired man' and the owner. The Gospel makes clear that the hired man was only interested in money. He would not give his life for someone else's sheep. Such shepherds were also known to help themselves to a sheep or two as well.

The owner of the flock was someone who would do anything to protect his flock. The flock was his livelihood. Sheep were not used for food; they were kept for their wool. The more sheep, the more wool, the more money. No owner would risk losing his income.

Jesus gives us and the world a new third kind of shepherd. Jesus was not a 'hired man', and He was not exactly an owner, though His connection to His sheep was strong and intimate. The difference Jesus gives when He describes Himself as a shepherd is His reason for being a shepherd. Jesus is not motivated by money, He chooses to be a shepherd because of His love for His sheep.

In referring to Himself as the Good Shepherd, Jesus says "I know mine and mine know me." This statement implies a very intimate knowledge. It means Jesus knows all

the inner thoughts and make-up of all who are His own. Only someone intimately acquainted with us knows what goes on in our hearts and our souls. Jesus is telling us He has this type of love for us.

We must see how Jesus teaches this love to us. We are to love all things that belong to God. Our motivation for all we do or refuse to do is based on this love for God.

On this Vocation Sunday, we must see that the Father loves us and puts us in Jesus' care, and thus, Jesus loves us as part of His love for the Father. We are called to respond to this love in a generous way.

Fr. Mark

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:

Start being brave about everything. Drive out darkness and spread light. Don't look at your weaknesses. Realize instead that in Christ crucified you can do everything. – St. Catherine of Siena

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

This week please pray especially for:

***Gerry Cronin, Judy Landry,
Patricia Deevey***



This week we pray especially for the following families:

***Aitken, Agnes, Alac,
Albano, Albert, Amaral***

THE FINE ART OF BEING HAPPILY MARRIED - In his poem, The Art of Marriage, Wilfred A. Peterson writes, "A good marriage must be created" and creating something requires time and attention. We invite you to take the time, with your spouse, to find new and creative ways to increase your connection with each other, to discover fresh techniques for being in relationship and to deepen the love you already share. Join us on **Saturday, June 1st from 9:30 – 3:00 pm** at Catherine of Siena Parish in Hamilton. Cost is \$50 per couple and includes lunch. To register on the website go to hamiltondiocese.com and look under Upcoming Events, or contact Sarah at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.

APRIL 21, 2024

DAY & TIME	MASS INTENTIONS (April 22 – April 28)	REQUESTED BY:
Tues 7:00 p.m.	People of the Holy Land	
Wed. 9:00 a.m.	Grace Mendes	Her Parents
Thurs. 7:00 p.m.	People of Ukraine	
Fri. 9:00 a.m.	Peter Spencer	Bea Spencer
Sat. 5:00 p.m.	Annie Rea	Rea Family
Sun. 9:00 a.m.	Pro populo	
11:00 a.m.	Special Intentions of the Bell Family	



Sat. Apr 27 5 p.m. Lector Maria
 Extraordinary Minister Patricia

Sun. Apr 28 9 a.m. Lector Penny
 Extraordinary Minister Ann

11 a.m. Lector Lizzie
 Extraordinary Minister Aaron

Sacraments of Baptism and Matrimony

Father Mark arranges all Baptisms and Marriages personally, by appointment. Please see Father after Mass to set a time for an interview. Marriages must be arranged one year in advance. Completion of a marriage preparation course is required. Application forms are found at the back of the church.



CONTACT PERSONS for CWL and K of C

Anyone interested in learning more about our parish Catholic Women's League or Knights of Columbus is invited to call the appropriate contact person:

CWL: Christie deSouza: 519-400-6012 cwl@lartist.com
 K of C: Ian Nolan: grand.knight.8050@gmail.com

VOCATIONS RECOGNITION DINNER 2024 The Serra Club of Hamilton invites you to gather on **Wednesday, May 15, 2024** at Liuna Station to celebrate the service of our Priests, Religious Brothers and Sisters, Consecrated Virgins Living in the World and Permanent Deacons. Tickets: \$90pp. Contact: serrahamilton1965@gmail.com for more details.

MEETINGS

Mon. 6:00 p.m. Tops
 Tues. 7:30 p.m. (after Mass) CWL Executive
 Wed. 8:00 p.m. Acton Sharing Group

Spring Memorial Mass

The Spring Memorial Mass at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Burlington will take place on Saturday, April 27 at 11:00. The principal celebrant will be Most Reverend Douglas Crosby, OMI, Bishop of Hamilton. All are welcome!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION THROUGH VLCFF The Diocese of Hamilton is proud to partner with Dayton University's Virtual Learning Community for Adult Faith Formation (VLCFF) to offer certificate programs for ministry and enrichment for adult faith formation. We are currently taking enrollment for the Youth Ministry Certification Program and the Catechist Formation Program for the Diocese of Hamilton, which begins in September 2024. Three- & five-week e-seminars are also available at a discounted rate for all adults in the Diocese looking to further their learning. For more information about our programs, and how to register, visit us at www.hamiltondioceselearns.com





Knights of Columbus

St. Joseph's Council #8050
Ilan Nolan, Grand Knight
Decio Ramalho
519-856-2753



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Catholic Women's League



of St. Joseph's invites the ladies of the Parish to our regular meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm.

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