

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** We met on Wednesday, June 12th. The minutes of that meeting are posted on our Parish Website. **Some highlights:** With the one bag/week garbage limit beginning in October, we will embark on a renewed effort to reduce our waste, primarily by diverting as much as possible to the Blue Box and Green Bin. Please be respectful of the signs which will be posted to indicate the container that should be used. Also, the attempt to sell the parish property to the North of the old Rectory continues. It is a lot that we don't anticipate ever needing, and so are trying to see if it's possible to sell it.



**PARISH OFFICE:** We will close the office for the summer; the last day it is open will be Thursday, June 27th. As always, phone messages and e-mails will continue to be checked daily. E-mail remains the quickest way to get in touch with Fr. Michael, especially if he is out and about.



**Summer Safety** St. John's will celebrate their graduation on Wednesday night this week. That marks not just a new beginning for those students who will be graduating to High School this Fall; it marks also the start of the summer break for a lot of children (and adults) who will be enjoying the summer weather (we hope!) by being outdoors. Please be mindful of them as you are driving so that all of us can enjoy a safe summer and a healthy return to our regular activities this Fall.



**CHIT CHAT AND COFFEE:** We will continue on Friday mornings, after Mass, through the summer - as long as there is interest. We gather in the Meeting Room. Coffee, cream and sugar are provided. You bring the chit chat.



**Registration forms** for the 2019 cycle of preparation for both Confirmation AND Holy Eucharist are now available. Those who will be **7 years of age or older** this year may register for the preparation needed to begin receiving Holy Eucharist (includes Reconciliation).

Those who will be **12 years of age or older** this year may register for the preparation leading to the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Parents, please ask Fr. Michael for a registration form for Reconciliation/Eucharist following any Sunday Mass.

Candidates for Confirmation are invited to approach Fr. Michael for the registration package themselves, following any Sunday Mass.

Please note that the registration forms for both Holy Eucharist and Confirmation need to be **returned to Fr. Michael no later than Sunday, September 29th.**

**Don't leave this until the Fall ... pick up your forms now, and give yourself plenty of time to pray about this decision, fill out the forms, and return them.**



**RECONCILIATION**



The Roman Catholic Parishes of  
**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST - Garson & Falconbridge**  
**ST. BERNARDINE OF SIENA - Skead**

255 Church St., P.O. Box 510, Garson, ON P3L 1S6

**Phone:** 705-693-2032

**Fax:** 705-693-9725

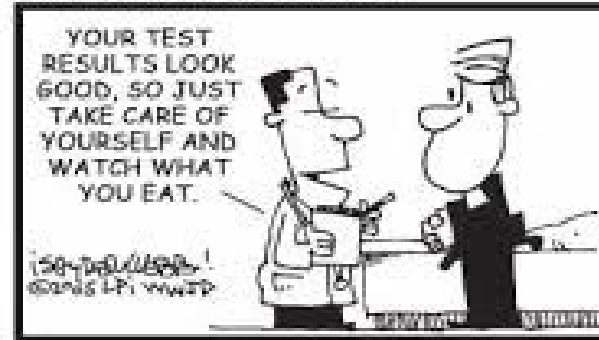
**Email:** [stjohnsgarson@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsgarson@gmail.com)

**Parish Website:** [www.stjohnsgarson.org](http://www.stjohnsgarson.org)

**OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK:**  
**Tuesday - Thursday: 10:00 to Noon**

**June 23, 2019**  
**CORPUS CHRISTI**

**BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST**



**Pastor**

**Fr. Michael Williams**

**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST**

**RCIA and Pastoral Care:** Marie Bardswich

**Music Director:** Jeannine Longe

**Parish Organist:** Mariette Hickey

**Parish Pastoral Council**

Myron McCormick	Finance - ex officio
Marie Bardswich	St. John's
Rachel Charette	St. John's
Sue Quackenbush	St. John's
Trudy Hinds	St. Bernardine's

**PRAYER LINE**

Elaine Lamarche	705-693-3339
Rachel Corbett	705-693-3241

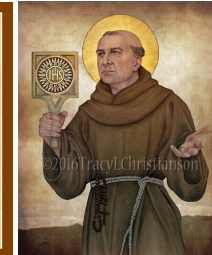
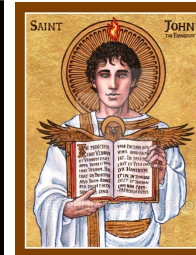
**ST. BERNARDINE OF SIENA**

**Parish Contact**

Carole Larrett	705-969-4607
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**Communion to the Sick**

Rolande Kehoe	705-969-2838
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**SUNDAY MASSES**

Saturday	4:30 pm.	St. John the Evangelist
Sunday	9:00 am.	St. Bernardine of Siena
Sunday	10:30 am.	St. John the Evangelist

**WEEKDAY MASSES:** See inside for this week's schedule

**RECONCILIATION:** By appointment for the summer months

**CALL THE PARISH OFFICE (Fr. Michael) REGARDING:**

- Home Visit & Communion or Anointing of the Sick
- Individual Celebration of Reconciliation

**FOR BAPTISM, HOLY COMMUNION,**

**CONFIRMATION & MARRIAGE:**

Please speak with Fr. Michael at any weekend Mass (6 months minimum notice is needed for Marriage)

**Mass Schedule  
June 24 — June 30, 2019**

**St. John the Evangelist**

Date	Time	Mass Intention
Monday, June 24		No Parish Mass
Tuesday, June 25	9:30 a.m.	For the Intentions of all Parishioners
Wednesday, June 26	9:30 a.m.	For Diocesan Priests by Marie Bardswich
Thursday, June 27	9:30 a.m.	For the Intentions of all Parishioners
Friday, June 28	9:30 a.m.	For May Bellrose by St. John's CWL
Saturday, June 29	4:30 p.m.	For Joe Cyrwus by Debbie Monaghan
<b>13th Sunday In Ordinary Time</b> Sunday, June 30	10:30 a.m.	For the Intentions of all Parishioners
<b>St. Bernardine of Siena</b>		
Sunday, June 30	9:00 a.m.	For Michael Kritz & Matt Humeniuk By Jim & Loretta Kritz & Family

**THANK YOU!** We are grateful to the Catholic Women's League for donating to the Parish the new Altar Cloth that now adorns our Altar. Many thanks!

**FINAL BULLETIN:** This is our final Parish Bulletin for the season. It contains the Mass schedule for the entire summer. Please keep that schedule as a reference. As always, the Calendar Page on our Parish Website is also kept up to date and can be viewed here: [www.stjohnsgarson.org](http://www.stjohnsgarson.org)



We are looking for volunteers at the **Garson Foodbank** on Tuesdays from 12 to 3pm. Anyone interested may call 705-507-3393.



**FOOD BANK:** The needs of the Garson Food Bank continue through the summer months, and your continued generosity is both encouraged and appreciated. There is a particular need for **JAM** at this time, so if you are able to provide for that need, your donation is most welcome.



**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:**

Our final program before the summer break will be Sunday, June 30th. We are grateful to our main catechists: Mary McGregor and Adrian Stewart who, along with their excellent helpers, have faithfully provided this opportunity for our younger parishioners over the past 10 months.



Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. He is present in all places, and fills all things. Mindfulness of His presence is a powerful way to grow in holiness. This summer, in the midst of all the surrounding beauty, remember to seek His face, listen to His voice, and respond to His invitation to follow Him.

**PRAYERS BEFORE MASS:** On **Wednesdays (9:25)**, we pray a Perpetual Novena to Our Mother of Good Counsel. Please remember to pick up the prayer card as you enter the Church.

On **Thursdays (9:20)**, we pray Lauds (Morning Prayer). Please remember to take a copy of The Christian Prayer Book as you enter the Church. The ribbon will be set to the correct page.

On **Fridays (9:15)**, we pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. It will be a sung version, played over the sound system. The Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed on rosary beads. There are pamphlets at the entrance of the Church which describe how to pray the Chaplet. These you may take home.



EMERGENCY REPAIRS

**REPAIRING THE ANNEX:** In early February, a heating pipe burst in the Parish Annex, causing a significant amount of flooding damage. As of this writing, the repair work has finally begun and should be completed by the end of this month. We are grateful to the members of the Environment Committee who have been especially impacted by this event and have managed to work around it. Some of you may know Fred Dubreuil, the contractor who is doing the repairs. Although our insurance will cover most of the damage, we are still on the hook for about \$4,000, representing our deductible (\$2,500) and a portion the insurance co. will not cover (\$1,500).

**Praying the Rosary for Canada** at Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto, 271 Van Horne St.  
Date: June 26th, 2019 at 7:00 pm

All are Welcome! Come pray the Rosary for the Needs of Canada

The next **Rosary Rally** will be at St Patrick Church on Walford Rd.

Date: June 23rd at 1pm

All are welcome! Come and pray for the conversion of Canada

**2019 Summer Celebrations - Our lady of Lourdes Grotto Sudbury**

July 1, 2019 – Canada Day – Rosary at 6:30 and mass at 7 p.m.

With the Daughters of Isabella in Azilda (bilingual)

July 26, 2019 – The Feast of Ste Anne & St Joachim – Rosary at 6:30 p.m.

Led by Ethel Fraser and Mass at 7:00 pm. (bilingual)

August 15, 2019 - The Feast of the Assumption – presided by Bishop Damphousse

Rosary at 6:30 and Mass at 7 p.m. (bilingual)



**YOUR OFFERINGS for June 16, 2019**

**St. John the Evangelist** Envelopes: \$1,284.00 Loose: \$67.00 Utilities: \$525.00  
Pre-authorized Deductions: \$751.00 **Total: \$2,627.00**

**St. Bernardine of Siena** Envelopes: \$400.00 Loose: \$45.00 Utilities: \$75.00 **Total: \$520.00**

I am incredibly grateful especially to Ivon, as he continued to coordinate the effort throughout the winter, and to Harvey Quackenbush who helped me in so many ways to minimize the impact of the construction on parishioners.

As always for projects this size, there are little glitches along the way. The engineer wanted a longer ramp with less slope, so more concrete, more rebar, and more time. We decided we wanted to increase the size of our upper landing and to eliminate the step into the Church which was a tripping hazard. So, we paid the extra money (well spent, we believe) to make that happen.

Of course, that changed the dynamic of our hand railings, and so the temporary wooden ones had to be installed. It was Ivon that sanded those (sorry for the slivers!) to make them safe, and Ivon also who has been working on sanding down the metal and repainting it. To save us money, he is working with a friend to weld the new pieces of railing to bring them up to code. That work continues.

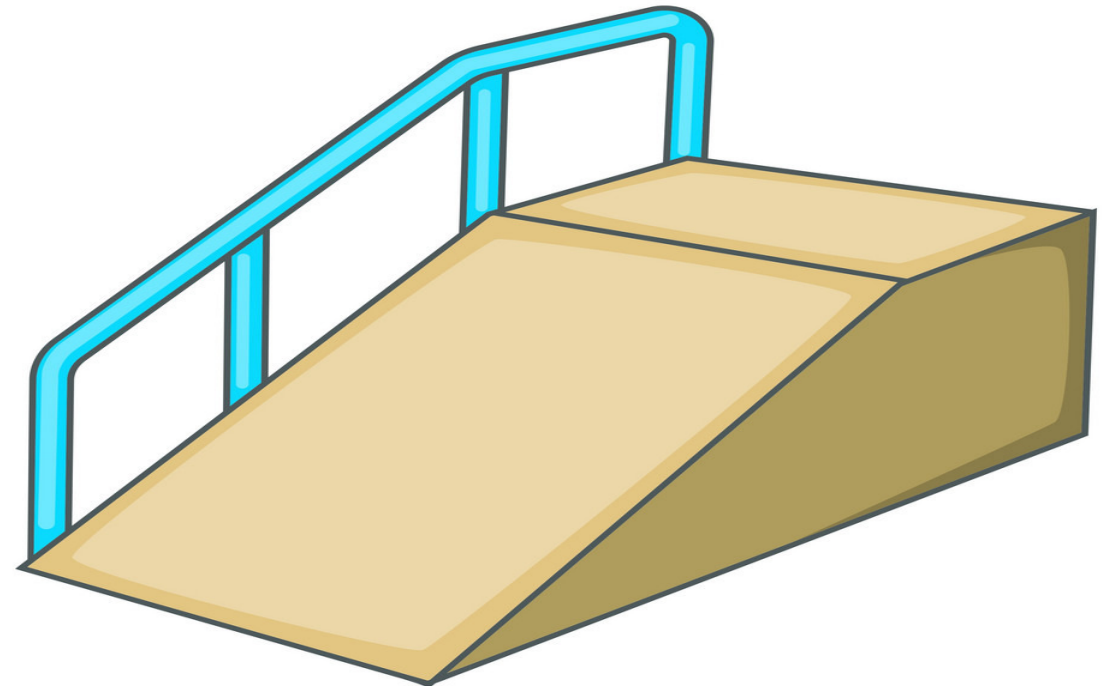
As I write this, the final layer of aggregate has just been placed and compacted. Once the pumper truck has been booked, the final surface pour of concrete will be done. We then need only the installation of the handrails to be completed, and then it will be turned over to the Parish. At that point, we will landscape around the structure in order to soften its appearance and make it a lot more appealing. Craig and Judy Chaperone have already been planning which shrubs will work best along that cement wall, to hide it and make it more attractive. I look forward to working with them on that project this summer; they have done such an amazing job already in the landscaping of our front entrance.

I decided to write all this because I feel we have, in some sense, come to the end of a long journey. It really did begin over 27 years ago. Although an elevator sure would have been nice, at least we have something that we can afford that will still provide access for those who cannot climb stairs. I know many of you have been frustrated by the slow pace of work - I have been too, believe me. But here we are. It's nearly done. And no longer do I have to say to those who cannot navigate stairs: go somewhere else. No - come. Stay here. You have been an integral part of this family for so long, that we made making easier access to our worship space a high priority. If nothing else, saying that nobody is left outside is reason enough to build what we have built.

## Our Parish Ramp

- A long journey nearing completion -

### A Report from Fr. Michael



**"Due to the absence of an elevator, or such a device (chair lift/platform), several parishioners are attending our neighbouring Catholic parishes of Holy Redeemer and St. Andrew the Apostle. Though we are not able to accommodate them in our parish building, we are grateful that other parishes are accessible."**

This was the conclusion at the end of a process almost one year long that investigated the possibility of installing either an elevator or chair lift/platform in our building in order to assist parishioners unable to navigate our stairs. The report, entitled "Chair-Lift Committee Findings" had been inserted in the Parish Bulletin on June 15, 2014. It continued:

**"Though we feel it may be out of our possibilities to provide access, perhaps we need to find creative ways of continuing to journey with them in faith. Let us pray that we will get inspired and get creative in this situation. Perhaps on occasion a group of friends/parishioners could make a point of attending the other church with those who are attending another parish church and make it a special outing ... Please continue to offer your suggestions as we strive to keep connected with those who are unable to make it up our stairs."**

After my arrival here, I learned this was not a new issue. Indeed, in our parish archives, we have the completed plans for an elevator design (dated 1992-93) that go back to Fr. Mulcahey's time here as Pastor. So, as far back as 27 years ago, this parish has struggled to find ways to allow better accessibility. My inquiries as to why the elevator build did not happen seem to point simply to Fr. Mulcahey's death in October 1993, and my inquiries as to the feasibility of a ramp seem to point to its impracticality due to the required length. With the 2014 report, it seemed all avenues had been investigated and shown to be too expensive or too impractical for us to consider.

Still, Sunday after Sunday after Mass, I stood at the bottom of the stairs and I looked at the height required, and I looked at the real estate we possessed and I wondered if a ramp were really out of the question. So, in fairness to the parishioners who could not navigate stairs, and in deference to those in wheelchairs that had to be carried into the Church for funerals and other such gatherings (has happened 3 times in the past 16 months), I put 2 proposals to our Parish Council at our meeting of April 4, 2018:

A ramp to our main entrance, or a much smaller and shorter ramp along the Rectory to the Meeting Room level where the Mass and other Liturgies could be streamed live onto a large screen television (done in other places, such as St. Pius X in Lively).

Ultimately, Parish Council opted for the main entrance option. Fr. Michael put Ivon Chaumont in charge of determining whether this was feasible and, if so, what it would cost. Ivon has extensive experience building large projects around the world, and he was happy to take this on. At our Parish Council meeting of May 23, 2018, he indicated that the ramp was, indeed, feasible. He presented 3 quotes for the project, with both him and the Parish Finance Committee recommending Laari Construction for the work. As the minutes of that meeting indicate:

**"After reviewing the plan on site, and having ample opportunities to ask questions and receive answers for clarity, the PPC unanimously supports the plan, with Laari Construction as the builder. Their quote is \$70,000 plus HST. To clarify: the ramp is not intended to make our Church handicap accessible, but rather is to provide easier access for those who find climbing stairs difficult, and to allow easier access for pallbearers at funerals. Fr. Michael will now proceed to submit our proposal to the Diocese for approval."**

That clarification re: not being designated as handicap accessible is essential, since we are unable to provide washroom access at the Church level. With that understanding, the Bishop gave us the green light to proceed, using the funds that we have saved. As the Finance Committee put it so well: "That money was saved especially for a project like this; if we don't use it for something like this, it makes no sense to save it for anything else."

Since we are now speaking of events less than a year old, everyone remembers the rest: construction began literally on the day of our first major snow storm in November, and continued through one of the worst winters in recent memory. Our contractor struggled, at times, with a turnover in staff - a common problem in our city. There was significant tenting and heating required. For a few weeks we had Church access only through our side door. Through it all, however, I am grateful for the patience and humour shown by all of you.