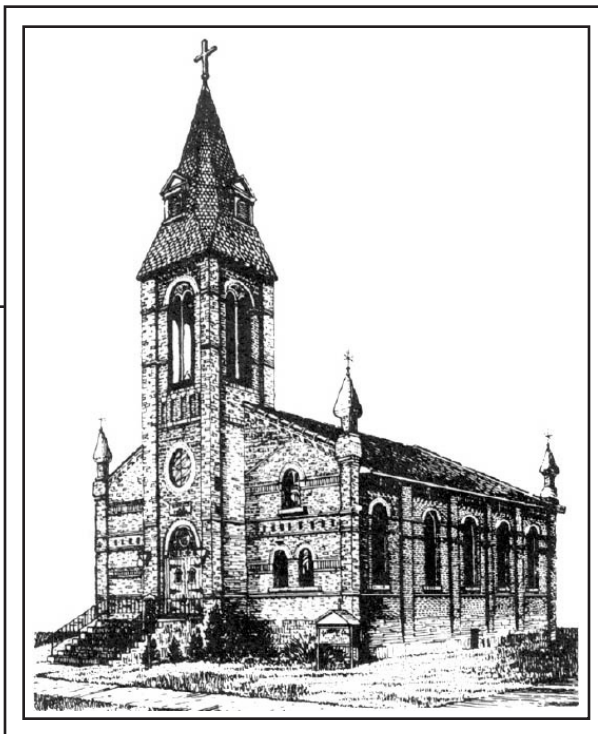


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Fax: 705-445-9659
Email: stmarysco@archtoronto.org
Web: stmarysco.archtoronto.org



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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

YOU WERE LOVED

POPE BENEDICT XVI 1927-2022

Story by Mark Mallett (markmallett.com) Picture: Igor Babailov

IN the wake of the outgoing, affectionate, and even revolutionary pontificate of St. John Paul II, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger was cast under a long shadow when he assumed the throne of Peter. But what would soon mark the pontificate of Benedict XVI would not be his charisma or humor, his personality or vigor — indeed, he was quiet, serene, almost awkward in public. Rather, it would be his unswerving and pragmatic theology at a time when the Barque of Peter

was being assailed from both within and without. It would be his lucid and prophetic perception of our times that seemed to clear the fog before the bow of this Great Ship; and it would be an orthodoxy that proved time and again, after 2000 years of often stormy waters, that the words of Jesus are an unshakeable promise:

I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the powers of death shall not prevail against it. (Matt 16:18)

Benedict's papacy did not shake the world perhaps like his predecessor. Rather, his papacy will be remembered for the fact the world *did not shake it*.

In fact, the faithfulness and reliability of Cardinal Ratzinger were legendary by the time he became pope in 2005. I remember my wife bounding into the bedroom where I was still sleeping, waking me up with unexpected news that April morning: "Cardinal Ratzinger has just been elected Pope!" I turned my face into the pillow and wept for joy —

an *inexplicable* joy that lasted for three days. The overwhelming feeling was that the Church was being given an extension of grace and protection. Indeed, we were treated to eight years of beautiful depth, evangelism and prophecy from Benedict XVI.

In 2006, I was invited to sing *Song for Karol* at the Vatican in celebration of John Paul II's life. Benedict XVI was supposed to be in attendance, but his remarks regarding Islam rattled sabres around the world potentially putting his life in danger. He didn't come.

But that affair resulted in an unexpected encounter with Benedict XVI the very next day where I was able to place my song into his hands. His response suggested that he must have watched the evening's celebration on closed-circuit television. How surreal and overwhelming to be in the presence of the successor to St. Peter... and yet, the unexpected exchange was thoroughly human (read *A Day of Grace*).

Moments before, I had watched as he entered the hall to the singing of pilgrims and, almost impervious to the rock star welcome, wandered up the aisle with an unforgettable humility and serenity — and that legendary awkwardness that spoke of a man more comfortable in between philosophical books than bubbling admirers. But his love and devotion for either has *never* been in question.

On February 10, 2013, however, I sat in stunned silence as I listened to Pope Benedict announce his resignation from the papacy. For the next two weeks, the Lord spoke an unusually strong and persistent "now word" in my heart (weeks before I'd hear the name Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio for the first time): *You are now entering into dangerous and confusing times.* That word has come true on so many levels, that I have written literally the equivalent of several books here in order to navigate the increasingly treacherous waters of a Great Storm that has been unleashed upon the entire world. But here again, the very words and teachings of Benedict have served as a lighthouse in the Storm, a sure prophetic beacon and anchor to the Now Word and countless other Catholic apostolates around the world.

"The first priority for the Successor of Peter was laid down by the Lord in the Upper Room in the clearest of terms: "You... strengthen your brothers" (Lk 22:32). Peter himself formulated this priority anew in his first Letter: "Always be prepared to make a defence to anyone who calls you to account for the hope that is in you" (1 Pet 3:15). In our days, when in vast areas of the world the faith is in danger of dying out like a flame which no longer has fuel, the overriding priority is to make God present in this world and to show men and women the way to God. Not just any god, but the God who spoke on Sinai; to that God whose face we recognize in a love which presses "to the end" (cf. Jn 13:1) — in Jesus Christ, crucified and risen. The real problem at this moment of our history is that God is disappearing from the human horizon, and, with the dimming of the light which comes from God, humanity is losing its bearings, with increasingly evident destructive effects. Leading men and women to God, to the God who speaks in the Bible: this is the supreme and fundamental priority of the Church and of the Successor of Peter at the present time."

—Letter of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI to All the Bishops of the World, March 10, 2009; vatican.va
Still, even moments of profound gratitude, and grief, for such a faithful pope — or a future of uncertainty — should never undermine our faith in Jesus. It is He who builds the Church, "My church", He said.

"When we see this in the facts of history, we are not celebrating men but praising the Lord, who does not abandon the Church and who desired to manifest that he is the rock through Peter, the little stumbling stone: "flesh and blood" do not save, but the Lord saves through those who are flesh and blood. To deny this truth is not a plus of faith, not a plus of humility, but is to shrink from the humility that recognizes God as he is. Therefore the Petrine promise and its historical embodiment in Rome remain at the deepest level an ever-renewed motive for joy; the powers of hell will not prevail against it... —Cardinal Ratzinger (POPE BENEDICT XVI), Called to Communion, Understanding the Church Today

This was echoed in Benedict's successor:

"Many forces have tried, and still do, to destroy the Church, from without as well as within, but they themselves are destroyed and the Church remains alive and fruitful... She remains inexplicably solid... kingdoms, peoples, cultures, nations, ideologies, powers have passed, but the Church, founded on Christ, notwithstanding the many storms and our

many sins, remains ever faithful to the deposit of faith shown in service; for the Church does not belong to popes, bishops, priests, nor the lay faithful; the Church in every moment belongs solely to Christ.” —POPE FRANCIS, Homily, June 29th, 2015 www.americamagazine.org

I am certain that this is the enduring message that Benedict would have us cling to, no matter how stormy our days will become. Popes and parents, our children and spouses, our friends and familiarities will come and go... but Jesus is with me now, beside me, and that is as sure a promise as anything He said to Peter.

“Behold I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world”. (Matt 28:20)

When my mother passed away several years ago, I was only 35, she was 62. The sudden feeling of being abandoned was palpable, disorienting. Perhaps some of you may feel this way today — a bit abandoned in Mother Church with the extinguishing of one of the century’s brightest flames. But here, too, Jesus responds:

“Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you. See, upon the palms of my hands I have engraved you...” (Isaiah 49:15-16)

After all, Benedict XVI is not gone. He is nearer to us now than ever in the One, mystical Body of Christ.

We cannot hide the fact that many threatening clouds are gathering on the horizon. We must not, however, lose heart, rather, we must keep the flame of hope alive in our hearts...

—POPE BENEDICT XVI, Catholic News Agency, January 15th, 2009



- Tuesday Jan 10
 - 8:30am Unannounced Mass
- Wednesday Jan 11
 - 7:00pm +Denis Fonseka
Requested by Marie Fonseka & Family
- Thursday Jan 12
 - 8:30am Unannounced Mass
- Friday Jan 13
 - 7:30am Holy Hour
 - 8:30am Unannounced Mass
- Saturday Jan 14
 - 4:30pm +Lexi & William Bruce
Requested by the CWL
- Sunday Jan 15
 - 9:00am For the People
 - 11:00am +George Stewart
Requested by Jean & Family

Our Sanctuary Lamp Burns
For the Intentions of
Santiago Lazo Malcolm on his Baptism
From Jan 8 to Jan 14, 23



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

Stanley Corkum, Anthony Pantaleo

OFFERTORY

Christmas Offering	\$10,075.00
New Years Offering	\$4,110.00



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The Knights of Columbus Council 5793 here at St. Mary’s are planning to host a Shrove Tuesday supper in the Father Ellard Hall on Tuesday February 21, 2023. It has been since 2019 that we have been able to host this well received supper and with wanting to reunite our Parishioners in a social setting the Knights are offering this supper to all St. Mary’s Parishioners at **no charge**. In order for this to work, we will have a signup sheet at each of the weekend masses beginning three weeks before Shrove Tuesday. We will need your commitment in order to prepare the proper amount of food and helpers for the evening. You will hear more about this as we get closer but, in the meantime, mark your calendars and save the date for this long-awaited event.

CWL



The CWL will be holding their membership drive the weekends of Jan 14/15 and 21/22. You may renew or join after all the Masses. The cost of a membership is \$34.00. We invite ladies of the Parish to consider joining this great organization. Ladies this is a convenient way to join or renew your membership. Thank you

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When you use your 2023 Offertory Envelopes, could you please put your name and address on the front for the first couple of times.
Thank You

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