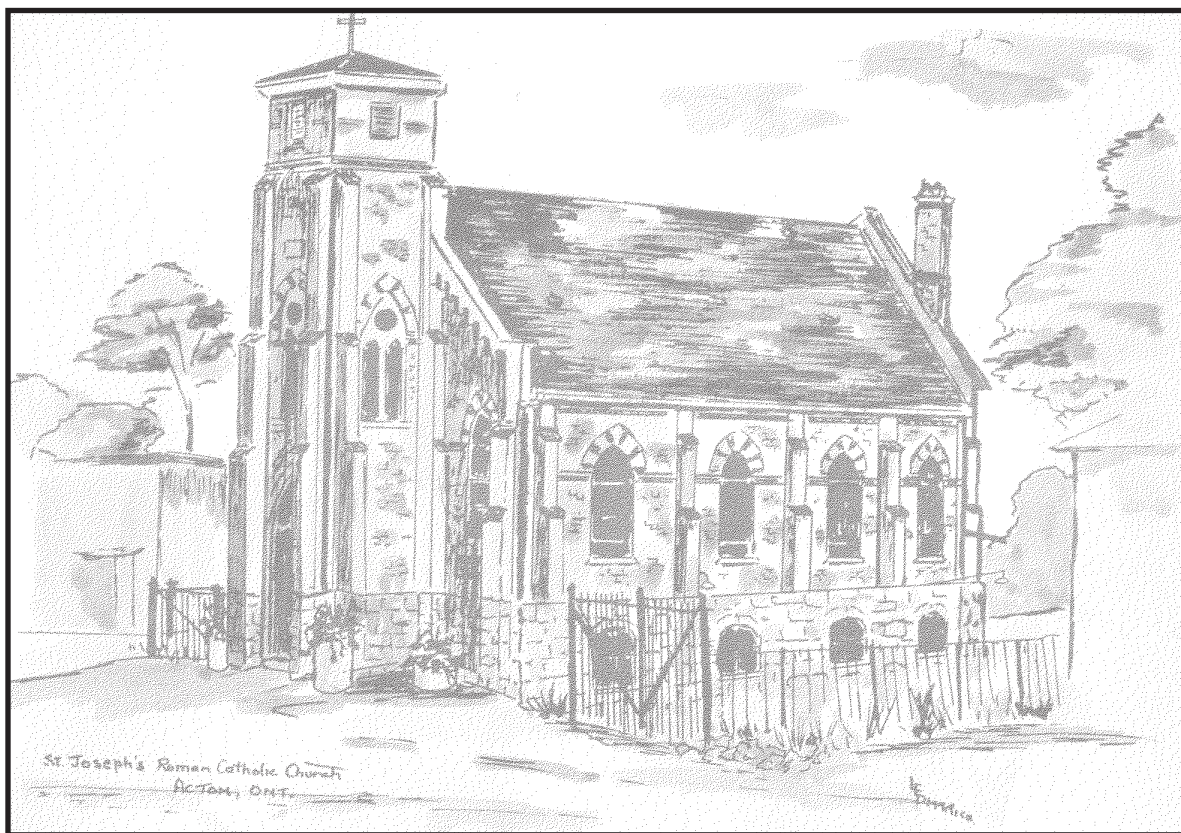


St. Joseph Patron of Canada Parish

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

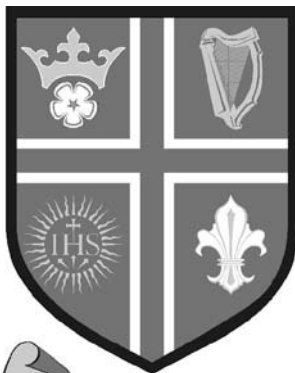
Office Hours: Tues. & Wed. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, Fri. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

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:

This upcoming week we celebrate the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, which is on January 25th. It is also the beginning of what is called the 'dead of Winter'. This season ends four weeks later, on February 22nd with the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter.

There are many who see this time as the most depressing of the entire year. The weather is cold, the days are short regarding light. Perhaps people are recovering from the Christmas Season being over. There are many reasons to feel depressed at this time of year.

We as Catholics should try to remember the upcoming Feast Day of St. Paul in terms of what we can ponder and hope for on this Feast Day. The late Pope Benedict XVI reminded the faithful on numerous occasions of the beauty and joy of this Feast Day.

In one of his Wednesday audiences, the Holy Father spoke specifically about the heart of Paul's conversion: "The Risen Christ appeared as a brilliant light and spoke to Saul, transforming Paul's thinking and his entire life. "The dazzling radiance of the Risen Christ blinded Paul, thus, what was his inner reality is also outwardly apparent, his blindness to the truth, to the light that is Christ. And then his definitive 'yes' to Christ in Baptism restores his sight and makes him really see". (September 3rd, 2008)

In the ancient Church, baptism was also called 'illumination' because baptism gives light. Paul, healed of his inner blindness, saw clearly. Through this event, Paul would never be able to doubt the presence of the Risen Christ because of the powerful evidence of this encounter. It truly was a conversion.

With this Feast Day in mind, today we begin exploring the Gospel of Mark which we will hear for most of this Liturgical year. In today's Gospel passage, we are given the Gospel's two simple themes: telling us who Jesus is and what our response should be. Jesus came to call us to reform our lives. Just as the Israelites had to change their understanding of God in the first reading, so do we. We need an experience of the risen Lord as Paul experienced, one which can utterly transform us. The response of Paul to Jesus' presence, the response that Jesus asks of us, is discipleship, a way of living that is clearly contrary to the way our culture calls us to live.

Mark presents Andrew, Peter, James, and John as being so instantly attracted to Jesus that they leave everything to follow Him. And yet, we will learn that despite their radical departure, they did not understand what Jesus would teach them. At some points throughout the Gospels, they attempted to try to talk Jesus out of His mission.

We must take up the challenge to meet and experience Christ in such a way that we, through our own conversions, become more like Paul who could never doubt Christ through his own conversion. Also, just like the Apostles, who, despite their lack of understanding, stayed faithful anyway. We are called to do the same.

Fr. Mark

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:

"If we put into practice our love for our neighbor, according to the Gospel message, we then pave the way for the lordship of God, and his kingdom is realized by means of us. If instead each one thinks only of his own interests, the world can't help but go forward in ruins".

– Pope Benedict XVI

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

This week please pray especially for:

***Jean Smith, Paul Kavanagh,
Avelinda Toledo***



This week we pray especially for the following families:

***Kosir, Kozubal, Kwiatkowski,
LaSelva, Lampkin, Lasquite***

WHEN LIFE CHANGES - Hamilton Diocese is offering a new grief program. Has someone you cared about died? Are you grieving the loss of the person's presence in your life? Are you looking for relief from the feelings associated with the loss of this loved one? You are not alone! Our six-week grief program starts January 17 and will be held from 1:30-3:00 pm at the Chancery Office at 700 King St. West. You are welcome to join in person or by zoom. To register go to hamiltondiocese.com and look for the start date under upcoming events on the home page.

JANUARY 21, 2024

DAY & TIME	MASS INTENTIONS (January 22-January 28)	REQUESTED BY:
Tues 7:00 p.m.	<i>Intentions of Stephanie Lampkin</i>	CWL
Wed. 9:00 a.m.	Grace Mendes	Her Parents
Thurs. 7:00 p.m.	<i>Intentions of Branka Arandjelovic</i>	Janine Milton
Fri. 9:00 a.m.	<i>Intentions of the Sick and Infirm of our Parish</i>	
Sat. 5:00 p.m.	Ines Pupo	Ray and Rena Arbic
Sun. 9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo	
Sun. 11:00 a.m.	Gini Figueiredo	de Souza Family



Sat. Jan 27 5 p.m. Lector Chris
 Extraordinary Minister Patricia

Sun. Jan 28 9 a.m. Lector Penny
 Extraordinary Minister Jay

11 a.m. Lector Loren
 Extraordinary Minister Lar

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.

NIGHTS OF COLUMBUS VALENTINE DINNER and DANCE

IN SUPPORT OF THE TOWNSEND SMITH FOUNDATION

Saturday February 10th, Granite Ridge Golf Club



To serve the communities of Milton, Acton and Georgetown, the proposed residence will be a 10-bed facility built on the site of Hillcrest United Church, which is located at the southwest corner of 5th Side Road and Trafalgar Road.

The residence will provide 24-hour palliative care for those with a life-limited illness and support services for their loved ones. Tickets are \$100 per person which includes a fabulous four course dinner with wine, music by Black Creek Music, door prizes and silent auctions. For more information and to buy tickets, go to www.holyrosaryknights.ca/valentines-gala



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

MEETINGS

Mon. 6:00 p.m. Tops
 Tues. 7:00 p.m.
 Wed. 8:00 p.m. Acton Sharing Group

YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT - Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of Adoration, fellowship, and praise music in support of your vocations. Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30 pm), social with food (7:30pm-8:00pm), praise and vocations testimony (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) **Friday, February 3rd** at St. Michael Catholic Church (80 University Avenue West, Waterloo, ON). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton. For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Concert at Bethel Sat Feb 10th Tickets have arrived for the Kevin Pauls (*as seen on Gaither Homecoming) concert at Acton Bethel Church on Sat Feb 10th at 7pm. Featuring Joel Parisien, Luke McMaster & Selena Evangeline. All are welcome to join us for a great night of Gaither style music for Valentine's Day. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, Family Pass (3+ tickets) \$50 and Group Rate (4 tickets for \$80 + 2 FREE)!!! Tickets available at:

kevinpauls.com or communitylife@actoncrc.com



Knights of Columbus

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



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of the Diocese of Hamilton



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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