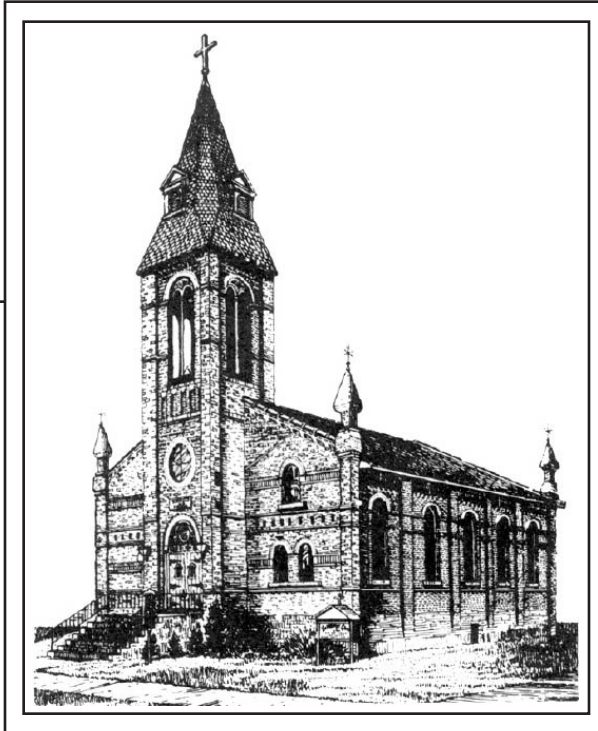


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Fax: 705-445-9659
Email: stmarysco@archtoronto.org
Web: stmarysco.archtoronto.org



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: gk5793@ontariokofc.ca
Financial Secretary: fs5793@ontariokofc.ca
collingwoodknightsforcolumbus.org *(currently exists)

The Knights of Columbus 4th Degree

Faithful Navigator: Domenic Sanfilippo
705-445 7615

A SMALLER CHURCH

In a 1969 radio broadcast, then theologian Bishop Joseph Ratzinger, who would later become Pope Benedict XVI, reflected on what the Church's future would possibly become. Looking back from the vantage point of 2023, we can most certainly see his words fulfilled, though not necessarily in a blatantly obvious way. Perhaps, as we heard in the words of the first reading from last Sunday on the Fourth Sunday of Lent, it is what God sees of us now as the Church that has been battered back and forth from the storms of the moral chaos of the "woke" times in which we live. We heard from the First Book of Samuel,

"For the Lord does not see as the human sees; the human looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart". (1 Sam. 16:7b)

God sees the heart of the Church and the loves and loyalties of it, though most certainly also the indifference of the Body of Christ that has one foot in the Church and one in the world.

Then, Fr. Ratzinger said:

"From the crisis of today the Church of tomorrow will emerge — a Church that has lost much. She will become small and will have to start afresh more or less from the beginning ... As the number of her adherents diminishes, so it will lose many of her social privileges. In contrast to an earlier age, it will be seen much more as a voluntary society, entered only by free decision. As a small society, it will make much bigger demands on the initiative of her individual members."

He added: "But in all of the changes at which one might guess, the Church will find her essence afresh and with full conviction in that which was always at her center: faith in the triune God, in Jesus Christ, the Son of God made man, in the presence of the Spirit until the end of the world. ... The Church will be a more spiritual Church, not presuming upon a political mandate, flirting as little with the Left as with the Right."

"It will be hard going for the Church, for the process of crystallization and clarification will cost her much valuable energy. It will make her poor and cause her to become the Church of the meek. The process will be all the more arduous, for sectarian narrow-mindedness as well as pompous self-will will have to be shed."

Let's unpack this reflection statement a bit. He said that we would be a "Church that has lost much". In my own lifetime I have witnessed the loss of so much of the voice of the Church as priests and religious Sisters left their collars and habits and returned to the world or remained but adapted new ideas and forms of spirituality that may have been progressive but not often faithful to the teaching of Christ, which has historically and traditionally been one in the same with the ancient teaching of the Church. He went on to say that "we would become small". In this I interpret that the size of the Church cannot be measured in how many on the earth right now have been baptized, for that would be many. No, I think it refers to the number of more authentic adherents to the teachings and principles of Catholic faith. Many, in our time, would identify themselves by the name Catholic but not deem it necessary to worship God in a church each Sunday, ("her adherents diminish) though in reality to go to

Mass is to respond to the clear and Third Commandment of the Lord to "Keep holy the sabbath day". The centrality and spiritual importance of the Eucharist has been greatly diminished today as the vast majority of Catholics don't see the need to receive it and, therefore, don't believe that it is truly the body, blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Himself. This reality in itself is a tremendous sign of the losing of that which is primary and pure gift. This is how then Fr. Ratzinger's words, even at a time when he was considered progressive in the Church, have been prophetic over the decades as he himself became more conservative by what he saw happening all around him. The Church has, as he had predicted, "lost many of her social privileges". I would view this as the Church's voice in the world itself where the Church herself, often enough through the public sin of both clergy and laity, have been told by secular leaders and people, "we don't want to hear what you have to say", which is effectively saying "we don't want to hear what you have to teach", which is the deposit of faith itself!

Joseph Ratzinger's saw that the future of the Church most certainly in our own time would be a difficult one where its faithful adherents would be called all the more to be close and faithful to Christ Himself in a spiritual culture of 'the woke' no longer comfortable or even tolerant of the diminished voice of Holy Mother Church. We have seen this in the neglect and even abhorrence of the Church's teaching on the issues of life itself through a widespread hunger for even more abortion. As exorcist, Fr. Dan Rehill said in a recent interview, every day on the planet right now, about 400,000 people die — and more than half of them die in the womb. We live in a time when so-called 'Catholic politicians' call for even more abortion as they add to this gut-wrenching pile of death those who at the end of their life, take it of their own accord for not only the reasons of serious illness but depression, loneliness and even, as we've seen in Canada, because they couldn't afford to buy food or pay their rent.

So, where's the hope, we might ask? Fr. Ratzinger's words also address this in the great knowledge and hope of God's faithfulness to us. It's obviously found in the Word of God and the timeless teaching of the Apostles, the Early Church Fathers, and the great Doctors of the Church, standing on the prophets and wisdom long before us. We know how this ends. It ends in the triumph of Christ and the triumph of the Church when the Church will enter into and experience a new era of peace. (Here, one should dismiss the non-Catholic teaching of rapture and the end of the world. It's not biblical.) The same Fr. Ratzinger who became the 265th Roman Pontiff of the Catholic Church as Pope Benedict XVI saw a return of the Church to being "centered" again on the core teachings of Christ given to her to, as we do this Lent, come back to the center of all things which is Christ.

This is why I so boldly preach that 'climate change' is a distraction from that which is most important, the individual eternal soul that needs to be saved, must be saved for the tomorrow of all eternity in life with God as we've never even imagined or dreamt of it. To bask before the beautiful face of Jesus, forever! (*Fr. Charles*)



| | |
|------------------|--|
| Tuesday Mar 28 | |
| 8:30am | +Jill Wright Requested by Ken Wright |
| Wednesday Mar 29 | |
| 7:00pm | No Intention |
| Thursday Mar 30 | |
| 7:30am | Holy Hour |
| 8:30am | +Jane Wright Requested by Ken Wright |
| Friday Mar 31 | |
| 6:30pm | Stations of the Cross |
| 7:00pm | Gratitude and God's Protection to support my Team |
| Saturday April 1 | |
| 4:30pm | +Patricia Zimmerman Requested by the Hickey & Martin Families |
| Sunday April 2 | |
| 9:00am | For the People |
| 11:00am | +Dick Grimm Requested by Yvonne Grimm |

5th SUNDAY OF LENT
March 26, 2023



This weekend is ShareLife Sunday

ShareLife Sunday marks the first collection for our parish's annual campaign. In the words of Cardinal Collins: "Vulnerable members of our community are relying on you and me to ensure ongoing access to the care they so desperately need. This is why it's crucial we meet our parish campaign goal. Our goal can be met, but only if we each do our part."

The ShareLife mission of "living the Gospel by providing for those in need" is at the core of how we are called to live our lives as Christians.

Our parish goal this year is \$43,000.00. So far, we have raised \$3563.00. I am confident that we can reach and possibly surpass this goal and help as much individuals and families we can in our community and around the world.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

INSTALLATION OF BISHOP FRANCIS LEO

The installation of Bishop Francis Leo as Archbishop of Toronto will take place on Saturday, March 25, 2023 at 10 a.m. at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica. The Mass of Installation will be livestreamed through www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live and broadcast on Salt & Light Catholic TV and through their website: <http://www.slmedia.org/live>. Parishioners are invited to attend a regional Mass of Welcome taking place in the Northern Region on April 17th at 7:00pm at St. Mary's in Barrie. 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
In Memory of Alice Brine**
From Mar 26 to April 1, 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 Zalter

Pray for those who have died recently

José Da Costa Amaral, Richard Garnett

OFFERTORY

March 19th, 2023 \$4124.00 (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.

PONTIFICAL COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND

The Good Friday Collection is requested by the Holy See to help maintain the Church's holy places in the Holy Land, so important to the faith of Christians everywhere, and to support the faithful who struggle to survive under political and economic oppression and persecution.

This Pontifical Collection will be taken during the Good Friday celebration on April 7 2023. Those who are unable to attend the service, or who prefer to contribute online may do so by Interact e-transfer to CanadaHelps by visiting www.commissariat.ca/supporting-us

CWL

The CWL have rescheduled their luncheon to March 28th at 12 noon. All ladies of the Parish are invited.



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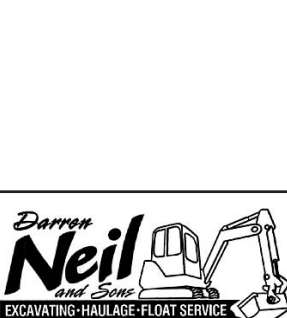

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