

July 10, 2020



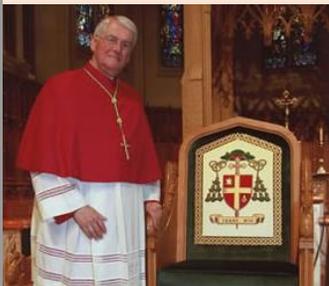
My Dear People of St. Ann Parish,

Fr. Greg, Seminarians Kevin and Mauricio, and I are continuing to keep all of you in our prayers, and we hope that you are praying for us.

This weekend will be the fourth weekend since the church re-opened for the celebration of Mass and the other Sacraments. Approximately 25% of our regular Sunday congregation are coming to Mass. I want to thank all of you for your compliance with the regulations that have been set by the Bishops and the Government. **Just a heads up, it looks like masks may soon be mandatory for all places of worship in the Region of Hamilton. They are already required in Waterloo and Wellington Counties.** I will keep you informed about this and other guidelines/rules as they become available. Starting this weekend, the Priests will wear masks/face coverings during the distribution of Holy Communion.

This week we began our "goings and comings". Seminarian Mauricio arrived this past Monday. Fr. Greg will leave us on Wednesday and that same day Fr. Naveed will arrive. Seminarian Kevin will leave us on July 27th. We have all been blessed by and grateful for the Priestly ministry of Fr. Greg and the presence of Seminarian Kevin. We wish them God's abundant blessings as they continue their journey. Seminarian Kevin will return to the seminary, but this time in Baltimore, for his final two years of study. Hopefully, he will be ordained to the Diaconate next spring and to the Priesthood in the spring of 2022. Fr. Greg, as you know, will continue his ministry as Associate Pastor at St. Joseph Parish in Guelph. We pray that he will continue to serve well and bring many people to a deeper relationship with our loving God. Now we look forward to the ministry of Fr. Naveed and Seminarian Mauricio. May they be faithful and faith-filled ministers of the Lord to our beloved St. Ann Parish. Please make them feel welcome and most of all, remember to pray for them.

Our annual Novena to St. Ann begins this Friday, July 17th. A Novena is nine days of prayer. The prayers for the Novena are attached to this EFWF. All are invited to pray the prayers each day from their homes. The prayers will be prayed publicly by the celebrating Priest after Mass each day for the nine days of the Novena, July 17 – July 25, culminating with the Feast of St. Ann on July 26th. This year, St. Ann's Feast Day falls on a Sunday. What a great opportunity for our Parish to honour our Patroness.



As most of you are aware, I am a member of the Bishop's Episcopal Board. Acting something akin to his cabinet, we help to advise the Bishop on various matters, helping him to set a direction for the Diocese. On Sunday, I will join the Bishop and the three other members of the Episcopal Board for four days of meetings and planning. Please pray that our days will be fruitful, and grace filled. I will be away from the Parish until Wednesday afternoon, returning just in time to welcome Fr. Naveed.

We continue to live-stream our Sunday 9:00 a.m. Mass. For those who are not able to or comfortable with coming back to Mass just yet, this is a great way to stay connected to St. Ann Parish. To watch the Mass, go to YouTube.com, and search for St. Ann Parish, Ancaster, or use this link:

www.youtube.com/c/StAnnCatholicParishAncaster.

Stay safe and stay healthy. St. Ann, pray for us.

God bless,
Fr. Lobsinger, E.V., P.P.



Monday, July 13

St. Henry

8:00 a.m. † Jordana Krikorian Page



St. Ann
Pray for them

Tuesday, July 14

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction

6:00 – 6:45 p.m. Confession in the Lady Chapel

7:00 p.m. † Robert Mahler † Carol Searle

Wednesday, July 15

St. Bonaventure – Priests' moving day

8:00 a.m. † Stan and Maria Filice

Thursday, July 16

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

8:00 a.m. Intentions of Charles Poelmann and Family

Friday, July 17

8:00 a.m. † Saleem and Olga Gedeon

Saturday, July 18

St. Camillus de Lellis

8:00 a.m. – Confessions in the Lady Chapel

9:00 a.m. – † Mary Beth Brown

4:00 – 4:45 p.m. – Confessions in the Lady Chapel

5:00 p.m. – † Wilma MacIsaac

Sunday, July 18

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

9:00 a.m. Missa pro Populo – Mass for the People – **Note: This Mass will be live-streamed**

11:00 a.m. Missa pro Populo – Mass for the People

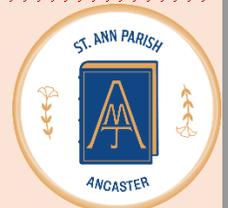
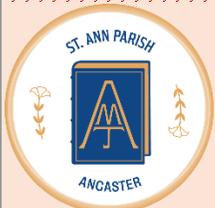
Feast of St. Ann

July 26

This year, St. Ann's Feast Day falls on a Sunday. Since the Feast Day of the Parish Patron has the rank of a Solemnity for the Parish, we will celebrate the Feast of St. Ann rather than the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time on the weekend of July 25-26. Our novena to St. Ann will need to be a little different this year, since we cannot handout the booklets with the prayers. The novena will begin on July 17th. After morning Mass each day, the celebrant of the Mass will read the novena prayers for us and we will all actively pray in silence for good St. Ann's intercession. I have included the prayers for the novena as an attachment so all can join in from home.



St. Ann, Pray for us.





The Parish Office is now open,
but the Office will only be accessible by appointment.
Please call 905-648-6874 to let us know that you are coming.

*Those having appointments with one of the Priests
will be required to sign in with their name and contact
information.*

*Office Hours: Monday to Thursday – 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Friday to Sunday - Closed*

Re-Keying St. Ann Church



We are in the process of re-keying the entire church, hall, and rectory. This coming Thursday, July 16th, all the locks in the building will be changed. Since we do not have an up-to-date list of all who hold keys, the safety of our buildings and those who use them cannot be assured. If you currently have keys for St. Ann Church, Hall or Rectory and believe you should continue to have keys, please email the parish office at stannancaster@hamiltondiocese.com. In your

email give us your name, what keys you currently have, and why you believe you require to continue to have keys. After reviewing your email, a decision will be made whether or not to issue new keys. Many who currently have keys will be asked to come to the office and sign out a key when one is needed, rather than being assigned their own personal key. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. With so many keys out and about, it makes it difficult to maintain proper security and safety.



Pope Francis' Prayer to Our Lady, Health of the Sick

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need.

*We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee,
joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.*

*Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will
and to do what Jesus tells us:*

*He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us,
through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.*

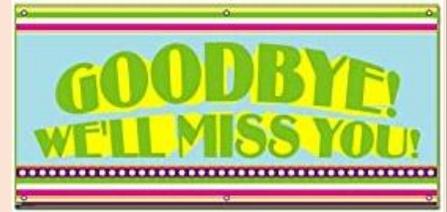
We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

*Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from
every danger, O glorious and Blessed Virgin. Amen.*



Fr. Greg's Last Weekend at St. Ann – July 11-12

This weekend, July 11-12, will be Father's last weekend with us here at St. Ann Parish. Our Parish has been blessed by sharing in Father's first year of Priestly ministry and we wish him many more happy years of service to God, His Church and His People. We would love to give Fr. Greg a grand farewell, but unfortunately, due to the various restrictions and limitations, our goodbye will need to be pretty subdued. After all the Masses this weekend, Father will station himself in the staff parking area in front of the garage.



You will be able to speak with him there, thanking him for his service and wishing him all the best in his new assignment, St. Joseph Parish, Guelph.

Ordained to the Sacred Priesthood – May 4, 2019

Arrived at St. Ann Parish – June 26, 2019

Leaving St. Ann Parish – July 15, 2020



AD MULTUS ANNOS

Our New Seminararian Has Arrived



Greetings to all in the St. Ann's Parish Community

My name is Mauricio Munoz, and I have been assigned to your community for my pastoral year. I attend St. Peter's Seminary, where I have recently finished my second year of theology, the fifth year of formation overall. Sharing a bit about myself and my background, I came from Medellin - Colombia eight years ago, and

I settled in Hamilton. I was raised in a humble household, and my parents (Gabriela (deceased) & Marco) worked hard to give the best they could to my brother and me. I had a very normal and fulfilling childhood and teenage years in Columbia. I enjoyed playing soccer in the streets with my friends and also other games, which made for wonderful memories to which I look back with fondness in my heart. Seeking for better opportunities, my father (Marco) had left the country to go to the States in the early 2000's, which meant that he pretty much had to "raise us over the phone." After some years



there, he became a refugee here in Canada, which explains how I got here.

Talking about the faith, I was exposed to the life of the Church, and my mother always made sure that I went to Mass every Sunday, even though I had no idea what was going on at the Eucharist. It was later when I became an adult, when I was about 18 or 19, that I felt a desire to take my faith seriously and draw close to God... basically, move from being a Catholic by custom or tradition to one that begins to appropriate the faith. I began to pray with the readings for Mass of each day, and to walk with the Blessed Mother by praying the Rosary. The faith became very important to me, which led me to re-evaluate my life and leave behind things which I knew tarnished my relationship with God. It was in that process of coming to embrace my faith that I came to identify the desire to learn more, have an experience of God in my life, and extend that same loving experience to all around me. I hope this year will be one in which I grow in awareness of God's plan for my life, learn a lot from the St. Ann's



community, Father Lobsinger and Father Naveed Arif, as we all walk in the presence of the Lord. God bless you all, and may the Blessed Mother accompany you and guide you to her Son Jesus.

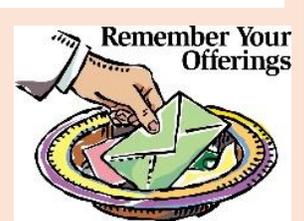
Mauricio will introduce himself at the Masses this weekend.

Our new Associate Pastor Arrives on Wednesday, July 15th

Fr. Naveed Arif was born on April 4, 1978, in Faisalabad, Pakistan. Father Naveed finished his Bachelor of Arts (civil degree) in 1997 at the Government College, Sahiwal, Pakistan; his Bachelor of Philosophy: 2001, through Urbaniana University, Rome, obtained his Diploma in Theology: 2007, Karachi, National Catholic Institute of Theology, and his Licentiate in Theology, 2015, Rome, Angelicum. He learnt Latin in 2013, from the University College, Cork, Ireland, and Italian in 2017, in Rome. Currently he serves as the Associate Pastor at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Kitchener, ON, Canada. Father has successfully completed three units of the CPE program (Ottawa General Hospital). With regard to his religious formation, on January 7, 2000, he made his First Profession in the Dominican Order and on November 9, 2010 (in Pakistan) was ordained a Priest by Cardinal Joseph Coutts. Father is a Dominican, Roman Catholic Priest, and has been a pastor, has served in missions with the poor, the homeless, the mentally challenged, and with psychologically disturbed persons, in accordance with the teachings and values of the Catholic Church. He was privileged to have lived in General Roman Curia (headquarters of Dominican Friars in Rome) during his graduate studies in Theology. Fr. Naveed can easily communicate in Punjabi, Urdu, Hindi, Italian, and English. He has also learned Latin and has studied Greek and Hebrew. Father served missions in Iran from 2001-2002, and from 2006-2017: worked for the Dominican province as Vocation Director 2006-2017, Justice and Peace 2007-2012, Ministry with the mentally handicapped, Karachi, Inter-Faith, Inter-religious Dialogue, ecumenical dialogue, 2006-2012, Editorial Board of 'Parastish' (theological journal in Urdu), 2010-2012 Holy Rosary Orphanage, Warispura, Pakistan (2009-2012). After returning from studies in Rome in 2016. He has taught Dogmatic Theology, at the National Catholic Institute of Theology, Pakistan. Father came to Canada on 28th of Feb 2017. How blest are we to be receiving such an educated and experienced Priest to serve us here at St. Ann. Please make Father Naveed feel welcome when he arrives on July 15th.

Weekly Donation to St. Ann Parish

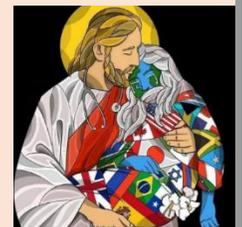
Thank you for your continued generosity to St. Ann Parish. I have been so very moved by how many of you are continuing your donation to St. Ann Parish, even in these difficult and uncertain times. Your care and love for St. Ann Parish is visible in your generous giving. May God reward all of you for your love and care for our parish community. Currently there are four methods to make your donation to St. Ann Parish:



- ✚ Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) is a great way to provide your regular offering to our Parish. To register for EFT, call the Parish Office and we will email you the necessary forms.
- ✚ Drop off your weekly envelope by putting it through the mail slot in the Parish Office door.
- ✚ When you come to Mass there is a box in the foyer. You can drop your envelope in the box either on the way in or the way out of Mass.
- ✚ Online donation: hamiltondiocese.com/covid19parishfund/ or through canadahelps.ca, search St. Ann Parish, Ancaster. You can make a one-time donation or schedule a recurring donation.

Image of Jesus the Divine Physician

May Jesus, our Divine Physician, hold all of us tightly in His Loving Arms and bring healing and comfort to all peoples and lands. Amen.



**Please remember to pray for all our
Healthcare Workers and First Responders
may our Blessed Lord and Dear Lady keep them safe.
Our Church Bells ring each day at 9, Noon and 3:00 in honour of our
Healthcare Workers and First Responders**



Letter from Fr. Greg

Dear parishioners of St. Ann parish,

What can I say? How can I express in words the blessings I know I have received while I've been with you? You are truly a remarkable parish and I will never forget the lessons you have taught me. There are so many things I wish I could say, but I have neither the time nor the ability to say them all.

How can I thank you enough, for all you have done for me? I have received so much more than I have given. As you know, the truth is that God cannot be outdone in generosity, and so often we receive much more than we give. This is how I feel when reflecting back on my time at St. Ann parish. I have tried hard to serve you as best as I can, even with all my personal limitations. I have to say that likely, I feel those limitations all the more by having been in the shadow of a pastor like Father Lobsinger - and even with Seminarian Kevin, himself having more life experience than I. The two of them have helped me grow, and for that I am so grateful. God has indeed made my time here more fruitful than I could ever imagine.

During my time here and especially as I prepare to leave, people have given me so many wonderful expressions of thanks, both verbal and written. You have given me so much kind encouragement. I want you to know that I feel deeply grateful and blessed to have been here for my first year of priesthood. I know it's exactly where God knew I needed to be. He has truly *blessed me* by letting me be here with you, and I wouldn't choose any other place to spend my first year in a parish as a priest.

Let me say this. As a new priest, your kindness, patience, and encouragement have meant a lot to me, likely more than you know. Your smiles, jokes, and your welcoming attitude have brought me great joy. Your prayerful devotion and enthusiasm for the faith have inspired me. Your welcoming spirit and charitable hearts have touched me deeply. Your desire to know and love the Lord Jesus has made my love for Jesus deepen too. This, I believe, is how it is supposed to be. I pray Fr. Naveed receives this too.

Even despite COVID-19, I feel like we have done amazingly as a parish by working together, under the fantastic leadership of our eminent pastor Father Lobsinger. He has been a wonderful mentor and friend to me, and I will never forget the tremendously helpful guidance he has offered me on truly countless occasions. Father Lobsinger, thank you so much from the bottom of my heart. You are a blessing.

This being my first move as a priest, it is a new experience for me, and I've been warned that it can be hard. Please pray for me as I move to my new parish of St. Joseph in Guelph. I beg you to please welcome Father Naveed as warmly as you welcomed me. I know that he will be so blessed to have such wonderful parishioners to pray for and support him along with the wonderful support of Father Lobsinger.

As I've mentioned above, it has also been a great experience for me to live with Seminarian Kevin. I am truly grateful for the ways he helped Father Lobsinger and I to serve you the best we possibly could.

Dearest friends, please keep me in your heartfelt prayers. Know that I (even with tears in my eyes as I write this) I will always remember you fondly in my heart. If you ever come to St. Joseph's in Guelph, please come and say 'hello'. I will always be happy to see you again.

Yours Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Father Gregory Merkley

May God abundantly bless you Father as you continue on the path set for you. Serve well, and continue to be a holy shepherd of God's holy people.

PREPARING TO COME TO MASS

- All people should take their temperature before coming to church. If you have a fever, cough or cold, please stay home.
- All people, other than the Priests and the Lector or Cantor, while performing their ministry, are **strongly** encouraged to wear a mask. It may be disposable or re-useable.
- Proper social distancing must be maintained. This means only 1 out of every 2 pews may be used.
- Unless you live in the same house, you must be 2 meters away from other parishioners.
- With these restrictions in place, we can only sit approximately 90 people per liturgy.
- When you enter the church our health and safety committee will be at the doors to offer you hand sanitizer.
- Entrance to the church and exit from the church will only be allowed through the Wilson Street doors.
- Only 90 people will be permitted to be present for Mass.
- There will no longer be hymn books or any pamphlets available in the church.
- There will be no collection taken during the Mass nor an Offertory procession with the gifts. At the doors of the church, there will be a container for your offering. Please place your gift there.
- The Sign of Peace will no longer be a shaking of hands, but rather a simple bow.
- For the reception of Holy Communion, you will be directed forward by our health and safety committee, please wait for their directions. When the person ahead of you is receiving Holy Communion, you will remove your mask by the ear straps. Holy Communion will only be given in the hand. Once you receive Communion, step slightly to the side, put the Sacred Host in your mouth and then re-cover your mouth and nose with your mask. Then return to your seat by the center aisle.
- After Mass is over, the Priests will not greet you at the doors, and you are asked to not congregate inside or outside the church. As you leave, you will again be offered a squirt of hand sanitizer.
- Washrooms will only be available when absolutely necessary. Only one person at a time may be in the washroom unless you live in the same house. Only the washrooms by the parish hall will be available. The small washroom by the Wilson Street doors will no longer be accessible.

Regarding Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals:

- These celebrations are once again available in the church. The restrictions above will also apply to these celebrations.
- **Funerals are limited to 50 people as per Government regulations.**

Use of the Church's Meeting Rooms and Parish Groups:

- After consultation with our Parish's Pastoral Team, we have decided that no Parish Committees or Organizations will be permitted to resume meetings at this time. The Parish Meeting Rooms, Hall, and Kitchen will not be available for use by Parish or outside groups until further notice.

I know this seems like a lot. I ask for your patience, understanding and cooperation. By following these guidelines, we will ensure our churches remain open and the Sacraments remain available to us.

**For any who feel unwell or that coming to Mass is unsafe,
the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass
continues to be in place.**