

THE SHIELD

March 28, 2021

A publication of St. George Parish - sharing the life and faith of our parish

Rooted in Christ, we are called as faithful disciples to build a thriving and inclusive parish family reaching out with compassion and love to all, bearing witness to the Good News.

WELCOME!!!

Thank you for joining us. We are so blessed to have you part of our parish family. If you are new to the parish or a visitor and would like more information please call us at 519-471-4220 or visit our website at:

www.stgeorgelondon.ca



Look inside!

Lots of great info on:

- Holy Week Schedule
- Roman Roadhouse Series
- Feature Article by Fr. John
- 33 Days to Morning Glory
- Lectio Divina Series

WALK THE LINE—SESSION #7



We come to the last week of our Lenten message series as we enter into Holy Week with Palm Sunday. This weekend we begin the most holy of days walking with Christ as He enters triumphantly into Jerusalem, celebrates the Last Supper with His friends, dies on the cross and then three days later rises from the dead. We celebrate

this liturgically each year but it is much more than that. This Holy Week invites us to “walk the line” with Christ in our own lives, ready and willing to offer ourselves for others. As faithful followers of Christ, will we have the courage, faith and trust to make this sacred time our own? Being faithful followers of Jesus does not mean that we simply profess the faith and know it, but are willing to let everything else go standing up for truth, justice, peace and the gift of eternal life. Will you walk the line?

4 WAYS TO DONATE TO THE PARISH

Your ongoing financial support is crucial for the parish to share the Good News. Your donations help in our ministry, outreach and sacramental programs.

Go to www.stgeorgelondon.ca and click DONATE for all the options or call the parish office at 519-471-4220.

Consider these four options:

1. E-Transfers simply send funds from your account to our parish email address **stgeorge@dol.ca**
2. PAD Monthly Sign up and donate from your account monthly. Simply complete the online form.
3. PAYPAL Donate with your credit card via our Paypal link at the parish website under **DONATE**
4. Envelopes We can deliver parish envelopes to you. During the pandemic you can mail or drop them off at the parish in our mail slot.

CHECK OUT THE WEEKLY GOSPEL REFLECTION

Go to the parish website or have it downloaded weekly to your smart phone or mobile device. Fr. John offers short reflections on the



OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday
OFFICE IS CURRENTLY CLOSED BUT ARE MONITORING PHONE MESSAGES

WEEKEND MASSES

Sat. 5:00 PM Sun. 11AM (live-stream)

SUNDAY FRIENDS: Children’s Liturgy
POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

KIDZONE: Babysitting

POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

PASTORAL TEAM

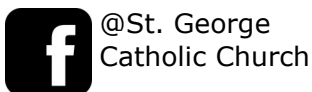
Fr. John Jasica, *Pastor*
Fr. Saleem Amir, OFM, *Parochial Vicar*

Deacon Mark Castanier,
Permanent Deacon
Deacon Dennis Rivest,
Permanent Deacon

Mary-Catherine Bishop, *Pastoral Minister*

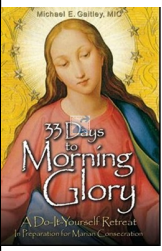
PARISH STAFF

Allison Powell, *Office Administrator*
RoseMary Cleary, *Financial Secretary*
Jason Howlett, *Maintenance Manager*
Eddie Mercer, *Office Support*
Jenn Reiniger, *Office Support*
Wilson Hernandez Parra, *Office Care*



The Big 3

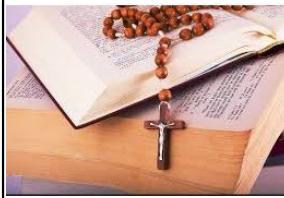
33 DAYS TO MORNING GLORY



St. George is hosting a special journey, a powerful journey into the heart of our Blessed Mother - Mary. The program can be found online at FORMED.ORG. The journey includes 5 ONLINE discussions as well as the sessions on FORMED.ORG. Daily reflection materials will also be provided.

Group sessions take place weekly on WEDNESDAY evenings at 7:00 PM, from **APRIL 12th and MAY 10th**. There is a \$15 material fee. Registration takes place on the parish website.

LECTIO DIVINA



St. George is offering a new Lectio Divina series. Beginning **APRIL 19th** and continuing until **MAY 5th**

this online scripture faith sharing opportunity will examine "**FAMILY - THE JOY OF LOVE; THE CHRISTIAN NATURE OF FAMILY**". A new session will be posted each week for personal reflection. Each session will be followed by an online discussion. Registrations take place on the parish website.

COME FROM AWAY



COME FROM AWAY online gatherings return on **THURS. APRIL 22ND**. Join us from **7:30 to 8:30 PM** for our online discussion as we meet

MEMBERS OF ST. GEORGE PARISH STAFF. Go to the parish website for the link to the online gathering or you can also call in to participate — just call **1-855-212-2015 and press 435 534 548#**. These gatherings will transition from bi-weekly to monthly, with the next gathering taking place May 20th.

RETROVAILLE



Is your marriage in trouble? Hope is available. Retrouvaille has helped couples all over the world. The next London - St. Thomas Retrouvaille weekend is April 9th - 11th with limited space available.

A wonderful Windsor Retrouvaille Couple created a two minute pulpit talk promoting the Retrouvaille Program and the upcoming weekend. This wonderful testimonial is available for all to view [online](#).

More information about the Retrouvaille program can also be found [online](#).

BUILDING FAMILY - SPOTLIGHT



As we work towards becoming a family of parishes, get to know the staff of St. George and St. John the Divine Parishes with the SPOTLIGHT INTERVIEWS. Available on the [BUILDING FAMILY](#)

website, these interviews introduce you to the staff. Through these snapshots, get to know Fr. Saleem, Deacon Don St. Onge, Bridget Corneil, Mary Catherine Bishop, and Nives Davies.

TRIDUUM CELEBRATIONS

Everyone is welcome to join in the celebration of the Triduum. Registration is required and can be done online or by calling the office beginning Tuesday, March 23rd.

HOLY THURSDAY—APRIL 1, 2021

Mass of the Lord's Supper
7:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY—APRIL 2, 2021

Solemn Service
11:00 AM
3:00 PM
7:00 PM—Stations of the Cross

EASTER SATURDAY-APRIL 3, 2021

Easter Basket Blessing
Drive-thru (back parking lot)
12:00 to 1:00 PM

Easter Vigil
8:00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY-APRIL 4, 2021

Celebrating the Resurrection
8:30 AM
10:30 AM
12:30 PM
7:00 PM



We will be using the WORSHIP SPACE and the PARISH HALL at our celebrations to make sure as many people as possible can attend these very important and powerful liturgies.

WEEKEND MASS RESERVATIONS

Everyone is welcome to reserve seats for our weekend Masses from Tuesday at 8:30 AM to Friday at 12 Noon by going to the parish website or by calling the office at 519-471-4220. **Please feel free to book each week to attend in person.**

Liturgy Schedule March 28 - April 4, 2021

** All weekday Masses are live-streamed at sgtvLondon.ca & phone-streamed **226-781-7977****

Sunday March 28 - Palm Sunday

9:00 AM **Mass** (Worship Space - Live & Phone Stream)
11:00 AM **Mass** (Worship Space & Live Stream)
7:00 PM **Mass** (Worship Space & Live Stream)

Tuesday March 30

6:30 PM **Mass** (Live & Phone-stream only)
Joseph Henderson
Sheila Stuppiello
John Basque
Teresita Javier Puruggnan

Wednesday March 31

6:30 PM **Mass (open to all-no RSVP needed)**
Waldemar Sousa
Antonio Polsinelli
Intentions of Sr. Phong

7:15 PM: CONFESSIONS

Thursday April 1 - Holy Thursday

7:00 PM: **Mass** (Worship Space - Live & Phone Stream)
Mass of the Last Supper

Friday April 2 - Good Friday

11:00 AM: **Solemn Service**
(Worship Space - Live & Phone Stream)
3:00 PM: **Solemn Service**
(Worship Space - Live & Phone Stream)
7:00 PM: **Stations of the Cross**
(Worship Space - Live & Phone Stream)

Saturday April 3 - Holy Saturday

8:00 PM: **Easter Vigil**
(Worship Space - Live & Phone Stream)

Sunday March 28 - Easter Sunday

8:30 AM **Mass** (Worship Space - Live & Phone Stream)
10:30 AM **Mass** (Worship Space & Live Stream)
12:30 PM **Mass** (Worship Space & Live Stream)
7:00 PM **Mass** (Worship Space & Live Stream)

We continue to pray for all those affected by the COVID-19 virus at all of our celebrations.



Be sure to follow
St. George Parish
On Twitter and Facebook
for ongoing updates!



The Shield Feature.....by Fr. John Jasica

"COME BACK TO ME" WALK THE LINE

ENTERING HOLY WEEK

Our Lenten journeying is coming to a close very quickly as we enter into Holy Week with the celebration of Palm Sunday. Of course, this year will be again different than past years. Due to the pandemic, we could not even gather as a community to begin this sacred time in 2020.

This year it won't just be Fr. Saleem and myself.

Despite the changes to our celebrations due to COVID, it will be wonderful to celebrate and to walk the line

with everyone both in person and online. This week is the most powerful time of the year.

WALK THE LINE

Yes, for those of you who can remember, that is the name of the 2005 movie about Johnny Cash. The movie title is also borrowed from one of his most famous songs—I WALK THE LINE. That song was written by Cash in 1956 and became his first number one hit on the Billboard charts. The song's lyrics refer to marital fidelity, personal responsibility and avoiding temptation. All good things for us to reflect on as we journey through Holy Week. When you take a look at the lyrics I think we can enter more deeply into this sacred time of the passion, death and resurrection of Christ.

"I KEEP A CLOSE WATCH ON THIS HEART OF MINE"

The season of Lent is all about our hearts. It has been a time to take a deeper look discovering and renewing our commitment to the covenant of love with God. It has been a time of faith cardiology looking to re-establish a heartbeat for faith, love and Christ.

We have been invited to open our hearts seeking God's grace, peace and healing. During this time of

conversion we have sought out forgiveness of sins through General Absolution and individual confession asking Christ to heal our souls. It has been a time of sifting and sorting making sure that our hearts beat to the rhythm of our Lord and Savior.

"BECAUSE YOU'RE MINE, I WALK THE LINE"

In this time of conversion, changing our path and re-discovering the love and presence of Jesus in our lives, we fall in love with Him again. Our faith is not a set of rules but built on a relationship with a person—our brother, friend, master and teacher. Our Lenten journey is a time to reignite our friendship with Christ. For when we open our hearts to Him we are willing to follow Him wherever he leads us.

Holy Week is an intense time for us to deepen our relationship and realize once again how much Jesus loves us that He is willing to lay down His life for each of us. The fullness of our faith is to recognize that we belong to Christ and He belongs to us—and because of this powerful bond, we are willing to walk the line with Him and for Him through our own crosses and sacrifices to share His light with the world.

"I KEEP YOU ON MY MIND BOTH DAY AND NIGHT AND HAPPINESS I'VE KNOWN PROVES THAT IT'S RIGHT"

The forty days of Lent is a time of sacrifice and making room for the Lord more and more each day. We let go of things to embrace new opportunities to draw close to Jesus and be transformed by Him. By keeping Him in our hearts and minds each and everyday, we truly become happier because we are filled with His grace and peace. The heart of happiness is not in possessions or power, but in a willingness to allow Christ to dominate and fill our hearts.

The fulfillment of our lives is not to consume as many experiences as we can in this life, but to give our lives

away so that others may be filled up with the grace and joy that we have received from the Lord.

"YOU'VE GOT A WAY TO KEEP ME ON YOUR SIDE, YOU GIVE ME CAUSE FOR LOVE THAT I CAN'T HIDE"

As we have journeyed through this Lenten message series, we have been exploring our bond, connection and relationship with Christ that inherently transforms us to be more like Him. The more we draw close, the more we pray and the more we seek Him out, the greater He dwells in us. When we fall in love with Jesus we cannot help but stay by His side and are willing to serve Him. We do anything for those we love. What does Christ want us to do?

If we are overwhelmed with the grace and love of Jesus, we cannot hide it. In fact, we need to share it by being Him in our world today. This past week we began round #2 of Confirmation preparation. The first session was all about OUR MISSION. What is Jesus calling us to do with our lives each day? We are called to be Him in our world today. We need to serve those in need, bring healing and forgiveness to the world and no longer live for ourselves but for Christ. As in another line of this wonderful Johnny Cash song states, **"Yes, I'll admit that I'm a fool for you..."** The Lenten journey should sweep us off our feet due to the love God has for us. This love changes us so much that we share our joy generously with all those around us.

"FOR YOU, I KNOW I'D EVEN TRY TO TURN THE TIDE, BECAUSE YOU'RE MINE, I WALK THE LINE."

As we journey through Lent to Easter we become messengers of the Good News and we are called to do everything we can to turn the tide of this world, filled with darkness, greed and selfishness—shedding light, hope, joy and sacrifice.

This Holy Week is yet another chance for the Lord to change our hearts, to draw us back to Him so that we can be instruments of grace and hope in a world that so desperately needs our service, sacrifice and love. May we choose today as the day to walk the line—following Christ and being Him to the best of our abilities.



Share Lent - Development & Peace Caritas Canada



As Catholic Christians, we are called to help those in need. What better time to do so than during the season of Lent. Often we are uncertain of how or where to give Alms. Development and Peace offers us a wonderful opportunity to help those in the Global South and “support the poor in their struggle for justice”. You are invited to show solidarity with some of the most vulnerable people in the world by donating to our parish Share Lent Campaign. You can even join and donate year-round. Please explore the Development and Peace website. In addition, to compelling stories, you will find the Solidarity calendar of Lenten activities, videos and information. You can locate the Development and Peace website at the bottom of the Parish website under “Important links.” Your donation helps make a Big difference in the world. Thank you and God Bless.

<https://www.devp.org/en>

A Prayer to the Creator

Lord, Father of our human family,
You created all human beings equal in dignity:
Pour forth into our hearts a fraternal spirit
And inspire in us a drama of renewed encounter, dialogue,
justice and peace.

Move us to create healthier societies
and a more dignified world,
A world without hunger, poverty, violence and war.

May our hearts be open
To all peoples and nations of the earth.
May we recognize the goodness and beauty
That you have sown in each of us,
And thus forge bonds of unity, common projects,
And shared dreams.

Amen.

Prayer by Pope Francis,
from the 2020 encyclical Fratelli Tutti





Feeling a bit sad that Lent is ending? Are you going to miss those extra times of prayer, service and sacrifice? Consider something special during the Easter season that will boost your faith, strengthen your love for Christ and bring you to **MORNING GLORY!!**

St. George Parish is hosting a special journey called “**33 DAYS TO MORNING GLORY**” which is a powerful journey into the heart of our Blessed Mother – Mary. The program can be found online at FORMED.ORG. The journey includes 5 ONLINE sessions, you will watch the sessions on Formed.ORG on your own. Then we will gather online weekly for group discussion. Daily reflection materials in between the weekly sessions will also be provided.

GROUP SESSIONS:

SESSION #1 - Monday April 12, 2021 - 7:00 to 8:00PM

SESSION #2 – Monday April 19, 2021 -7:00 to 8:00PM

SESSION #3 – Monday April 26, 2021 - 7:00 to 8:00PM

SESSION #4 – Monday May 3, 2021 - 7:00 to 8:00PM

SESSION #5 – Monday May 10, 2021 - 7:00 to 8:00PM

FACILITATOR – MARJORIE BRAATZ

Marjorie is a parishioner at St. George and is a spiritual director. She has been a high school chaplain in addition to being a youth coordinator at St. George Parish. She just finished leading a small group through these sessions and is ready to do it again for us!

Testimonials

“Felt a sense of peace and joy throughout the 33 days that was persistent and powerful”

“The love and support of our group as we shared our stories was amazing.”

REGISTRATION ONLINE AT THE PARISH WEBSITE

www.stgeorgelondon.ca

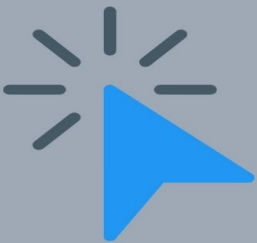
*****MATERIAL FEE IS \$15.00 PER PERSON*****

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GO TO
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Click on this info-graphic or simply go to www.formed.org via your web browser to begin the registration process---registering is free.



CLICK ON "SIGN UP"

You will see the "SIGN UP" button right in the middle of the screen. Press that button to register via your email address.

CHOOSE SIGN UP AS A PARISHIONER

You are then presented with three choices. Please select the centre one that says "Sign up as a parishioner".



FIND OUR PARISH FAMILY

In the search line type in **SJD-SG FAMILY** and you will find our family of parishes. Click on the family and press **NEXT**. Register your name and email address to enjoy movies, videos and programs for free.

**BEING FORMED TO BE A DISCIPLE READY
AND WILLING TO SERVE OTHERS AND
REACH OUT TO ALL.**

If you have any questions or difficulties in signing up then please contact Fr. John at jjasica@dol.ca



PHONE-STREAMING OF CELEBRATIONS

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CALL: 226-781-7977



STEP ONE:

St. George Parish is now phone-streaming celebrations. Simply pick up your phone and dial 226-781-7977. This is a local London number.

STEP TWO:

When the call is answered, you will be greeted with a message. If you are not on the call list, you will be invited to press "1" to be called each time there is a phone-stream service automatically.



STEP THREE:

After the initial greeting all you need to do is wait, and you will be connected to the phone-stream of Mass or other liturgical celebration.

STEP FOUR:

Listen to the celebration with your phone or cell phone. If you have the "speaker" feature on your phone, you can listen hands free. Enjoy the celebration.



STEP FIVE:



At the end of the celebration, simply hang up. Also, if you missed the live phone-stream, simply call the number any time to listen to the latest celebration.

For more information go to
www.stgeorgelondon.ca or call 519-471-4220



WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

5:00 PM - Worship Space
(Live Streamed & Phone Streamed)

7:00 PM - Re-Streamed

SUNDAY

9:00 AM - Worship Space
(Live Streamed & Phone Streamed)

11:00 AM - Worship Space
(Live Streamed)

7:00 PM - Worship Space
(Live Streamed)

REGISTER TO ATTEND ONLINE AT
STGEORGELONDON.CA
OR BY CALLING 519-471-4220



PERIOD OF PERSONAL PREPARATION AND EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE FOR GENERAL ABSOLUTION

Do I make my relationship with God my first priority?

Do I take time for prayer and reflection?

Do I celebrate the sacraments well prepared and regularly?

Do I assist in the church's mission?

Do I give freely of my time, my resources and my prayer?

Do people come to know God through my words and actions?

Do I use the name of God to curse others?

Does my language build others up or tear them down?

Does my vocabulary give scandal to others?

Do I take time to nourish the relationships in my life?

Do I tend to the needs of my parents, my spouse, my children and my friends?

Do I allow the Gospel to influence how I engage the community?

Do I allow the Good News to affect my business practices and my engagement in politics?

Do I seek to live with integrity and justice?

Do I appreciate my sexuality as a gift and treat myself and others with dignity and respect?

Do I engage in behaviours which belittle others?

Do I work to promote the dignity of life from conception to natural death?

Do I seek to create an environment where life can flourish?

Do I choose to live simply so that I am able to share God's bounty with others?

Do I live in a way which is moderate and balanced through what I eat and drink?

Do I tend to the needs of my body with proper exercise and good living?

Do I engage in gossip or in other conversations which harm the reputation of others?

Do I belittle others to make myself feel bigger or to get ahead?

Do I hold on to grudges or resentments?

Do I extend forgiveness to others as I seek forgiveness from God?



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