

CANDLES AS SYMBOLS OF LIGHT AND HOPE – In the context of Candlemas, candles serve as powerful symbols of light and hope. The act of lighting candles during this time is a reminder of the return of longer days and the eventual arrival of spring, which metaphorically reflects the triumph of light over darkness. The flickering flame represents the presence of the divine, illuminating the lives of those who seek guidance and solace. As congregants light their candles, they offer prayers and intentions, reinforcing the connection between the physical light of the candle and spiritual illumination.



YOU MAY KNOW THE RHYM: “If Candlemas day be fair and bright, Winter will have another flight. If Candlemas day be shower and rain, Winter is gone and will not come again.”

INDIGENOUS RECONCILIATION FUND ROUND 3 FUNDING (February 3 to March 20, 2025) -The IRF supports Indigenous-led and managed projects in one or more of these areas: Healing for communities and families, Culture and language revitalization; Knowledge-sharing, heritage & traditions and community building; and Dialogues for promoting Indigenous spirituality and culture.

TAX RECEIPTS 2024 AND FINANCIAL UPDATES - 2024 tax receipts are now available at the back of the church. We are pleased to share that our parish is currently in a relatively healthy financial position. This is largely due to two key factors: a dedicated commitment to reducing overhead expenses wherever possible and the ongoing, generous support of you, our parishioners. Your contributions make a meaningful impact, helping us fulfill our mission and care for our parish community. Please remember, our work is ongoing, and your continued support ensures we can sustain and grow the good works of St. Mary’s Parish for years to come. Thank you!

ST MARY’S CWL - The next CWL meeting is Feb.03/25 @ 9:30 am at the rectory. The CWL Word of the Week is PRIDE. We in the CWL take pride in our accomplishments . We are a sisterhood of women dedicated to service, to GOD and CANADA. Thank you to all members who have paid their fees for 2025 and to those who also included a donation to St. Mary's Council. It is so appreciated. All cheques will be cashed by next week. Winter weather is upon us. Please remember to dress warmly from head to toe. If it is too cold outside for you, stay home, and keep warm.

TODAY ’S LITURGY Starts with the blessing of Candles and at the end part blessing of Throats. **Prayer:** “God our Father, we humbly seek the intercession of Saint Blaise, the protector of our throats and healer of ailments. May his compassionate spirit guide us towards restoration and strength. Grant us comfort in our suffering and the grace to embrace healing, both in body and soul. Amen.”

Parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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Tel: 905-349-2504

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

Diocesan Website: www.peterboroughdiocese.org

Bookkeeper - Gabrielito Garcia

Fr. Martin Dalida - Parish Priest

**THE
PRESENTATION
OF JESUS IN THE
TEMPLE**

February 1-2, 2025

**"My Eyes Have
Seen Your
Salvation"**



**WEEKEND
MASSES**

**SATURDAY
4PM**

**SUNDAY
10AM**

CHURCH OF ASSUMPTION OF THE BVM

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

K of C 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 3, Mon (NO MASS)
Feb 4, Tues 9am
Feb 5, Wed 9am(St Agatha, virgin & martyr)
Feb 6, Thurs 9am(St Paul Miki & companions)
Feb 7, Friday 9am (First Friday Benediction & Mass)
Feb 8, Sat 9pm
Feb 8, Sat, 4pm (5th Sunday Ordinary) - For the people of the parish
Feb 9, Sun 10am (5th Sunday)+Colleen Lawson by 3 sisters: Brenda, Barbara & Beverley

Feb 8-9 WEEKEND MASSES

	4 pm	10 am
LECTORS:	Greg Blick	Bernadette Murray
EMHC:	Paula Blick	Judith Goulin
USHERS:	Darrell & Nick Manley	Rob Ugolini & Joe O’Kane



LAST WEEKEND (Jan 25-26, 2025)

Sunday Offertory - \$1,602
Bank Account Balance - \$26, 920
Gaming Account Balance - \$11, 869



PRAY FOR THE SICK MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

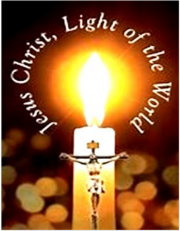
**Katherine Cole, Eailen Fitzgerald,
Dalton McDonald & Jeanie Grol**

THE JUBILEE PRAYER

“Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Re-deemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen”.

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION/CANDLEMAS - The Presentation of Jesus in the temple is celebrated in the Church’s calendar on February 2nd—also known as “Candlemas,” an allusion to Simeon’s words about the boy Jesus being “a light for revelation to the Gentiles” (Lk 2:32). On Candlemas, Christians take their candles to their local church, where they are blessed and then used for the rest of the year; for Christians, these blessed candles serve as a symbol of Jesus Christ, who is referred to as the Light of the World. Christ’s light continues to shine today through his people. We are the Light of the world, as Jesus told us, but the light that is in us does not come from ourselves or our deeds, no matter how holy and righteous we may think ourselves to be. The luster of our lives is *Christ* shining His way, His truth, and His life through us. Like the moon reflects the light of the sun back to a dark world, we too reflect the light of Christ to a world of people in darkness.



150 ANNIVERSARY PLANNING MEETING - We are excited to celebrate the 150th anniversary of St. Mary’s Parish and invite all parishioners to participate in shaping this special milestone! We are putting together an outline for the weekend celebrations and would love your input. This is a wonderful opportunity for parishioners to share their thoughts and ideas on what they would like to see for the 150th. We also encourage those with family history tied to the parish to share stories and suggestions on how we can honor our heritage and incorporate your memories into the event. Additionally, we are looking for volunteers to assist with the preparations. By attending, you are not committing to joining any committees—we simply want to hear your thoughts and ideas. Open Meeting: Date- Saturday, February 8/ Time-1:00 PM/ Location- St. Mary’s Church. If you are unable to attend, we encourage you to share your ideas by emailing Michael Mullin at mmullinkofc@gmail.com. Let’s work together to make this a joyful and memorable celebration for our parish family!

POPE’S PRAYER INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY - (For vocations to the priesthood and religious life)
“Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.”

THE INDEFECTIBILITY OF THE CHURCH - The Church survived three hundred years of incredible persecution under pagan Rome. Of the 33 Popes that ruled before the Edict of Milan, 30 died as martyrs. That mighty Empire, with its colossal strength, before whose standard the nations quailed, could not kill the infant Church or stop its progress. In a short time the Popes were ruling where the imperial Caesars had issued edicts against the Christian Church. The Roman Empire waged ten fierce persecutions against the Church, but could not destroy it. In the year 313 the Emperor Constantine was converted and granted the Church freedom by the Edict of Milan. *(to be continued)*

