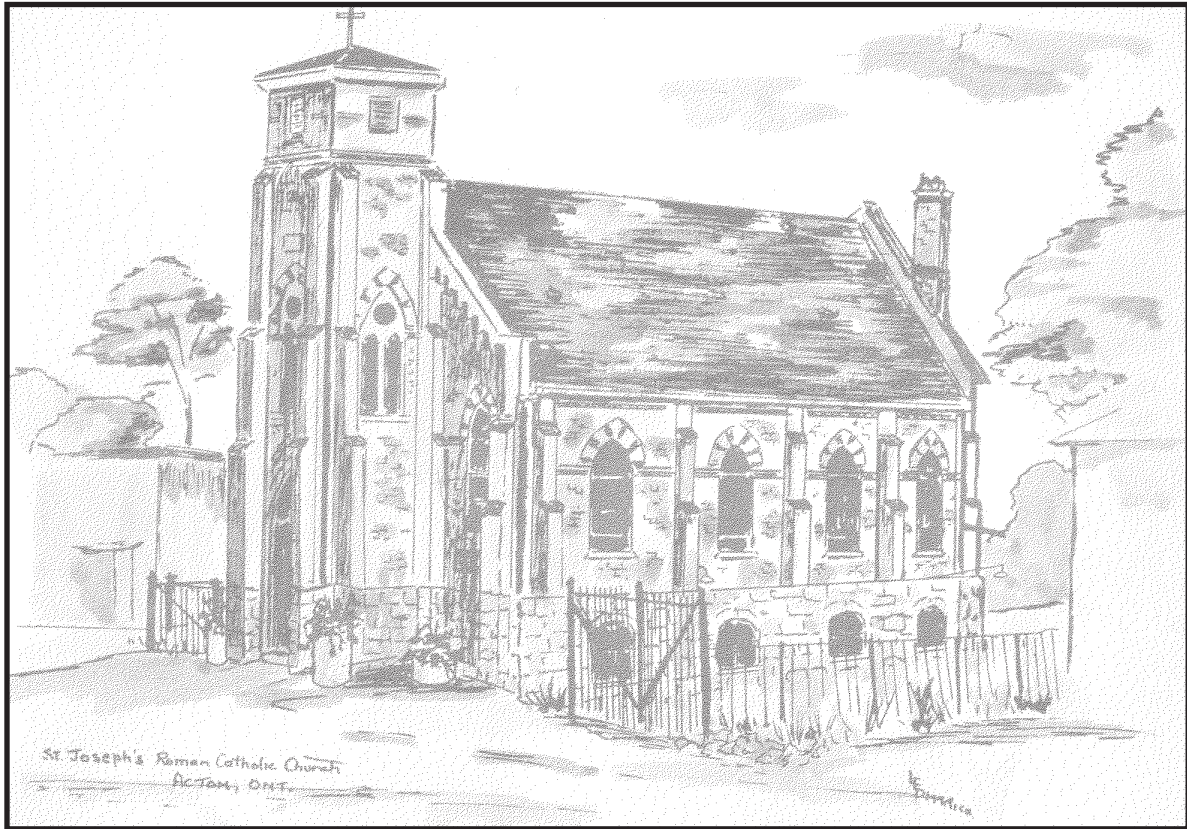


# St. Joseph Patron of Canada Parish

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

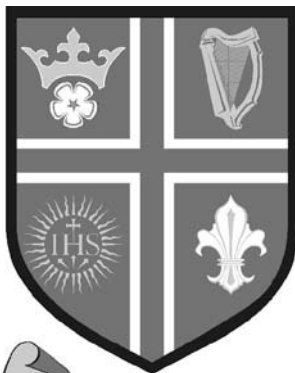
Office Hours: Tues. & Wed. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, Fri. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

## 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:**

It is hard to believe that Lent begins in only ten days, with Ash Wednesday on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

When the Season of Lent begins, we are usually encouraged to adopt the Catholic tradition of 'giving up something for Lent'. Lent is about sacrifice and giving up. It is about fasting and abstaining. These are some of the ways people of the Scriptures purified themselves and made themselves ready for major religious events. Almsgiving, giving for the sake of the poor, has also been a part of religious purification and preparation.

Lent invites us to revisit these ancient ways, though hopefully we will move beyond our unimaginative practices of giving up sweets or soda, cigarettes or alcohol, for 40 days. If we are to be purified, if we are to be prepared to take part in the Resurrection, then we must sacrifice far more.

Lent asks us to sacrifice more than externals. Lent asks us to surrender those things within ourselves that keep us from following Jesus. Ultimately, Lent is about giving up unchristian attitudes.

This Sunday, our readings offer us enough material to reflect upon for the whole of Lent. They offer us a standard of forgiveness to which we may not be accustomed. They offer us a standard for Christian ethical behaviour, a standard that is opposite of what our society would have us practice.

The First Reading from First Samuel is a fascinating story which brings up images of old movies or TV shows whereby someone is poisoned by another person because of revenge or jealousy. Westerns had these images often.

We see this played out as Samuel recounts Saul's pursuit of David. Saul was the anointed of the Lord and David was anointed as the king to come. Saul had loved David like a son, but Saul began to be jealous of David's popularity. Saul began to pursue David intending to kill him and remove this threat. Saul had an army, David had only his companions.

It would be expected, given the opportunity, that David would in turn take Saul's life to 'get even'. The sleep of Saul and his army was in fact a God-given opportunity. David did not 'take advantage' of God's gift but instead acted as God would have acted.

He did not take Saul's life. David respected Saul's anointing by God. His act was an act of love, an act that showed David to be the better man.

All the readings this Sunday encourage us to examine the change in the rules in not seeking revenge but to instead follow God's love. Lent offers us an opportunity to practice this.

*Fr. Mark*

**THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:**

"The goal of fasting is inner unity. This means hearing, but not with the ear; hearing, but not with the understanding; it is hearing with the spirit, with your whole being."

- Thomas Merton

**PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:**

This week please pray especially for:

***Adrian Landry, Ronald Parker,  
Eileen Quackenbush***



This week we pray especially for the following families of our parish:

***Grabauskas, Graham, Halstead,  
Hanlon, Hannah, Hansen***

**2025 Envelopes are still available in the hall. Tax Receipts are available at the back of the church, in somewhat alphabetical order.**

**Bulletins** are available online at:

<http://www.parishbulletins.com/bulletins/097>

Acton Ministerial association is hosting its annual **Lenten Lunches** at St. Alban's Church. At 12:00 noon every Wednesday starting Ash Wednesday (March 5th), ending on the Wednesday of Holy Week (April 16th).

**Ash Wednesday: Ashes will be distributed at 9:00 a.m. and 7 p.m. Masses on Wednesday March 5. A detailed Lent/Easter schedule will be available in next week's bulletin.**

DAY & TIME	MASS INTENTIONS (February 24 – March 2)	REQUESTED BY:
Tue. 7:00 p.m.	Fran Marcoux	CWL
Wed. 9:00 a.m.	<i>Intentions of His Holiness, Pope Francis</i>	
Thurs. 7:00 p.m.	Ron and Shirley Dunlop	Querques Family
Fri. 9:00 a.m.	<i>Intentions of Mike Kwiatkowski</i>	Kwiatkowski Family
Sat. 5:00 p.m.	Frances Marcoux	Barbara Smith
Sun. 9:00 a.m.	Pro populo	
11:00 a.m.	<i>Intentions of Albert Wajda</i>	His Parents



**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](mailto:cwl@lartist.com)

K of C: Ian Nolan: [grand.knight.8050@gmail.com](mailto:grand.knight.8050@gmail.com)

**MEETINGS**

Mon. 6:00 p.m.	Tops
Tues. 7:30 p.m.	CWL Executive
Wed. 8:00 p.m.	Acton Sharing



<b>Sat. Mar 1</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	
Lector	Patricia	
Ex. Minister	Chris	
<b>Sun. Mar 2</b>	<b>9 a.m.</b>	<b>11 a.m.</b>
Lector	Kazi	Marcus
Ex. Minister	Ann	Lar

**Winter Weather Conditions:**

During inclement weather, we remind Parishioners to be cautious when coming to Mass and be prepared to stay home if conditions are treacherous. We wish all our Parishioners to be safe both on the roads and on the sidewalks this Winter.

**Sacraments of Baptism and Matrimony**

Father Mark arranges 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. Applications may be obtained from Father Mark.

**OPENING THE HOLY DOOR: SPRING BOOK CLUB**

The Office for Evangelization and Catechesis invites you to join us for a four-week virtual book club, exploring the new book by Joan Watson, **"Opening the Holy Door."** Tuesdays from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. **March 18-April 8, 2025.** Together we will reflect on the beautiful images of mercy and hope found on the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, open to pilgrims and visitors throughout the Jubilee Year. Join us for this time of prayer and conversation, drawing into deeper fellowship during this Jubilee of Hope. Registration can be made here: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/events/>

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS OF HOPE**

During Lent this year, the Liturgy Office invites all Liturgical Ministers to gather for a Lenten retreat on the theme of Liturgical Ministers of Hope. Saturday, March 22, 2025, Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph, ON, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or Saturday, March 29, 2025, St. Matthew Parish, Oakville, ON, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or Saturday, April 5, 2025, Annunciation of our Lord Parish, Hamilton, ON, 10:00 to 12:30 p.m.







### Knights of Columbus

St. Joseph's Council #8050  
Ian 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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