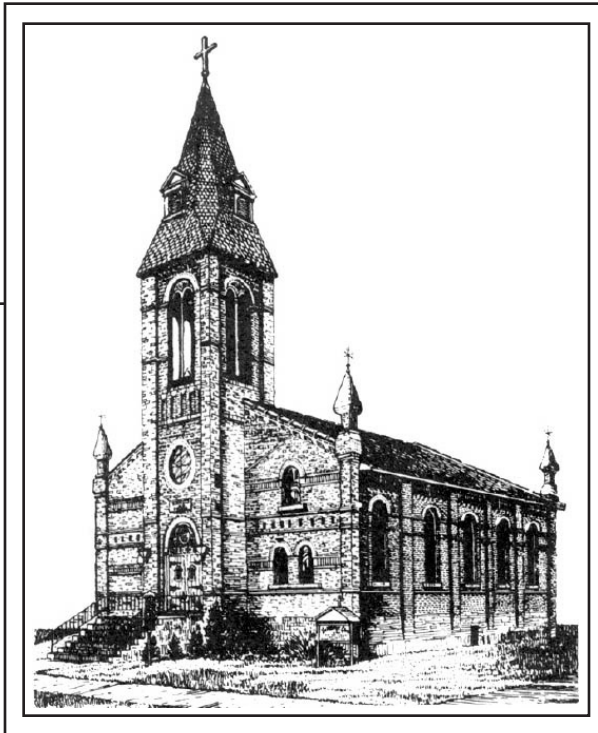


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Fax: 705-445-9659
Email: stmarysco@archtoronto.org
Web: stmarysco.archtoronto.org



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

M.A.I.D. IN CANADA

'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.' (Matt. 11:28-30)



The 'slopes' in our time have become so very, very slippery. And here, I'm not talking about ski hills or

hiking trails, but the moral ones. On June 17, 2016, Canadian Parliament amended the Criminal Code with Bill C-16 allowing doctor assisted euthanasia or, as it is now called MAID, Medical Assistance In Dying. It was originally intended for the 'few' where now it is one of the leading causes of death in our country. Just five years after Parliament's bill was passed, over 10,000 Canadians died through MAID. And it's so common and passively accepted by Canadians that it was even offered in a phone conversation by a Government official in 2019 to a Canadian military veteran as she was trying to get a stair-lift in her home. The woman had been injured during a training accident and was confined to a wheelchair and so was seeking government assistance but was offered MAID instead. An inquiry as to how this happened was called for by the government after much news attention, but it's all part of what St. John Paul II called in our time, a 'Culture of Death'.

Is this MAID contrary to Catholic teaching? Yes, absolutely and without any wiggle room for dissention. Like everything we do in the modern world that is contrary to God, we sanitize it, clean it up in our lingual referral to it and surround it with warm scenes of friends gathered, warm hugs, high emotions and goodbyes as they've just watched their friend, loved one, father, mother or sibling take their own lives, to put it bluntly, commit suicide. It might seem pretty cold language putting it that way but it fits the scene. It is cold to turn away from God. No one loves a person who is depressed, in pain or sees no end to their depressing situation than God. He knows and sees us and one of the first things he has done to alleviate the burdens of others is through us. So many people feel alone and the pandemic of the last three years was just too much for those who took their lives. It so clearly shows that none of us were meant to be alone and yet there are so many lonely people in our world, country, town and even in our parish.

I was reading about a Toronto psychiatrist who remembered the first patient she helped die about one month after Canada first legalised euthanasia in 2016. She "recalled checking on her patient that day, asking if she had the right music and final meal, and if she was sure she wanted to go ahead. The patient, in her mid-60s and suffering from ovarian cancer, said she was. Five minutes later, the woman was dead.

There is a great sadness that washes over me when I hear stories like this and can't help but feel that somehow we as a people, as a society, have failed them, didn't see them, didn't hear them, forgot about them as they moved toward the idea that they could, by their own choice and seeking, bring an end to their

suffering, loneliness, pain and depression. They could end their life and do so quite clinically with the aid of medical practitioners who swore an oath to do that which is of benefit to another human and to do no harm.

Of course, the Church rightly looks to modern abilities in helping those who are sick and suffering from pain with ever-increasing pain remedies which help to alleviate the suffering of those who have been in great physical pain. But back to those slopes. Originally, the Canadian government sought to offer help to those who were experiencing horrific pain and looked to offer a way out to them in extraordinary and exceptional cases, which is where those exceedingly slippery slopes come in. First, it will be only for a few and then for the many and then the 'any'. Right now the Canadian Government is leaning heavily toward making MAID available to minors and those suffering from mental health conditions. Many rightly perceive these moves to resemble the actions of the Nazi's and the way they dealt with those who had disabilities. Yet, even the Nazi's ceased many of these atrocities against humans when the public heard about them causing an outcry. Where is the outcry in Canada? Is this how we show how progressive we are? The slippery slope that brought about the mass killing of human children in the womb has shown once again what it is capable of doing at the other end of the spectrum at the end of life or at any stage of life.

What does the Catholic Church say about euthanasia? The Catechism of the Catholic Church states:

EUTHANASIA

2276 Those whose lives are diminished or weakened deserve special respect. Sick or handicapped persons should be helped to lead lives as normal as possible.

2277 Whatever its motives and means, direct euthanasia consists in putting an end to the lives of handicapped, sick, or dying persons. It is morally unacceptable.

Thus an act or omission which, of itself or by intention, causes death in order to eliminate suffering constitutes a murder gravely contrary to the dignity of the human person and to the respect due to the living God, his Creator. The error of judgment into which one can fall in good faith does not change the nature of this murderous act, which must always be forbidden and excluded.

2278 Discontinuing medical procedures that are burdensome, dangerous, extraordinary, or disproportionate to the expected outcome can be legitimate; it is the refusal of "over-zealous" treatment. Here one does not will to cause death; one's inability to impede it is merely accepted. The decisions should be made by the patient if he is competent and able or, if not, by those legally entitled to act for the patient, whose reasonable will and legitimate interests must always be respected.

2279 Even if death is thought imminent, the ordinary care owed to a sick person cannot be legitimately interrupted. The use of painkillers to alleviate the sufferings of the dying, even at the risk of shortening their days, can be morally in conformity with human dignity if death is not willed as either an end or a means, but only foreseen and tolerated as inevitable Palliative care is a special form of disinterested charity. As such it should be encouraged.

Catholics must be aware of this moral issue. (Fr. Charles)



SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Tuesday Feb 7	
8:30am	+Hanna Murray Requested by Ken Wright
Wednesday Feb 8	
7:00pm	Intentions of the Lassak Family
Thursday Feb 9	
8:30am	+Audrey Jarvis Requested by Genevieve Carson & Family
Friday Feb 10	
7:30am	Holy Hour
8:30am	Special Intentions
Saturday Feb 11	
4:30pm	Intentions of Mary Scanlon Requested by John & Family
Sunday Feb 12	
9:00am	For the People
11:00am	+Denis Fonseka Requested by Marie Fonseka & Family

Our Sanctuary Lamp Burns
In Memory of Paul Van Boxmeer
From Feb 5 to Feb 11, 23



Please Pray for the Sick

Chelsea Cando, Dorothy Dynes, Margot Brandreth, Ken Buchan, Jean Ferguson, Rose Flanagan, Fred Coulson, Andrew Vella, Gwen Collard, Janine Wright, Fr. Peter Conlin, Emilie Gosselin, Mark Zaltar

Pray for those who have died recently

Anne Mastrovita

OFFERTORY

Jan 29th, 2023 \$3630.00 (Inc PAG)



SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a second collection this weekend for our Building and Maintenance. February 4th and 5th, 2023.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 21, between 5 and 7 pm. In order for the Knights to prepare food and sufficient helpers we ask you to sign up for the supper, including the number from your family, on the sheets the Knights have provided at the exits of the church today after Mass. The Knights are offering this supper at no cost to all parishioners. The traditional menu consists of pancakes, sausage and hash browns with coffee, tea, and juice. We hope you can join your fellow parishioners in this mini feast before the great fast of Lent.

CWL



The CWL is collecting prayers for Spiritual Bouquets for the Ordinandi of the Archdiocese of Toronto for 2023. A spiritual bouquet is a collection of all the Rosaries, Stations of the Cross, Eucharistic Adorations, Visits to The Blessed Sacrament, Sacrifices, Prayers, Communion, Masses or other types of prayers that anyone would like to offer up. Tables will be set up in the parish hall after all the masses on the weekends of Feb. 4th and Feb. 11th for your submissions. You can also email carolhjohns@gmail.com with your prayers. The cut-off date for submissions is Feb. 23, 2023. Thank you in advance.

LEGACY GIFTS

If you have included your parish or favourite archdiocesan charity in your Will or estate plan, please let us know. Through the Legacy Society of the Archdiocese of Toronto, we would like to say a special thank you. All Legacy Society members are invited to the Annual Legacy Society Lunch & Mass by the Archdiocese of Toronto. They also receive:

- A hand-crafted cross blessed by His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins.
- A personal letter from Cardinal Collins and a certificate acknowledging your intention.
- Invitations to Legacy Society functions and other special events. Let your legacy be a testament of your faith! All Legacy Society members have the option of remaining anonymous. If you have any questions, please contact the Development Office at development@archtoronto.org or 416 934 3400 ext. 519.

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Toni Blanchard
 M.Sc.A., SLP(C), Reg. CASLPO
 Speech-Language Pathologist

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