

Parish Family Mass & Social

My dear friends in Christ,

A few years ago, our parish had a beautiful tradition of celebrating a **Family Mass, followed by a luncheon and time of fellowship after the 11:00 a.m.** Mass on designated Sundays.

I remember with much gratitude all those **generous parishioners who lovingly prepared and brought soups and other food items**, as well as everyone who came together to participate. **These gatherings gave us an opportunity not only to share a meal, but also to share our lives, strengthen our friendships, and grow as one family in Christ.**

However, most of the participants were those who normally attended the 11:00 a.m. Mass. In order to **encourage greater participation** from our entire parish family, make this a more joyful family event, and **also raise some funds for our parish**, the Parish Council has suggested a new idea.

On designated Family Mass Sundays, the two Sunday morning Masses will be combined into ONE Mass at 10:00 a.m., followed by our Parish Family Social and Lunch. Please note that this change applies ONLY to the designated Family Mass Sundays. On those particular Sundays, **there will be only one Sunday morning Mass at 10:00 a.m.**

Our first Parish Family Mass & Social will be held on: Sunday, September 13, 2026

Holy Mass: 10:00 a.m. Followed by: Parish Family Social & Lunch

Let us come together as one parish family around the table of the Lord and then continue our fellowship around the table of friendship. The Holy Eucharist unites us as the Body of Christ, and our fellowship helps us to live that unity in love.

As Scripture reminds us: **“How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity!” Psalm 133:1**

And the early Christian community set a beautiful example for us: **“They devoted themselves to the Apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of Bread and to prayer.” Acts 2:42**

We warmly **invite every parishioner and every family to join us.**

Let us pray together, worship together, eat together, laugh together, and grow together as one family in the love of Christ.

We look forward to seeing you all on September 13th!

May our parish continue to be a welcoming home where every person feels loved, valued, and united in Christ.

Fr. Paul, St. Andrew Catholic Church, Welland, Aug 22nd, 2026