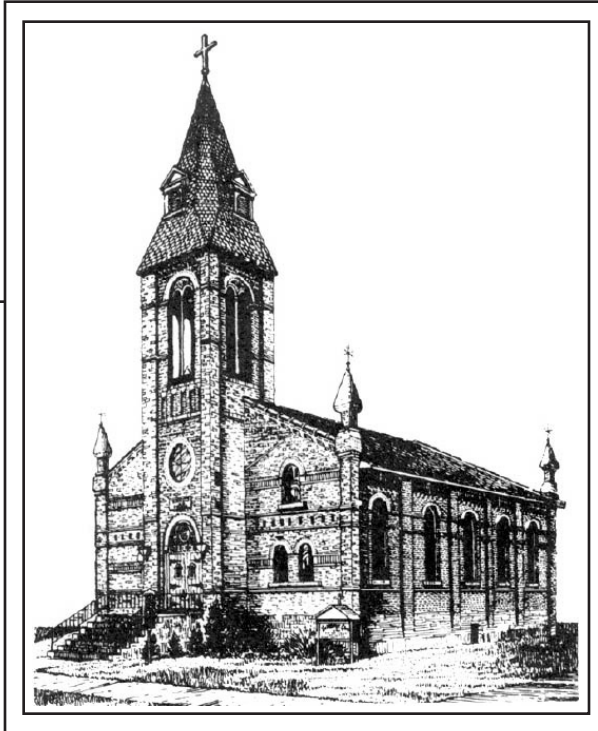


# ST. MARY'S CHURCH

63 Elgin Street  
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Fax: 705-445-9659  
Email: [stmarysco@archtoronto.org](mailto:stmarysco@archtoronto.org)  
Web: [stmarysco.archtoronto.org](http://stmarysco.archtoronto.org)



**Every Friday:**  
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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](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: [gk5793@ontariokofc.ca](mailto:gk5793@ontariokofc.ca)  
Financial Secretary: [fs5793@ontariokofc.ca](mailto:fs5793@ontariokofc.ca)  
[collingwoodknightsforcolumbus.org](http://collingwoodknightsforcolumbus.org) \*(currently exists)

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

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

### LIVING LENT TO THE FULLEST

*by Klewicki, Ph.D. (Feb. 24, 2023)*

Lent this year comes at the end of a long winter. The gray skies and lack of sunshine can be taxing on our spiritual and psychological health, and we may not feel motivated to enter into this holy season. But Lent can be forty days of opportunity for growth and renewal, a time to focus on God and his Son's sacrifice. Your spiritual and psychological states can blossom back to health during Lent to usher in the spring with your heart and mind prepared for God.

Winter can seem so disheartening that I often pray for an early spring in order to enjoy my favorite flowers, tulips, before Lent begins. In my family it has become a tradition during Lent to practice a "tulip fast" and not display fresh flowers in order to contrast the Easter season that we fill with fresh bouquets. When I get to enjoy early blooming tulips before I clear my Lenten table, I feel that summer and a lightness of heart is right around the corner. When the winter lasts a little longer or Lent arrives earlier in the year and I don't get to enjoy the early blooms, I can still feel the winter begin to recede because the "tulip fast" reminds me of what is important in my life. The tulips are beautiful and missed during Lent, and that absence reminds me to appreciate the presence of God's beautiful love, which isn't affected by the coming and going of the seasons. I am reminded to use Lent as an opportunity to grow in my love for God.

#### How can we grow in our love of God?

Jesus' human form on the cross is a powerful image, and it's a perfect point of focus for the Lenten season. As we prepare to witness and appreciate Jesus' sacrifice for us, we can visualize the beams that comprise the cross. The vertical beam of the cross reminds us of our relationship with God. This beam is necessary to uphold the cross. It is embedded in the earth while reaching for heaven. God supports us throughout our time on the earth and gives us the grace to reach heaven.

Our relationship with God affects every other relationship in our lives. How we treat others can demonstrate our level of focus on and love for God. "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40). The horizontal beam of the cross reminds us of our relationships with others. This beam stabilizes the cross and reaches out into the world, just as our human relationships can stabilize us on earth and encourage us to spread God's love throughout the world. Our relationships with others can give us an understanding of God that we might not experience otherwise. Relationships present Christ to our world in a special way that allows us to see Christ in others and have others see Christ in us.

#### How to celebrate Lent

For some, the Lenten season can become filled with overly scrupulous goals. We don't need to change everything about our relationship with God in forty days. Focusing on prayer and fasting to such an extent that you forget the purpose of the act can become a roadblock to your spiritual goals. Lent is a time to

focus on Christ and his sacrifice, to focus on his phenomenal love for us, and to focus on uniting ourselves with Christ more deeply. "Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love undying" (Ephesians 6:24).

Finding a balanced way of strengthening your relationship with Christ this Lent is important. What one prayer would you like to add, renew, or deepen this Lent? What one fasting practice would you like to engage in for the forty days of Lent? Your relationship with Christ can deepen greatly with a stronger spiritual focus on one prayer practice and one fasting practice throughout Lent, rather than several prayers and fasts that contain no spiritual depth. Remember that quality is more important and more effective than quantity when developing and deepening relationships.

#### Improve your relationship with others

Lent is a time to work on personal spiritual growth, but it's also a time to ensure that your spiritual growth is bearing fruit. "What does it profit, my brethren, if a man says he has faith but has not works? Can his faith save him? If a brother or sister is ill-clad and in lack of daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what does it profit? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead" (James 2:14-17).

Some people fall into the trap of thinking, "I don't need to get involved because someone else will do it," but this kind of thinking takes away our opportunity to grow in relationships with others. Love and charity stabilize our relationship with God and manifest God's love on earth in ways that bring the hope of Christ to the hopeless. What one way can you reach out to others this Lent? Your relationship with others can be strengthened by really focusing on your family when they ask for your attention or by collecting food from the neighborhood for the nearest food bank. Even the simplest acts of love and charity will strengthen our worldly and heavenly relationships, reflect Christ's love, and bring him glory.

The more deeply you are able to live your Lenten commitments, the more quickly your winter doldrums will lift to expose a renewal and strengthening of spirit, love, and relationships. With a focus on a deepened relationship with God and a deepened relationship with others, the Easter season ushers in our hearts a beauty that is reflected in the spring around us. Every year at the end of Lent, my husband goes on a quest for the last tulips of the season to decorate our Easter table. The arrival of these beautiful flowers reminds me that what is truly beautiful is the God who provided them.

#### JUST FOR A LAUGH

Husband: I want you to have this bracelet. It belonged to my Grandmother.

Wife: Why does it say, "Do Not Resuscitate"?

A woman said to her co-worker: "I saw a moose on the way to work this morning."

Co-worker: "How do you know he was on his way to work?"

MARCH 12, 2023



3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent  
March 12, 2023



**Live the Gospel by helping our vulnerable brothers and sisters**

Tuesday Mar 14  
8:30am +Jim Booth  
Requested by Ken Wright

Wednesday Mar 15  
7:00pm +Dick Doughty  
Knights of Columbus Fr. Lally Council 5793

Thursday Mar 16  
7:30am Holy Hour  
8:30am +Jane Wright  
Requested by Ken Wright

Friday Mar 17  
6:30pm Stations of the Cross  
7:00pm Love & Healing Intentions Luke & Andrew  
Requested by Mom

Saturday Mar 18  
4:30pm +Elisabetta & Severino Ciriani  
Requested by Sandra Price

Sunday Mar 19  
9:00am +Anne Van Boxmeer  
Requested by Mary Thompson

11:00am For the People

ShareLife Sunday is March 26 and we once again ask you to give generously to support Catholic agencies, who in turn care for the most vulnerable in our communities. Many in our communities are in need of our help and assistance. Their problems are many, ranging from mental illness, to poverty, addiction and isolation. They turn to ShareLife agencies for support.

As a parish, this is our opportunity to live the Gospel!

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

### **Mass of Celebration to Welcome Archbishop Francis (Frank) Leo**

The installation of Bishop Francis (Frank) Leo as Archbishop of Toronto will take place on Saturday, March 25, 2023 at 10 a.m. Given capacity restrictions at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica, this will be an invitation-only event.

The Mass of Installation will be livestreamed through [www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live](http://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live) and broadcast on Salt & Light Catholic TV and through their website: [www.slmedia.org](http://www.slmedia.org). Parishioners are invited to attend a regional Mass of Welcome taking place in the (Northern Region) on Monday April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at St. Mary's Parish in Barrie at 7:00pm. A reception will follow Mass in the parish hall. All are welcome. Please continue to keep Archbishop Leo in your prayers as he begins his ministry as our Shepherd.

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, Emilie Gosselin., Mark Zaltar

### *Pray for those who have died recently*

Dick Doughty

### OFFERTORY

March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 \$3883.00 (Inc PAG)



### 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

### Securities as a Charitable Gift Option

One of the most financially sound ways to support the Archdiocese of Toronto is with the gift of securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds). When you donate stocks, mutual funds and other securities to a registered charity, you pay no capital gains tax and receive a tax receipt for the full amount of the gift. It means a great tax break for you and support of your Parish and various archdiocesan charities such as ShareLife, St. Augustine's Seminary, The Shepherds' Trust, and many others. For further information, contact the development office at 416-934-3400 Ext. 519 or email to [development@archtoronto.org](mailto:development@archtoronto.org).



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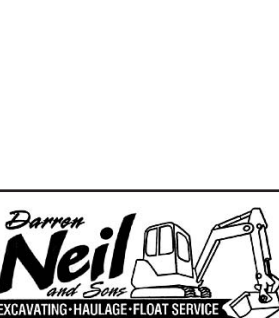

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 391 First St, Suite 201-7  
 705.441.6691  
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 CINDY LEWIS, B.Sc., D. Ch.  
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