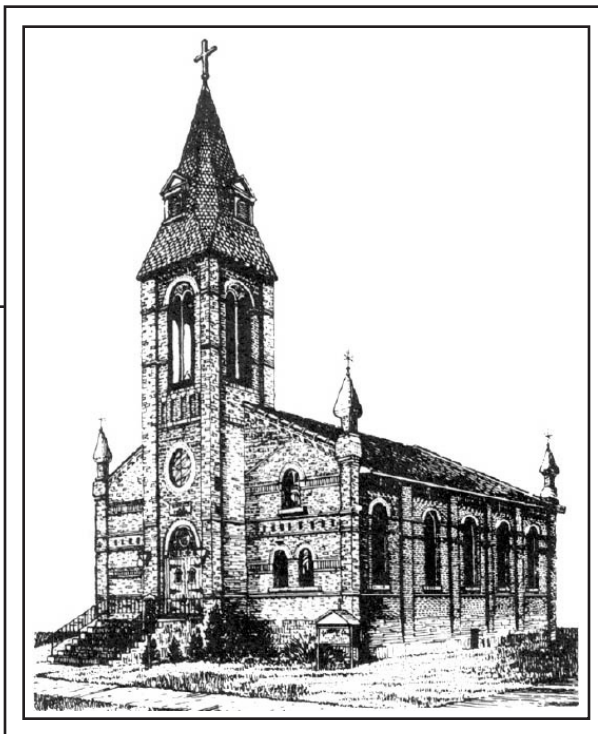


ST. MARY'S CHURCH

63 Elgin Street
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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

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 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30 a.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

DARK TIMES: A WARNING (Part 1)

A while back I wrote a bulletin article about truth where I posed that while we live in the ‘age of information’, there is so much that we hear, read and are told about that is false, yet is presented as truth just the same. Our times are so polarized by design as we are led to believe that racism, misogyny, bigotry, and most anything you can think of, are at staggering levels while in reality it is so much spin. I saw a great t-shirt that read: ‘Make 1984 fiction again’. In so many ways I believe we are seeing the unfolding of George Orwell’s book, 1984. Propaganda is common place in the modern media age as there is a slant on the news, catering to those who line their pockets. The oh-so-very-sudden hysteria over climate change finds us ready to throw away our cars, get rid of natural gas fireplaces, stoves and barbecues, and much, much more, all because we, since five minutes ago, have been ‘told’ that we’ve got to save the planet. Everywhere you look someone is pointing to the supposed signs of climate change and telling us we will have to get rid of meat consumption and eat bugs and a cacophony of other restrictions and changes they’re dead serious about.

In a 2019 documentary, put out by a leading subscription-based streaming service, a difficult to watch scene shows walruses that appear to be committing a kind of suicide as they plunge to their deaths from a rock height due to, as the famous voice narration explains, a lack of sea ice. Why? Climate change. What the documentary failed to show (and has since been exposed for) was the polar bears at the top of the rock height that forced the walruses to crowd each other to the rock edge and ultimately, to their deaths. A fake narrative is posed as yet another of the endless reasons we have to save the planet and change most everything in our lives to do it. We are left to ‘pick and choose’ what we believe and what we don’t, what we’re afraid of and that which we are not. And why would I as a priest be discussing such things in a parish bulletin? Simple. Because, as Catholics, we are to be a people who follow the One who IS TRUTH itself, as Jesus Himself had said and says to us still in the Living Word proclaimed each Sunday at Mass.

We have lived through the past almost four years witnessing what no generation before us has seen before in the Covid-19 pandemic. Though it started out as such, it wasn’t just a virus that was going around and the threat of unknown numbers of people who might die but, as we saw, it was about far more as it divided people and nations, brought out the best and the worst in citizens, ruined economies, and created much fear. And now we are left thinking, no matter how you view the world situation at present, what’s next?

But our salvation won’t come from a prime minister or a president, nor will it be found in some self-appointed world dictator or unelected bureaucrat or billionaire: it has and will only come from Jesus Christ who IS THE TRUTH.

In my former parish, I had hired a Polish-born woman who, with her husband, had two decades before, come to Canada to work for a major company. They came here for what was supposed to be a 2-year work assignment, only to fall in love with this country and its natural, expansive beauty, it’s freedom and good governance, its high standard of living and education, along with many other outstanding features and attractive assets that were calling them to make this great land their home. And so, they decided to stay and become Canadians. And this they did as they gave birth to children and raised their family, bought a house, worked hard, made many friends and became active members of the several Catholic parishes they lived in. They were proud, contributing, God-fearing Canadians. Their two

boys had become active in the Polish Scouts in Canada, altar servers, lectors and members in parish youth ministry. Their oldest boy was a competitive swimmer and among the top in the sport in Ontario for his age group. This woman was gifted and able to manage or organize anything she put her mind to. She, along with her family, were widely known, respected and loved in many circles.

But in September of 2022, after selling their house and cottage, they packed up their lives and their children, and they left Canada and, like so many others I have known, including here in Collingwood, moved back to Poland at a time when even its neighbouring country was at war. Why? Because having lived under communism before, they saw the signs of communism creeping in here and were amazed that Canadians couldn’t see it. And all of their Canadian friends who had come to know and love them were filled with grief as this faithful, hard-working, giving family, left Canada. And would they think for a moment that the government of Canada would care they left? No. In the 1940’s and 50’s, Bishop Fulton Sheen spoke out sharply against the ideology and evils of Communism, Fascism and godlessness at a time in American history when those things seemed to be threats of the past. But Sheen, in his prophetic wisdom, was speaking to the people into the future, to us living now, and is more of a warning voice to our times than he was in his own. In the March 16, 1936 New York Times, Sheen wrote: “Why can’t the modern mind see there is nothing new in communism? It is a groan of despair, not the revolution, that starts a new age. It is the logical development of civilization which for the last 400 years has been forgetting God”.

“Forgetting God” is putting it mildly as a recent Research Co. survey showed that 28% of Canadians polled favoured MAID as an option for the homeless, and the place with the highest deaths in the world through doctor-assisted suicide is now Quebec, Canada with a staggering 7% of all deaths being through MAID.

The high-jacked rainbow symbol appears everywhere, even in Catholic institutions, contrary to Catholic faith and the teaching of Jesus Christ, yet pride in our country and what it has always stood for is waning. In 1938, Bishop Sheen told a rally at Carnegie Hall that: “We were silent before when 2,000,000 kulaks met death and 60,000 churches were closed by an atheistic government in Russia; we were silent before when 20,000 churches and chapels were desecrated, burned and pillaged and when 6,000 diocesan clergy were murdered in Spain. ... Those who cannot pull God down from heaven are driving his creatures from the face of the earth.”

And as the Book of Ecclesiastes tells us, “There is nothing new under the sun” (*Ecc. 1:9*) because history repeats itself. They are, as Sheen had said, “old sins with new (progressive) labels”. He saw the Catholic Church as “a house built on the immutable rock with an abiding proprietor, Peter, who has a key that admits strangers. The reactionaries want the rock without the keys, the liberals want the keys without the rock; and we who believe in Christ, who gave both to Peter, want both.” Or we should.

I’m all for optimism but it must be rooted in both reality and truth. Things aren’t getting better and better nor do I personally think they will. Heaven has been warning us for the past 100-years and most emphatically in recent times that we have greatly offended God and must repent and return to Him. Yet, many, it would seem, don’t want God at all or certainly not the God of Jesus Christ who is demand, and calls us to repentance, conversion and life. So many godless voices clamor for our attention as they tell us that this is all ours, we’re ruining it and, therefore, we need to ruin our lives for its restoration. Everything, and most uniquely us, belong to God, who is Truth. (*FrC*)



| | |
|----------------|---|
| Tues Oct 17th | No Mass |
| Wed Oct 18th | No Mass |
| Thurs Oct 19th | No Mass |
| Fri Oct 20th | |
| 7:30pm | Holy Hour |
| 8:30am | +Theresa Rait Requested by Brenda & Dave, Judy & Francis Unannounced Mass |
| Sat Oct 21st | |
| 3:30pm | Confessions |
| 4:30pm | +Jane McMillan Requested by the St. Mary's CWL |
| Sun Oct 22nd | |
| 9:00am | For the People |
| 11:00am | Intentions of Kirsten Guerrero & Guerrero Family |

Please Pray for the Sick

Chelsea Cando, Dorothy Dynes, Margot Brandreth, Jean Ferguson, Fred Coulson, Gwen Collard, Hilary Joseph, Henry Niepalla, Selina Blais Hicks, Teresa & Feliks Kosierb.

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased

Ken Buchan

Our Sanctuary Lamp Burns
In Memory Of Antonio Amaral
From October 1st to October 28th 2023



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CHURCH BULLETIN ADVERTISING

Liturgical Publications will setting up the advertisements for our church bulletin. The advertising will begin in December 2023 and supports the bulletin service. Please support the bulletin and advertise your product or service. Call Liturgical Publications at 1 800 268 2637.

MISSALS

Missals are available for purchase in the little store at the back of the church, or from the parish office. The cost is \$7.00. Please put money in the box provided. Thank You.

MISSIONARY MONTH – OCTOBER 2023
WORLD MISSION SUNDAY: OCTOBER 22
Theme: “Hearts of Fire, Feet on the Move”
(CF. LK. 24:13-35)

Sunday, October 15, 2023

“He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast” (Mt 22:3)

There is a wealth of meaning carried by the imagery used in the readings of today. The end-time is depicted as a banquet, a time of great happiness. The power of that image was much evident to the people of Isaiah’s or Christ’s time, than it is in our own. The feast celebrated on the mountain in Isaiah, the wedding feast in the Gospels in a word, a meal done well, experienced rightly, all of that is life s God intended it to be, life done well, acted out rightly. Matthew’s story is so overlaid with symbols that it is easy to forget the central image of God as a gracious host who hopes that everyone welcome to his banquet. We hold precious the image of God who calls the good and the bad to the banquet of life. The invitation to the banquet that is given us is an invitation to nothing less than life itself, lie as God means it to be. And that, is done rightly, is s thing to celebrate.

FIRST RECONCILIATION/FIRST COMMUNION

St. Mary’s Parish will be holding Parent Information Meetings at the end of this month, October for information regarding the sacraments of both First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. We will offer two dates, please choose **one**.

Sunday October 29th @ 12:30pm in the Church

Wednesday November 1st @ 7:00pm in the Church.

Only those children who are already baptized in the Roman Catholic Church are eligible for the sacraments in the Roman Catholic Church

Please call the parish office for information

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

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