

**JUBILEE YEAR INDULGENCES** - The Church offers special indulgences, which are remissions of the temporal punishment of already forgiven sins, not a “get out of jail free card” for future sins. Remitting that punishment—or after-effects of forgiven sin—includes purifying us of our “unhealthy attachment to creatures” and other created things (CCC 1472). In the Catechism of Catholic Church 1471-1479, indulgences are either partial or plenary, remitting some (partial) or the complete (plenary) temporal punishment due to one’s sins, including, again, that associated with our unhealthy attachments to ourselves, other persons, and things—attachments which *necessarily cannot exist* in heaven. Indulgences can be obtained for oneself or for the faithful one who has died.



**HE DESCENDED INTO HELL** - In the Apostles’ Creed, we profess an articular, “He descended into hell” (referring to Jesus). In the context of the Apostles’ Creed, the Catholic Church explains this point as follows: “Scripture calls the abode of the dead, to which the dead Christ went down, “hell”, in Hebrew “Shaol” and in Greek “Hades”. We know that there was life eternal and heaven, in the original intent of God. But heaven was closed when our first parents sinned. The promise of God for the Son to redeem mankind corresponds to the opening again of heaven through Christ’s death & Resurrection. Such is the case for all the deceased, whether evil or righteous, who died in between the events of Adam’s committing sin and Christ’s resurrection - they are in Shaol or Hades or Hell waiting for the Redeemer to bring them to the unlocked heaven. Jesus was not going into the place of the damned, “but to free the just who had gone before him”.

**WINDOW GLASS REPAIRS** - The donations for the church stained-glass window repairs are very encouraging. In two weeks time the total amount collected is \$2, 005. But with estimated budget of \$24, 000, it is still a long way to go. 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.Thank you to all members and parishioners who attended The World Day of Prayer at St. Andrew's United Church on March 07/25. It is always enlightening to learn about nations that are afar. This year, the nation of Cook Islands in Polynesia, was the focus of The World Day of Prayer. All funds collected at the service are used to assist and empower women all around the world, as well as in Canada.

2. St. Mary's Church will host The World Day of Prayer in 2026.

3. The Bakeless Bake Sale has come to an end and was a huge success. Thank you, parishioners, for your generous support.

4. The CWL is able to do what it does because you are so supportive. May God bless you!

## 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](mailto:office@assumptiongrafton.ca) Parish Website: [stmarygrafton.ca](http://stmarygrafton.ca)

Diocesan Website: [www.peterboroughdiocese.org](http://www.peterboroughdiocese.org)

Bookkeeper - Gabrielito Garcia

Fr. Martin Dalida - Parish Priest

**1ST SUNDAY  
OF LENT**  
March 8-9, 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, *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.

**MASSSES FOR THE WEEK**

March 10, Mon - NO MASS  
March 11, Tues 9am  
March 12, Wed 9am  
March 13, Thurs 9am  
March 14, Fri 9am Mass, at 7pm is the Stations of the Cross  
March 15, Sat 9am  
March 15, Sat 4pm (2nd Sunday Lent) - +Zack Sawyer by family  
March 16, Sun 10am (2nd Sunday Lent) +Jane Boreham by family

**March 15 -16 WEEKEND MASSES**

	4 pm	10 am
<b>LECTORS:</b>	Dave Hughes	John Logel
<b>EMHC:</b>	Paula Blick	Dennis Goulin
<b>USHERS:</b>	Darrell & Nick Manley	Joe O’Kane & Rob Ugolini



**WEEKLY OFFERING**  
"FOR GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER"  
2 COR 9:7


**Last Week of March 1-2, 2025**  
Sunday Offering - 2, 315  
Building Maintenance - \$425  
Window Repairs - \$305



**PRAY FOR THE SICK MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY**  
**Gladys Leclerc, John Calvert, Eailen Fitzgerald, Dalton McDonald**

**MACKENZIE ERIN KINCH** - Congratulations to Mackenzie and to her parents Matthew Kinch and Michelle Day for receiving the Sacrament of Baptism. We wish the newly baptized abundant blessings in her journey as member of the Catholic community and the church of God.

+**KATHERINE COLE** - Our prayers for the eternal repose of Katherine Cole, a long time parishioner of St. Mary’s who passed away recently. May she rest in peace in the loving arms of the Lord.



**FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK**

**LENT** - The word “Lent” itself derives from the Old English word, meaning "spring," which reflects the season of renewal and rebirth. As nature begins to awaken from winter’s slumber, so too do Christians prepare for the celebration of new life in Easter. The season offers a striking contrast to the joyous celebration of Easter, serving as a stark reminder of the path of suffering and sacrifice that preceded the resurrection. Lent serves as a crucial time of spiritual growth and introspection for Christians. By dedicating this season to prayer, fasting, and alms-giving, believers engage in a structured reflection of their lives, aligning their hearts more closely with the teachings of Jesus.

**POPE FRANCIS** (Ashes Bring Us back to Reality) - “The imposition of ashes reminds us to look within ourselves and remember our fragility – from dust we are created, and to dust we shall return. Ashes revive in us the memory of what we are, but also the hope of what we will be”, the pope said.

**FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS FOR THE JUBILEE** - As part of our Jubilee Year observance, we invite you to join us for our First Friday Devotions. We will begin with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 8:00 AM, 15 minutes silence, special devotion of the month (stations of the cross, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary, Sacred Heart), Jubilee Prayer & 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!

**LITURGICAL SENSE** - As part of the liturgical norms established with the implementation of the revised (GIRM) General Instruction of Roman Missal in 2011, we would like to remind everyone of three important moments during Mass:

1. When to Genuflect & Bow inside the Church – When the Mass is going on, bow to the Altar; no Mass going on, genuflect to the Tabernacle.
2. Bowing During the Apostles’ Creed - We are invited to bow at the words: “Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary.”
3. Standing After the Preparation of the Gifts - Standing while saying, “May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of His name, for our good and the good of all His holy Church”, that is after the priest invites the assembly saying, “pray that our sacrifice be acceptable to God the Almighty Father”.
4. Receiving a Blessing at Communion - It is recommended to go in the line of the priest rather than to an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. To do so, cross your arms over your chest as you approach the priest, and he will offer you a blessing.

**USHERS/GREETERS** - One of the duties of ushers is to ask members of the assembly to bring forth the gifts at Offertory.” Gift bearers are people who bring up bread, wine, and the collection to the priest during the Mass. The Gift Bearers represent the entire community when bringing forward the bread and wine for consecration. If you are being requested to be Gift Bearers, please don’t refuse as a way of helping ushers lighten their job.