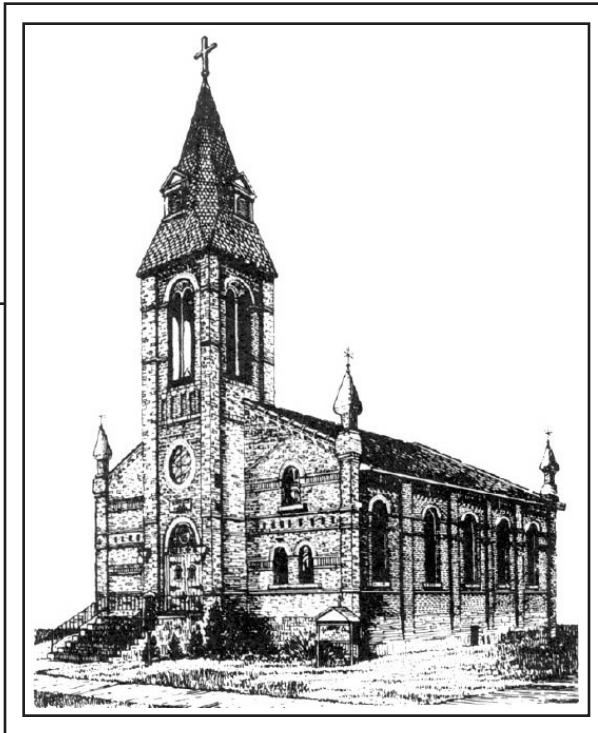


ST. MARY'S CHURCH

63 Elgin Street
Collingwood, ON L9Y 3L6
Tel: 705-445-1790
Fax: 705-445-9659
Email: stmarysco@archtoronto.org
Web: stmarysco.archtoronto.org



Every Friday:
HOLY HOUR
7:30 a.m.
Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament

Fr. Charles Forget, **Pastor**

Jayne Williams,
Office Administrator

Emilie Spence, **Sacramental
Co-Ordinator/Youth Minister**
SMYMCollingwood@gmail.com

**The Society of
St. Vincent de Paul
President:**

Adrian O'Connor
Tel: 705-444-0999
<https://ssvpcollingwood.ca>

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:30 to 4:00 p.m. or by appointment.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 11:00 a.m. - 12 noon
1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon
1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN THE PARISH

St. Mary's Elementary School . . .705-445-6132
Our Lady of the Bay Catholic
High School705-445-2043
Notre Dame de la Huronie705-444-1764

BAPTISMS: Please call the Parish Office.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR SICK, SHUT-INS: Holy Communion is brought regularly to sick and shut-ins. Please notify the rectory.

MARRIAGES: Couples planning to get married must contact a priest one year in advance for an appointment. They must also receive personal preparation for entering marriage. Please do not book the time and place of your reception before your appointment with the priest.

If either party has gone through any form of civil or religious marriage with another person, the priest is not permitted to set a date for the wedding until the Bishop's Office has been consulted.

PARISH REGISTRATION: All parishioners should be registered. Registration cards can be found in the Church foyer or at the parish office. Would you kindly notify the office when you are moving out of the parish.

BULLETIN NOTICES must be received at the parish office by Wednesday at noon. Announcements will appear for no more than two weeks, and should contain only pertinent information. Please be brief.

Catholic Women's League
President: Jean Stewart
705-445-2151

The Knights of Columbus 3rd Degree
Grand Knight: Michael Dynes
705-994 3308
collingwoodknightsforcolumbus.org

The Knights of Columbus 4th Degree
Faithful Navigator: Domenic Sanfilippo
705-445 7615

2016 VATICAN DIRECTIVE DISCOURAGES CREMATION

(From *Crisis Magazine* online)

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith's Instruction on the Burial of the Deceased (*Ad resurgendum cum Christo*), released October 25, 2016 is a welcome restatement of the Church's preference for earth burial over cremation. It is essential to seize the "teaching moment" this document affords: rather than just focus on the "do's" (do bury a body in a cemetery) and "don'ts" (don't scatter ashes or keep them at home), *Ad resurgendum* offers a prime opportunity to address the "theology of the body" that the Catholic way of death proposes. If attention focuses merely on the document's specific prescriptions, important as they are, we run the risk of demanding adherence to rules without understanding their rationale.

Cremation has grown in popularity: one survey suggested, for example, that at least 40 percent of deaths in New Jersey end in cremation, and that the percentage of Catholics resorting to cremation is not fundamentally different from the general population. Without vouching for the data, anecdotal observation suggests it may not be far off the mark.

I have previously argued in these pages that the growing acceptance of cremation is worrisome because it tends to erode several basic Catholic teachings. *Ad resurgendum* suggests as much, because it argues for the Catholic preference for burial precisely on similar grounds: Jesus' Resurrection; the communion of saints; and the significance of the body.

Cremation is not necessarily opposed to resurrection: God can reform ashes as easily as dust. Eighteenth- and nineteenth-century materialists promoted cremation as a statement denying resurrection, but that was a particular phenomenon at a particular time. As long as these are not a person's motivations now, the Church does not oppose cremation.

That said, earth burial is best connected with the Resurrection because it is also connected with Christ. Jesus lay in a grave. His passion and death are as much a part of the Paschal Mystery as his resurrection. Explaining the Church's preference for burial, then, ought to begin with the imitation of Christ. We are, after all, imitators of Christ by virtue of our baptism: we are baptized into his death in the hope of resurrection (Rom 6:3).

The Church also prefers earth burial because of the communion of saints. The Church is not just a concrete congregation assembled at St. Stephen's at 10 o'clock Sunday morning. It is all those who love God, be they on earth, in Purgatory, or in Heaven. The communion of saints is a sign of ecclesiological solidarity: together in life, together in death. A Catholic cemetery is an expression of belonging to the Church, both among "those who have gone before us, marked with the sign of faith" as well as of those left behind with the vocation of praying for them. We ought not to underestimate the significance of a cemetery as a

sacramental, especially in a culture that embraces death while simultaneously hiding it away.

Cremation has tended to individualize death. The cemetery is gone, especially when ashes are scattered or kept at home, two abuses *Ad resurgendum* identifies. Oftentimes in cremation cases, funerals are put off and viewing dispensed with. Death itself "disappears" from human view, rendered invisible. Most importantly, however, cremation fosters a false anthropology. It encourages a mentality that sees the body as sub-personal, a tool or husk that is shucked off. Instead of being seen as sacred, a "temple of the Holy Spirit," the body is seen as an attachment of the "person." Consider the symbolism: we bury treasure, we incinerate trash.

A misguided environmentalism which fixates on man's place in the material world to the exclusion of his dominion over it also exacerbates this false anthropology and is often heard from proponents of cremation. The human person is a creature with one foot in the material world, but he is qualitatively different because he has a soul *and* a Divine mandate to exercise dominion over that world.

It would be wise, in the wake of *Ad resurgendum*, to review these doctrinal perspectives with the faithful, particularly because most contemporary Catholics have limited religious knowledge and the Church is bucking some very powerful contemporary trends. November, with its dedication to prayer for the faithful departed as well as the eschatological focus of the end of Ordinary Time/beginning of Advent that occurs in that month, lends itself well to such catechesis.

I will admit a certain hesitance about *Ad resurgendum*. In presenting the document, Prefect Müller reportedly said that "shortly, in many countries, cremation will be considered the ordinary way" of handling the dead. Perhaps. But in pushing a reaffirmation of the Church's preference for burial while acquiescing in the growing phenomenon of cremation, I wonder whether the Church has not learned its lesson from its weakening of the discipline of Friday abstinence. There, too, the Church spoke of noble motives—imposing an appropriate penance and self-discipline on one's self rather than relying on the habitual Friday abstinence—but, in practice, many more Catholics heard the message "you can order steak" than the message "you should mortify yourself." I fear an analogous situation could prevail here.

A final note: while bad philosophy may in part be spurring the trend towards cremation, there is also a utilitarian argument driving its acceptance—cost. A constant rejoinder I have received in comments about my writings opposing cremation has been economic: traditional funerals can cost up to \$10,000. We cannot ignore this. Clergy who speak about the theology of burial while keeping silent about the cost of the American way of death are failing their people. Practical reflection on the reality of and planning for death should go together with the theology. In the wake of *Ad resurgendum*, parishes, priests' associations, dioceses, and the USCCB should undertake a real dialogue about how to make Christian burial affordable. (by John M. Grondelski (Ph.D., Fordham) former associate dean of the School of Theology, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ.)



MASS
SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Tuesday Nov 22
8:30am +Victor Szuta
Requested by the Cudney Family

Wednesday Nov 23
7:00pm +Queen Elizabeth II
Requested by the Knights of Columbus

Thursday Nov 24
8:30am Intentions of Mary Francis Damp
Requested by Ken Wright

Friday Nov 25
7:30am Holy Hour
8:30am +Stephen Damp
Requested by Ken Wright

Saturday Nov 26
3:30 to 4:00pm Confessions
4:30pm Living & Deceased Members of the Russ Family
Requested by Geraldine & Frank Bondi

Sunday Nov 27
9:00am For the People
11:00am +Elizabeth Powichrowski
Requested by Marek Powichrowski

Our Sanctuary Lamp Burns
For the Parishioners of St. Mary's
From Nov 20 to Nov 26, 22



Please Pray for the Sick

Chelsea Cando, Dorothy Dynes, Margot Brandreth, Ken Buchan,
Jean Ferguson, Rose Flanagan, Fred Coulson, Andrew Vella

Pray for those who have died recently

Juliana Dias, Father Ralph Paonesa, Father Paul Gaudet, John
Corso, Marie Page

Weekly Offering Nov 6	\$4381.00 (Inc PAG)
Building & Maintenance	\$1856.00
Weekly Offering Nov 13	\$3362.25 (Inc PAG)
Shepherds Trust	\$1707.75
ShareLife	\$38,453.00



SENIOR WISH

Thank you to everyone who has donated to a Senior wish. For those still wishing to donate, we will continue to accept donations until Nov 27th.



CWL NEWS



Many thanks to all our parishioners for your support with our bazaar and 50/50. Each bazaar is a success because of you. Full details will be posted in the next bulletin.

Thanks of course to the members who worked tirelessly for three days. You are incredible!!

Thank you to two young parishioners who have become regulars...Jaden Benabdeslam and Andrew Quiroz.

The CWL Clothing Drive for the Needy has started and will run until Nov 26. These are some of the items we are looking for:

We are accepting good clean winter clothing for men and women, also underwear, socks, hats, mitts, gloves, scarves, (new please), tee shirts & warm ski underwear. Toiletries: bath soap, shampoo, skin lotion & shaving items, toothbrushes & paste.

Please leave your donations in the parish hall, either level

Thank you & God Bless.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Christmas pyjama drive: the St. Vincent de Paul is having a Christmas pyjama drive from November 12 until December 18. Pyjamas can be dropped off in the church hall in the boxes and bags under the tree. The greatest need is sizes 8 to adult for both boys and girls. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

MISSALS

Missals are available for purchase in the little store at the back of the church, the cost is \$7.00

PAG – Preauthorized Giving

The Archdiocese of Toronto has established a Pre-Authorized Giving Plan (PAG) to assist you in your support of the work of the Parish through your regular parish offerings. To accomplish the mission entrusted to us by Christ, the parishes depend entirely on the generosity of their parishioners. Pre-authorized giving allows you to give to your parish through scheduled monthly transfers from your bank account or credit card. These funds are then deposited directly to the parish account. For more information, please call your parish office.

CHURCH BULLETIN ADVERTISING.

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the advertisements for our church bulletin. The advertising will begin in December 2022 & supports the bulletin service. Please support the bulletin and advertise your product or service. Call Liturgical Publications at 1-800-268-2637

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