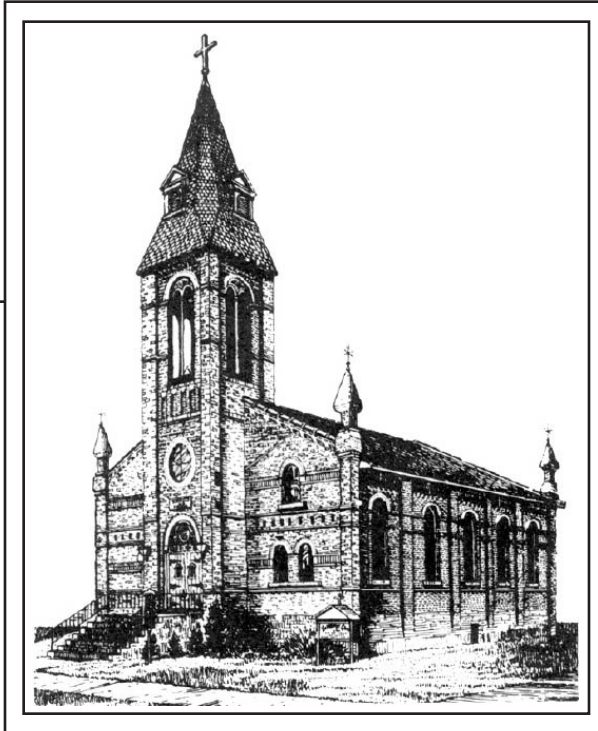


# ST. MARY'S CHURCH

63 Elgin Street  
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Tel: 705-445-1790  
Fax: 705-445-9659  
Email: [stmarysco@archtoronto.org](mailto:stmarysco@archtoronto.org)  
Web: [stmarysco.archtoronto.org](http://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](mailto: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 School . . . . .705-445-2043  
Notre Dame de la Huronie . . . .705-444-1764

**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](http://collingwoodknightsforcolumbus.org)

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

## THE BODY AND BLOOD OF JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST



There is nothing about a small, beige wafer with a cross in the center that should make us even look at it much less consume it. Thin and rather tasteless, it may be hard enough to understand that it is bread at all and difficult to imagine that this could even possibly fill us. It appears small and insignificant in the role of food and certainly not worthy of any bother or attention.

Three weeks ago, on Wednesday, February 8, at the University of Asbury, in Wilmore, Kentucky, a Christian university, a truly extraordinary spiritual event took place, organized by the Holy Spirit. Professor of Theology at Asbury Seminary, Tom McCall, in writing about what took place said:

*"Most Wednesday mornings at Asbury University are like any other. A few minutes before 10, students begin to gather in Hughes Auditorium for chapel. Students are required to attend a certain number of chapels each semester, so they tend to show up as a matter of routine.*

*But this past Wednesday was different. After the benediction, the gospel choir began to sing a final chorus—and then something began to happen that defies easy description. Students did not leave. They were struck by what seemed to be a quiet but powerful sense of transcendence, and they did not want to go. They stayed and continued to worship."*

Well, the worship lasted not hours but days... up until Thursday, February 23 when the University ended this spontaneous revival.

What began as a normal gathering for Christian prayer saw the auditorium packed with 1,500 people by the evening of the following day. The revival was brought to a close thirteen days later because the small town of Wilmore was inundated with people and traffic jams and students from other universities. And the event has since been started at other campuses and universities as well.

Now imagine. The 11am Sunday morning Mass begins as usual at St. Mary's Catholic church in Collingwood, Ontario. The same parishioners have gathered as they do each Sunday, with visitors to the area sprinkled amongst them. At the end of the Mass, following Communion and the return of the remaining Hosts to the Tabernacle by the priest, he gives the final blessing with the words, "Go in peace, proclaiming the Lord by your lives", to which the congregation routinely says, "Thanks be to God". But instead of the closing hymn and the filing out of the church by the people, they remain standing in their pews, some kneeling, some sitting as a strange but beautiful silence fills the holy building. People for some reason don't want to leave, or buy tickets after Mass or exchange the lovely banter that ensues between friends and fellow parishioners every week. They somehow, individually yet collectively, want to stay and worship

the One they have just received. Their minds aren't thinking that their hour in church is up and they can go but, somehow, they are moved, compelled from within, to stay and to be with Jesus!

Now this may seem as a fantasy amidst good theology that says we should leave the church to "love and serve the Lord", right? But think for a moment what we Catholics actually profess about the Mass and the Eucharist. In fact, it is beyond and more than the beautiful movement of the Holy Spirit among people gathered in prayer as appears to have happened in Asbury University. Jesus physically comes to us in the great, tremendous yet ever-so-humble wafer that IS HIS BODY, BLOOD, SOUL AND DIVINITY! It is Jesus Himself that we receive and have done since He uttered those strange words to his Apostles at the Passover meal the night before we killed Him! "This is my body. This is my blood. Do this in memory of Me".

Each week we have a Holy Hour where I, as a priest, approach the Tabernacle before a small handful of kneeling parishioners, and take from it a small 'luna', a moon-shaped vessel which holds Jesus, our Eucharistic Lord, and place it in the monstrance at the altar so that the people gathered can look at and see JESUS! Under the 'appearance' of a small, flat wafer of bread, is none other than the sovereign God of the Universe, God in the Flesh... "for my flesh is real food and my blood is true drink". (John 6:55) We look at Jesus for an hour, in reparation for that 'hour' when three of His own Apostles; Peter, James and John, could not stay awake one hour with Jesus in his agony in the garden of Gethsemane.

As Catholics, in many ways we have fallen asleep before Our Lord who is with us. Many, it would seem, don't know that He is truly here on earth in the Tabernacle's of the world and in those who come to Mass, not for a ritual or a mere religious get-together, but for Jesus Himself who literally feeds our bodies and lives with His Body and His Life in us when we receive Him in Holy Communion. I so often think about the many First Communions I've presided at over the years as a priest, where sadly the majority of the innocent children who prepared for and celebrated their First Holy Communion were never brought back to church for a second Holy Communion.

We need a Eucharistic revival in the Catholic Church and in our parishes, schools and in every Catholic institution for we seem to have lost a sense of what we have held to be true for two millennia since Christ Himself instituted this mystery and gift. Either we take the Sixth chapter of John's Gospel as we have for twenty centuries or as "real" food as Jesus said and revealed or we do what those sad, lost souls did in the sixty-sixth verse did when Jesus had revealed this mystery to them – "they walked with Him no longer".

Sir Arthur Andcock's poem, The Divine Tragedy, expresses the shock of those who hold belief in something and what should happen if it should suddenly be revealed to us.

**A blithe infant, lapt in careless joy,  
sports with a woollen lion.  
If the toy should come to life, the child so direly crost,**

faced with this actuality we're lost...  
Leave us our toys, then; happier we shall stay  
while they remain but toys, and we can play  
with them and do with them as suits us best.  
Reality would add to our unrest...

We want no living Christ, whose Truth intense  
pretends to no belief in our pretense,  
and flashing on all folly and deceit,  
would blast our world to ashes at our feet...

We want no more of Him here below than is displayed  
in the dead plaything our own hands have made;  
to lull our fears and comfort us in loss:  
a wooden Christ upon a wooden cross.



- Tuesday Mar 7  
8:30am Intentions of the MacRae Family  
Requested by Filo MacRae
- Wednesday Mar 8  
7:00pm Unannounced Mass
- Thursday Mar 9  
7:30am Holy Hour  
8:30am Unannounced Mass
- Friday Mar 10  
6:30pm Stations of the Cross  
7:00pm For Love & Peace in our Family
- Saturday Mar 11  
4:30pm +Jim Fulton  
Requested by Mary & John Scanlon
- Sunday Mar 12  
9:00am Thanksgiving Mass for Maria  
11:00am For the People

Our Sanctuary Lamp Burns  
For the Parishioners of St. Mary's  
From Mar 5 to Mar 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*

Maria Amparo Lat

OFFERTORY

Feb 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 \$3395.00 (Inc PAG)



**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent  
March 5, 2023**



**Live the Gospel by supporting ShareLife**

Our Parishes first ShareLife Sunday Collection is the weekend  
of March 26. Our parish goal for this year's campaign is  
\$43,000.00

More than 40 Catholic organizations and social service  
agencies are supported through your generosity. Without your  
contributions, more than 150,000 people would not receive the  
hope offered through the vital work of these agencies.

Today's second reading calls us to a holy life, not according to  
our works, but according to God's own design and the grace  
bestowed on us. Our annual ShareLife campaign calls us to  
live according to God's will and show our love to our brothers  
and sisters in this season of almsgiving.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online  
through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate).

CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES

Is pleased to present HOLD ME TIGHT. The Hold Me Tight  
group guides couples through seven essential conversations  
for creating a strong and securely bonded relationship.

**Date & Time:**

The virtual Hold Me Tight group runs on Tuesdays from 6pm-  
8pm for six weeks starting March 28.

**To Register:**

Email [communitydev@cfssc.ca](mailto:communitydev@cfssc.ca) or call 705 726 2503.

Space is limited, so please register soon to avoid  
disappointment.

For more information contact

Amanda Fellows Manager, Community Programs

**Catholic Family Services of Simcoe County**

t. (705) 726.2503 ext 113.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

Don't forget the clock's spring forward  
next weekend. March 12<sup>th</sup>.



CHURCH BULLETIN ADVERTISING.

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the advertisements for  
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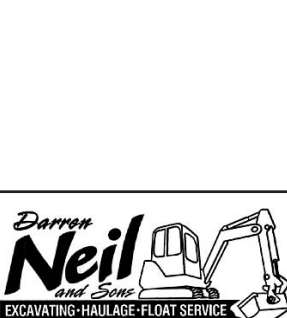

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