

ST. JOSEPH, THE HUSBAND OF MARY (feast day March 19) - He was the foster father of Jesus. To him, God entrusted the safekeeping of the Eternal Word, made man by the power of the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mary. He was the protector of our Lady's good name, the caring guardian of Jesus, an attentive and faithful husband who exercised his family authority in a constant attitude of service. St. Joseph is the patron saint of many causes, especially fathers, families, married couples, children, pregnant women, workers, craftsmen, against doubt, the dying, and a happy and holy death. He is also patron of the universal church as well as the patron saint of Canada. May St. Joseph, a great and humble saint, watch over the church in these days of severe trials and be an inspiration especially to Christian workers and all whom should call on him in every circumstance.



ST. PATRICK (feast day March 17) –St. Patrick of Ireland is one of the world's most popular saints. At fourteen, he was captured by Irish pirates and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. At the time, Ireland was a land of Druids and pagans, but Patrick turned to God and in his memoir, he wrote, "The love of God and his fear grew in me more and more, as did the faith. I prayed in the woods and on the mountain, even before dawn. I felt no hurt from the snow or ice or rain." Patrick was able to preach the Gospel throughout Ireland. There, he converted thousands of people and he began building churches across the country. Patrick preached and converted all of Ireland for 40 years. He worked many miracles and after years of living in poverty, traveling and enduring much suffering he died March 17, 461. So complete was his trust in God, and of the importance of his mission, he feared nothing -not even death.



DEVELOPMENT & PEACE - This year as part of Jubilee 2025 we are responding to the call of Pope Francis to join the global Turn Debt into Hope campaign. Why? so that our sisters and brothers in the global south can live in dignity free from the burden of unjust debt. Pope Francis asks more affluent nations that they acknowledge the gravity of so many of their past decisions, and determine to forgive the debt of countries that will never be able to repay them. This is more a question of justice than of generosity.

ST MARY'S CWL - 1. CWL member Katherine Cole passed away March 06/25. She was a devoted member of St. Mary's Church. Katherine always had a smile and always looked to the bright side of life. "O Lord, grant eternal rest unto Katherine. May her soul rest in peace." Katherine's funeral is March 22/25 @ 1:00 pm at MacCoubrey's Chapel. 2. Continue your prayers for Pope Francis as he faces serious health issues. 3. The next CWL Meeting is April 07/25 @ 9:30 am at the rectory. 4. ST. MARY'S CWL PARKING LOT YARD SALE will be held in mid June. Please set aside (at home) any items that you would like to donate to the sale. There will be more information coming over the next few weeks. The SALE is a good reason to start your spring cleaning and find the items you no longer need and can donate to the sale. All proceeds will be used for CWL, church and community projects.

Parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
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Parish Email: office@assumptiongraffton.ca Parish Website: stmarygraffton.ca
Diocesan Website: www.peterboroughdiocese.org
Bookkeeper - Gabrielito Garcia
Fr. Martin Dalida - Parish Priest

**2nd SUNDAY
OF LENT**
March 15-16, 2025



**"THEY SAW HIS GLORY
AND THE TWO MEN
WHO STOOD WITH HIM"**



CHURCH OF ASSUMPTION OF THE BVM

**WEEKEND
MASSES**

**SATURDAY
4PM**

**SUNDAY
10AM**

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, *Jill*
Barker- 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

March 17, Mon - NO MASS
March 18, Tues 9am
March 19, Wed 9am (St. Joseph, spouse of the BVM)
March 20, Thurs 9am
March 21, Fri 9am (Mass & Stations of the Cross)
March 22, Sat 9am
March 22, Sat 4pm (3rd Sunday Lent) - +Betty Ann Ugolini by family
March 23, Sun 10am (3rd Sunday Lent) +John Boreham by family

March 22 –23 WEEKEND MASSES

	4 pm	10 am
LECTORS:	Michael Mullin	Michael Stephenson
EMHC:	Pat Rutherford	John Logel
USHERS:	Darrell & Nick Manley	Theo Mensen & Ed Nemec



Last Week - March 8 & 9, 2025
Sunday Offering - 1, 525
Window Repairs - \$490 (total: \$2, 500)

PRAY FOR THE SICK MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

**Gladys Leclerc, John Calvert, Eailen Fitzgerald,
Dalton McDonald**

LENTEN SCHEDULE

APRIL 12 – SATURDAY (PALM SUNDAY, 4PM)
APRIL 13 – SUNDAY (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– SATURDAY (LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE & CONFESSION, 9am)
APRIL 19 - SATURDAY (EASTER EVE, 7pm)
APRIL 20 - SUNDAY (SUNDAY OF EASTER, 10am)



FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

LENT - As we enter the sacred season of Lent, the Catholic Church invites us to embark on a profound spiritual journey of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This time of preparation leads us to the greatest feast of all— the Resurrection of Christ. But what does Lent truly mean for us as believers? How can we embrace it in a way that transforms our hearts and deepens our faith? The concept of fasting, repentance, and spiritual renewal is deeply rooted in Sacred Scripture. Christ himself fasted for 40 days in the desert, preparing for his public ministry: “Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And he fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was hungry” (Matthew 4:1-2). Similarly, the Church invites us to walk this path, strengthening our faith through spiritual discipline. Lent is a time to refocus, renew, and grow in our relationship with Christ. Whether through fasting, prayer, or acts of kindness, each step brings us closer to the joy of the Resurrection.

CAPTURING THE LIFE OF OUR PARISH - Our parish is a place of faith, community, and service, and we want to celebrate that vibrancy. The bishop encourages all parishes in the diocese to ensure their websites are welcoming and engaging, as they serve as an important means for people to connect and find the information they need. To help showcase the life of our faith community, you may occasionally see Fr. Martin taking photos at parish events, gatherings, and even while celebrating Sacraments (yes, it can feel a bit awkward!). These images allow us to share the joy and mission of St. Mary’s both within our parish and beyond. We also understand that some parishioners may have concerns about privacy. If you prefer not to be photographed, please feel free to reach out to Fr. Martin or me. Our goal is to ensure that everyone feels comfortable while also capturing the spirit of our parish life. Thank you for being part of our faith family and for all the ways you contribute to making St. Mary’s a welcoming and thriving community. *Michael Mullin -PPC Chair*



THE HOLY WATER - The rich symbolism of this ancient tradition evokes, primarily, three things. First, the blessed holy water reminds us of our baptism. By receiving baptism, we were adopted into God’s family, grace was poured into our souls – we became “temples of the Holy Spirit”. And baptism is administered by the pouring out of blessed water three times, in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. So you can see, when we dip our fingers into the holy water font as we enter a church, and make the sign of the cross over ourselves, we are reconnecting with that mysterious and foundational experience of receiving the sacrament of baptism. By making this reconnection, the Church invites us to thank God, to remind ourselves of our dignity as beloved children of God, and to take comfort in knowing that we truly are members of this divine family, members of the Body of Christ.



HOLY WATER