

THE YEAR OF JUBILEE 2025 - Pope Francis called this Catholic Jubilee 2025 to celebrate hope and invite Catholics worldwide to deepen their faith. Because it marks the 1,700th anniversary of the First Council of Nicaea, Jubilee 2025 also celebrates the fundamental Christian truth of the Incarnation, that Jesus is *both* true God and true man, a teaching always believed in the early Church but dogmatically defined at the Council to combat the Arian heresy. The theme *Pilgrims of Hope* for the Jubilee Year 2025 emphasizes the journey of faith, especially the hope found in Christ. As pilgrims, Catholics are called to embark on a spiritual journey, seeking renewal and deeper communion with God. This theme encourages us to trust in God's promises and be beacons of hope in the world, reflecting the teaching of Romans 15:13: *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."* Jubilee Year invites us to live out our faith with joy and to inspire others through acts of love and mercy.



CCCB REQUESTING PRAYERS FOR POPE FRANCIS - Canadian Catholic Bishops invite individuals, families, parishes, and all Catholic movements and associations in Canada to join in lifting up in their prayers and intentions Pope Francis as he recovers from hospital. May the Lord, through Our Lady's powerful intercession, grant him renewed strength, health, and energy in his vocation to serve the Church as the Successor of Peter and the Vicar of Christ on earth.

ELECTION THURSDAY, February 27 - When Catholics have the opportunity to vote, the Church firmly believes that there exists a "moral obligation" to participate in an election. This teaching is explained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC #2239): "Submission to authority and co-responsibility for the common good make it morally obligatory to pay taxes, to exercise the right to vote, and to defend one's country. It is the duty of citizens to contribute along with the civil authorities to the good of society in a spirit of truth, justice, solidarity, and freedom. The love and service of one's country follow from the duty of gratitude and belong to the order of charity. Submission to legitimate authorities and the service of the common good require citizens to fulfill their roles in the life of the political community."

WINDOW GLASS REPAIRS - The church windows need caulking, and the frames need painting and some minor repair. To preserve the integrity of the stained-glass windows, we are asking parishioners to give consideration to contributing to a special collection specifically for this work. We have provided envelopes at the back of the church to ensure that your donations are receipted for Income Tax purposes. We are also setting up a container and asking that you consider tossing your change in to support this project. We anticipate this work starting in the spring. Thank you for any donation you are able to make.

ST MARY'S CWL - 1. The Bakeless Bake Sale is underway which is a CWL fundraiser. Please remember to make a donation to the CWL which will be used for CWL, church and community projects. We cannot do what we do without the support of you, the parishioners. We will extend the deadline for the fundraiser until the end of the month because of the winter weather and its impact on attendance at church. Envelopes are available at the back of the church. 2. The next CWL meeting is March 03/25 @ 9:30 am at the rectory. 3. Please remember to vote in the upcoming provincial election on Feb. 27/25 so you have a say in how Ontario is governed. 4. Heads up! The World Day of Prayer Service will be held on March 07/25 @ 2:00 pm at St. Andrew's United Church. All parishioners are invited.

Parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

103 Lyle Street South. P. O. Box 239, Grafton. Ontario K0K 2G0

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Parish Email: office@assumptiongrafton.ca Parish Website: stmarygrafton.ca

Diocesan Website: www.peterboroughdiocese.org

Bookkeeper - Gabrielito Garcia

Fr. Martin Dalida - Parish Priest

7TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

February 22-23, 2025



Parish Committees & Organizations

Parish Pastoral Council, *Michael Mullin*
(Chairperson)- 416 300 8680

Finance, *Alfons Casteels* - 905 269 2352

Lectors, *Joanna Mecozzi* - 905 375 9502

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion,
Judith Goulin-905 372 7684

Catholic Women's League, *Pat Murphy*
(President)-905 349 2847

Bingo Volunteers, *Jackie Innis*-905 349 2880

St Vincent de Paul, *Wes Krentz*-905 377 3263

Cemetery Board, *Francis Calnan* 905 269 0795

KC and Ushers, *Darrell Manley*-905 744 0865

Counters, *Wes Krentz*-905 396 2578

Development and Peace/Library, *Suzanne*
Liptay-905 372 3031

St Mary's Choir, *Alfons Casteels*-905 269 2352

Parish Handyman, *Ed Nemec*-905 349 2923

Religious Articles, *Alta Vance*-905 344 7443

St. Mary's Elementary School, Grafton, *Angelo*
Costa (Principal)-905 349 2061

St Mary's Secondary School, Cobourg, *Jason*
Roberts (Principal)-Tel. 905 372 4339

SACRAMENTAL MINISTRY

Baptisms, Marriages, & Anointing of the Sick may be arranged by calling the Office.

Confessions: Saturday at 8:30 am & 3:30 pm, or anytime on request.

First Friday of the month - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament @ 9am.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Feb 24, Mon, 9am- +Melchor& Salus

Feb 25, Tues 9am

Feb 26, Wed 9am

Feb 27, Thurs 9am

Feb 28, Fri 9am

March 1 Sat – NO MASS (Confession at 3:30 PM)

March 1, Sat, 4pm (8th Sunday Ordinary) - For the people of the parish

March 2, Sun 10am (8th Sunday) +Colleen Lawson by 3 sisters, Brenda, Barbara & Beverley

March 1-2 WEEKEND MASSES

	4 pm	10 am
LECTORS:	Jackie Innis	Joanna Micozzi
EMHC:	Deirdre Arzheimer	Judith Goulin
USHERS:	Darrell & Nick Manley	Theo Mensen & Rob Ugolini



LAST WEEKEND (February 15-16, 2025)

Sunday Offertory - \$ 705



PRAY FOR THE SICK MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

John Calvert, Katherine Cole, Eailen Fitzgerald,
Dalton McDonald

LENTEN SCHEDULE

MARCH 5 - ASH WEDNESDAY (9am Mass & Ash distribution, 6pm- Ash Distribution only)

APRIL 12 – PASSION (Palm) SUNDAY- 4PM

APRIL 13 – PASSION (Palm) SUNDAY - 10AM

APRIL 17 (HOLY THURSDAY) – MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER – 7PM

APRIL 18 (GOOD FRIDAY) – CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION - 2:30PM

APRIL 19, LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE (CONFESSION) - 9am

APRIL 19 (SATURDAY EASTER EVE) – 7pm

APRIL 20 (EASTER SUNDAY) – 10am

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS FOR THE JUBILEE - (March 7th) As part of our Jubilee Year observance, we invite you to join us for our First Friday Devotion on Friday, March 7th. We will begin with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 8:00 AM, followed by the Stations of the Cross and Benediction. Holy Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 AM. This Lenten season is a perfect time to deepen our faith and make space for the Lord. Consider adding this devotion to your spiritual journey as we prepare our hearts for Easter. We look forward to praying with you!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - The Stations of the Cross is a powerful devotion that allows us to walk with Christ on His journey to Calvary. Through prayer, reflection, and meditation on each station, we are invited to unite our own sufferings with His and grow in our understanding of His profound love and sacrifice. During Lent, this devotion helps prepare our hearts for the celebration of Christ's Resurrection at Easter. We invite you to join us for the Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent: (First Friday Jubilee, March 7 @ 8:00am), (Friday, March 14 @ 7:00 pm), (Friday, March 21 @ 9:00am), (Friday, March 28 @ 7:00 pm), (First Friday Jubilee, April 4 @ 8:00am), (Good Friday, April 18 @ 2:30pm, before the 3pm celebration). May this Lenten season be a time of deep prayer and reflection as we journey together toward the joy of Easter.

USHERS/GREETERS - Usher is one important liturgy ministry in the church as one of its primary responsibilities is to welcome and greet attendees upon arriving for worship. This task is not merely about saying "hello" but involves creating an atmosphere of warmth and acceptance. The usher is often the first point of contact for visitors and regular attendees alike, setting the tone for the worship experience. Hebrews 13:2 reminds us, "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." By embodying this spirit of hospitality, usher helps to ensure that everyone feels valued and included. Additional duty of usher is "To make sure that the gifts of bread and wine are in their proper places before Mass and asking members of the assembly to bring forth the gifts at Offertory." This is one challenging duty that ushers sometimes encounter some refusals.

GIFT BEARERS - Gift bearers are people who bring up bread, wine, and the collection to the priest during the Mass. Normally, there will be four Gift Bearers assigned to each Mass, with one carrying the wine, another the water, the third carrying the Host, and the fourth carrying the Offertory basket. The Gift Bearers represent the entire community when bringing forward the bread and wine for consecration. If you are approached by the usher to bring the gifts to the altar, please don't refuse as a way to help ushers lighten their job.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY BAPTIZED KIDS, VIOLET EROS & ANDREW EROS, children of Andrew Eros & Mary Powell. We wish abundant blessings to you and to your parents on this day of your Baptism (Feb 22). Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons & daughters of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the life of the Blessed Trinity and made sharers in the mission of the Church.