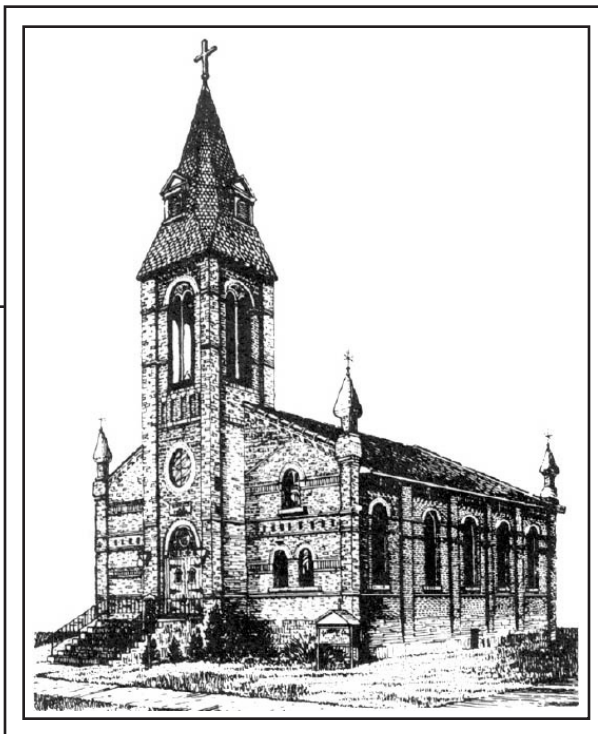


ST. MARY'S CHURCH

63 Elgin Street
Collingwood, ON L9Y 3L6
Tel: 705-445-1790
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

St. Mary's Cemetery
401 Raglan St
Business Office: 63 Elgin St
705-445-1790 Ext 2

**The Society of
St. Vincent de Paul**
President:
Michael Quinn
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 Tuesday 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

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

THE MOST IMPORTANT QUESTION

The well-known American evangelist, Billy Graham, whose crusades and preaching touched the lives of so many in the 20th century, used to ask a question of those gathered at his rallies. To all those who were perhaps hearing about Jesus for the first time or the many who were moved to either give or rededicate their lives to Him, he would pose the eight-word question:

“If you died tonight, where would you go?”

This, I believe, is the most important question that could be asked of any of us regardless of whether we are believers or not because it should give us all great pause to think about the fact that when all is said and done, where will it land us? As Archbishop Fulton J Sheen once wrote, “In the presence of Divinity, no one can be sure of their innocence”.

There are so many dismissive and unoriginal slogans and defenses that people have come up with which end up getting passed around and, in so many ways, avoids Rev. Graham’s question. Things like, “I’m not religious, I’m spiritual”, or, “I don’t think I need to go to church because what’s important is that you’re a good person”. These are but two of the many examples among so many convenient responses to one’s idea of religion, faith and God. And there can be such a wide chasm between what we believe God wants of us in this life and the ultimate end after death. As Catholics, we think about the *Four Last Things*, of which everyone receives three: Death, Judgment, Heaven or Hell, as well as purgatory which means heaven is still the destination but not yet. Everybody dies and experiences the death of the body. Whether they believed in God or not, all will experience the judgment of God which is based on Christ’s full knowledge of us, not so much of what we held as our personal belief in this life as to what we did with this life we were given. judgement, based on Jesus’ clear explanation of His separating the ‘sheep from the goats’, is dependent on whether we fed or gave drink to the poor, visited the sick and prisoners or clothed the naked. Whether we did this to anyone, no matter how small or unnoticeable we might think they are – we did it to Jesus Himself. And this is a gamechanger for us because we will start to see all people as equal in the dignity and respect we owe to them. We might not like some of them for whatever reason or how they present themselves to us, but they are Jesus.

But back to the question, “Where would you go?” It seems that if anyone could answer that question quickly, without really thinking about it they would be an atheist, an agnostic or someone who doesn’t care for the question. I think that people of faith would still pause, realizing that a quick answer speaks to our personal readiness or not to meeting the Lord. Through repentance, prayer and confessing our mortal sins, we are well on the way to following Christ closely into the Kingdom He promised. Today, however, when we’ve lost a general sense of sin or perhaps don’t know what serious sin is, it is all the more reason to get our lives in order. Being “ready” shouldn’t be about a fear of God’s punishment only, as we say in the Act of Contrition; “and I detest all of my sins because I fear the loss of heaven and the pains of hell”, but then the prayer continues to

the heart of true repentance; “but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, who art all good and deserving of all my love.”

It is sobering for us to come to the knowledge that we actually want to go to heaven and want to do all of those things which Christ has made known to us so that we can realize in the fullness of time and through the mercy and love of God, forgiveness, perhaps purgatory and heaven. As Catholic Renewal Ministries speaker, Dr. Ralph Martin says, “We need to aim for heaven, not purgatory. If we just want to live as a ‘Good-enough Catholic’ and foolishly aim for purgatory, then we might miss. So, aim for heaven.” Christ does not desire that we live with uncertainty about being saved by Him and seeing heaven. We can know. Our redemption has been bought and paid for by the blood Jesus shed on the Cross of Calvary, but we need to in this life put our own name on it.

It’s the fatally foolish talk of our time that can lead people astray from the revealed truth of Christ. When people reduce Jesus to simply having the job description of being kind, compassionate, merciful, forgiving and full of love, shucks, we can be led into thinking we don’t have to change our lives or do anything in order to go to heaven at the end of them. Yet this is not what Christ has said. We choose. We have choices to make. In any dream or idea of heaven we are faced with things we must do, things we must change and things we must cease to do in order to redirect and reorient our trajectory toward the goal of heaven, which is life with Jesus. The secret is that Jesus has shown us and wants us to know and live in this life with him now. And once we have a soul-centered desire for Him we are well on the way of knowing where and to Whom we will go when we breathe our last; when we die. May it be in Christ. (*Fr. Charles*)

You Gotta Laugh...

Once, I went to a party with my husband, full of people he knew (from work) but I didn’t. A guy came up to us, turned to me and said, “You must be his wife.” I turned to my husband and said, “You have a WIFE?” You should have seen the guy’s face!

Waiting to see how long it takes for this police sketch artist to realize I’m describing him.

Saying, “have a nice day” to someone sounds friendly. But saying “enjoy your next 24 hours” sounds threatening.

Courage is knowing it might hurt, and doing it anyway. Stupidity is the same. And that’s why life is hard.

When you realize that 1970 and 2022 are as far apart as 1970 and 1918..... I’m just going to need a minute....

Did you know.... The last day of 2023 will be 123123?

The older you get the more you realize how precious life is. You have no desire for drama, conflict or stress. You just want good friends, a cozy home, food on the table, and people who make you happy.



MASS
SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Tuesday Sept 12 th	
7:00pm	Unannounced Mass
Wednesday Sept 13 th	
8:30am	+Bogdan Chodynski Requested by Gal & Jagielski Families
Thursday Sept 14 th	
8:30am	Unannounced Mass
Friday Sept 15 th	
7:30pm	Holy Hour
8:30am	For the Ordinandi
Saturday Sept 16 th	
3:30pm	Confessions
4:30pm	
	+Robert Sanelli Requested by Mary & John Scanlon
Sunday Sep 17 th	
9:00am	+Mary & Joseph Gal Requested by Gal & Jagielski Families
11:00am	
	For the People

Please Pray for the Sick

Chelsea Cando, Dorothy Dynes, Margot Brandreth, Ken Buchan, Jean Ferguson, Fred Coulson, Gwen Collard, Hilary Joseph

Pray for those who have died recently

Louis Vella, Mrs. Aliette Campbell

Our Sanctuary Lamp Burns
For the Parishioners of St. Mary's
From Sept 10th to Sept 16th, 2023



Regular Collection	\$3422.00 (inc PAG)
Building & Maint	\$1736.00



If so, please call the parish office at 705 445 1790, leave your name, and phone number. St. Mary's R.C.I.A. Program will begin soon. Those adults who have never been baptized or have been baptized but now wish to join the church are asked to call promptly so you may be included.

Celebration of the Solemnity of St. Michael & Conferral of the Pallium upon the Most Rev. Francis Leo Friday, September 29, 2023 – 5:30 p.m. St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica

The Archdiocese of Toronto celebrates the feast day of our archdiocesan patron, St. Michael, on Friday, September 29, 2023. All are welcome to join in a special celebration on that day at 5:30 p.m. at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond St.). Archbishop Francis Leo will celebrate Mass, with music from the world-renowned St. Michael's Choir School. As part of the celebration, the Apostolic Nuncio to Canada, the Most Rev. Ivan Jurkovič will confer the pallium on our archbishop, a symbol of his role as Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto and shepherd to the faithful. Following Mass, there will be an informal reception with light refreshments in the St. Michael's Cathedral atrium and courtyard. Seating will be first come, first served. All are welcome to join in this special celebration for our archdiocese and archbishop!

Life-Giving Wounds: A Healing Retreat for Adult Children of Divorced or Separated Parents

The Life-Giving Wounds retreat invites participants to move through the broken image of love that appeared to them in their parents' relationship to their deepest origin and identity as God's beloved, capable of great love. It will be led by the Life-Giving Wounds (www.lifegivingwounds.org) retreat team from Friday, September 29 at 7:00 p.m. to Sunday, October 1 at 3:30 p.m. at St. Francis Centre (208501 Highway 9, Caledon). Must be 18 or older to attend. Cost: \$300 per person (\$260 for students and those in consecrated life), which includes meals, lodging, and materials. If cost is of concern, please contact lgwtoronto@proton.me; limited subsidies are available. For university/college students, contact your campus minister for more information. Space is limited. To register, visit bit.ly/LGW-TO-Retreat2023.

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING

The Archdiocese of Toronto has established a Pre-Authorized Giving Plan (PAG) to assist you in your support of the work of the parish through your regular parish offerings. To accomplish the mission entrusted to us by Christ, the parishes depend entirely on the generosity of their parishioners. Pre-authorized giving allows you to give to your parish through scheduled monthly transfers from your bank account. These funds are then deposited directly to the parish account. There are various benefits of participating in pre-authorized giving, both for you and for your parish. Advantages for you:

- The convenience of having your offering automatically contributed to the parish.
- Knowing you continue to support the parish even when you are away
- Regular, dependable contributions to the parish.
- Reduction of cash on hand.
- Reduction of paperwork. For information on how to enroll, please contact your parish office.

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 CollingwoodSpeechTherapy.ca



Chiropodist/
 Foot Specialist
CINDY LEWIS AND ASSOCIATES
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