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

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

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

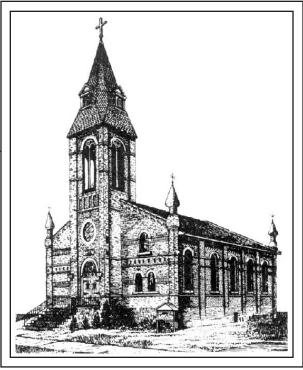
1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon

1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN THE PARISH

BAPTISMS: Please call the Parish Office.



Every Friday: HOLY HOUR

7:30 a.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul President:

Michael Quinn Tel: 705-444-0999 https://ssvpcollingwood.ca

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: Carol Johns email: info@collcwl.ca 647-241-4699

The Knights of Columbus 3rd Degree

Grand Knight: Richard Mittermeier email: gk5793@ontariokofc.ca Collingwoodknightsofcolumbus.org The Knights of Columbus 4th Degree

Faithful Navigator: Domenic Sanfilippo 705-445 7615 A few weeks ago, I placed an announcement in the parish bulletin asking whether any parishioners had topics of interest to them or questions they have about the Church, the sacraments, the Saints, Mary, etc. The first response I had was actually an article that was written about Holy Water, its power and its use, however, since it was a rather detailed clipping, I would have had to type the whole article myself. I've since received 2 additional questions and so I thought I would approach them both here.

Where Is St. Peter's Wife?

This is a great question and when we consider that Peter did in fact have a wife, a truth we know from the fact that Jesus cured Peter's mother-in-law. So, he had a wife. Yet when we hear those words of Peter and Andrew's call from Jesus to follow Him, with Peter's wife in mind, we also hear the words of the Gospel writer which says, "Immediately they left their nets and followed him". (Matt. 4:20) So, did Peter not even go home after work to tell his wife he wouldn't be back because he and Andrew had met a holy wanderer who invited them to be followers? No, of course not. Then what happened?

While the Church doesn't have a specific teaching about this it is generally believed that Mrs. Simon Peter died early on, making Peter a widower and, therefore, free to become an Apostle of Jesus, wherever that would take him. Whether we know for certain that she was alive during Jesus' public three-year ministry is not known from the scriptures themselves because she is never mentioned save for that one solitary instance of Jesus' cure of her mother. It is also true that two Early Church Fathers, Eusebius and Clement of Alexandria claimed that Peter's wife was martyred just before Peter was but, Eusebius got his source from Clement which means there is actually only one source for this idea. As well, no other Early Church Father mentions anything about Peter's wife during the ministry of Jesus, thus the tradition that she died before or during Jesus' three-year-ministry is generally accepted.

When Is War Just?

The second question I received was in regard to the reality of evil in the world, personified by Satan, the tempter and hater of men's souls – "the thief (who) comes only to steal and kill and destroy". (John 10:10) But what of those followers of Christ who show great goodness? The question then was, what does that mean to Satan? Do we turn the other cheek?

And finally, this question of evil became so evident to the parishioner who asked the question in light of the fact that they never thought they would live to see Canadians, and people around the world, calling for the death of Israel and that its people would be wiped out. This, of course, is in response to the Hamas terrorist attack on Israel on October 8, 2023 which claimed the lives of over 1,400 citizens.

Well, to the question of turning the other cheek, as Jesus said, we turn the other cheek to those who would strike us, standing our ground but not giving in to an evil response. But, we never turn the other cheek to Satan, the Devil and to evil. To do so is to cooperate with evil or to hold that the devil is worthy of love. He's not. Most of the nations of the earth believed that what happened to Israel was a great evil and that they were right to respond to this great attack. Yet so quickly sympathy and support waned for Israel as

movements, small but loud, began to rise up and not reason but scream their outrage toward Israel, blaming them for their own victimhood. And so it goes. There is nothing new under the sun.

Again, to the readers question, how can people freely, openly and unabashedly call for the death and eradication of the Jews? And how does this differ from Nazism's call for the death of the Jews? The motivation is hatred and hatred can seep into the bones and the heart of individuals and peoples where they will justify the death of a nation and peoples as good. The questioner, I believe, has a good point in being shocked that Canadians and Americans would not voice but scream their hatred of the Jews publicly and call for politicians and leaders to go against Israel.

Jesus, our Messiah, Lord and King was a Jew. He didn't become a Christian when He founded His Church – He is the very foundation of it, and remained a Jew. Christians are those who choose to follow Jesus. The Church is clear in its teaching about the Jews and how we stand on their shoulders as those who first received the gift of faith, a faith we share commonly in the one, true God. The scriptures never speak of an end to Judaism but that as God's chosen people they would one day see the Messiah. We believe and know that the Messiah has already come so we live with Him now as they continue to wait. To call for the deaths of all Jews, or even one Jew, or Muslim, or Buddhist or Hindu or Christian is not of God and does not come from God. For anyone of any religion to hold that God is on their side as they call for the death of a nation and people in the name of God, is evil. Yet God's forces can with a minority go against a great and mighty foe and defeat it, not on their own but as proof that God was with them and enabled them, with a small group, to win victory. We see this with Gideon who was instructed by God to put together an army to do battle with the massive forces of the Midianites. God sifted through the soldiers Gideon started with and kept whittling down their numbers until there was only an army of 300 men, who drank at the river in the fashion of dogs. And God basically said to Gideon, "There's your army and I will be with you." A minority, with God, can accomplish anything. And Gideons army gloriously and triumphantly defeated the Midianites, or, rather, God did.

There are times to fight and times not to fight. There are times to make peace and times to make war. And there are times to fight and defend yourself and times to acquiesce. One cannot make peace with another who not only doesn't want it but seeks to annihilate you at the first opportunity. Satan wants us all dead, no matter who we are or what side we are on or what evils we cooperate with. St. Thomas Aquinas said, war is justified (nation A wars justly against nation B) on the following conditions:

- A. It is called by a sovereign authority. B. It has a just cause.
- **C.** The combatants have morally **right intentions** (not vengeance or profit.
- **D.** Qualifying Conditions 1. **Cannot intend intrinsically evil actions.** 2. A good action, or at least a morally neutral action, will have two effects: a **good intended**, and AN EVIL, NOT intended, but **tolerated**. 3. **Proportionality**: the good to be achieved **outweighs the evil of war**. *(Fr. Charles)*



Tuesday Feb 6th

7:00pm +Claude Belcourt

Requested by the Cudney Family

Wednesday Feb 7th

8:30am

+Nadia Ann Clement

Requested by Marilyn Wihby

Unannounced Mass

Thursday Feb 8th

8:30am +Kevin & Christian Jaramillo

Requested by Jacqueline & Terry Wong

Friday Feb 9th

7:30am Holy Hour

8:30am Health Intentions Bart Grudzien

Requested by Mom

Unannounced Mass

Saturday Feb 10th

3:30pm Confessions

4:30pm +Jean Van Benthem

Requested by Nancy & Vince Massa

Sunday Feb 11th

9:00am +Anne Van Boxmeer

Requested by Ted & Shirley

11:00am For the People

Please Pray for the Sick

Dorothy Dynes, Margot Brandreth, Jean Ferguson, Fred Coulson, Hilary Joseph, Henry Niepalla, Teresa & Feliks Kosierb, Mary Little, Elizabeth Pavilsa, Kaz Watroba, Stan Faria

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased

Fr. Manfred Schmid, Sheryn Lepine, Antonia Lamers, Doug Gage, Fr. Noel Whelan, Deacon Brian Du Quesnay

Our Sanctuary Lamp Burns
For the Intentions of
Tina & Angelo Contursi & Family
From Feb 4th to March 2nd



Regular Collection Jan 28th \$4101.00 (Inc PAG)

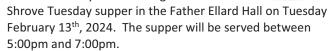


CHURCH BULLETIN ADVERTISING

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus Council 5793 here at St. Mary's are hosting a



In order for this to work, we will have sign-up sheets at either entrance to church this weekend and next. We need a name and the number of people, so we can prepare the proper amount of food. **The last day to sign up will be FEB 11th.** This will be a free will offering. We look forward to seeing you at this very popular event.

SPIRITUAL BOUQUETS FOR OUR ORDINANDI OF 2024

The CWL will be collecting prayers for the Ordinandi of 2024 in the Father Ellard Hall after all of the Masses the weekend of Feb 3rd and 4th.

The spiritual bouquet contains the collective commitment of spiritual prayers and devotions by members. They are **NOT** paid offerings.

Some people will offer each mass they attend for the next year. Some people will offer a daily prayer for them. Any and all combinations of prayer and devotions are accepted. Our Priests need your Prayers. If you cannot sign up in person, please go to collcwl.ca and submit your prayers there. Thank you.

SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a second collection this weekend for our Building and Maintenance.

SHARELIFE 2024

Your support for ShareLife brought the hands of Christ to those in need. Because of you, ShareLife agencies annually help more than 150,000 people.

• You eased the struggles of more than 13,000 people by providing over 45,000 mental health services;

SL ShareLife

- You offered quality care and companionship to over 2,800 vulnerable seniors;
- You invested in our Church's future by supporting 62 seminarians at St. Augustine's Seminary and Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary in the 2023-2024 academic year;
- You helped sponsor 708 refugees on their journey to safety and freedom in Canada;
- You extended a helping hand to over 1,600 young parents and their children
- You provided accessible, dignified support to over 2,300 people with special needs and their families.

Learn more about the people you have helped at sharelife.org/impact. Thank you for living the Gospel by providing for those in need!

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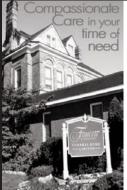


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