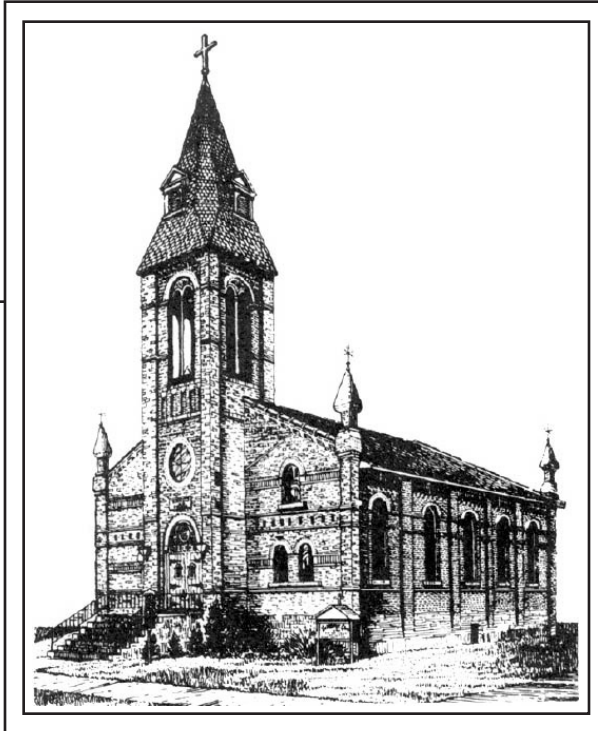


ST. MARY'S CHURCH

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
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.

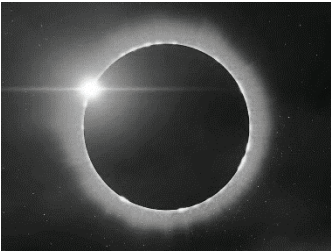
BULLETIN NOTICES must be received at the parish office by Tuesday at noon. Announcements will appear for no more than two weeks, and should contain only pertinent information. Please be brief.

Catholic Women's League
President: Carol Johns
email: info@collewl.ca
647-241-4699

The Knights of Columbus 3rd Degree
Grand Knight: Richard Mittermeier
email: gk5793@ontariokofc.ca
Collingwoodknightsforcolumbus.org

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

THE ECLIPSE: DISTRACTION vs WARNING



This past Monday we had a total solar eclipse which caught the attention of many people of the earth, prompting many to do something they don't often do, both symbolically but also virtually – to look up. We spend

much of our lives with our gaze downward toward the cares and concerns of this life and this world when we need to look up toward the heavens and consider what God sees, wants and is calling us to do. Many Christian believers were discussing what the eclipse might mean in a spiritual sense, and rightly so, as the cosmos that God created from nothing has always specifically called man back to God in the relationship He has always called us to have with Him.

Let's face it, we are people on the earth who have, in so many and increasing ways, thumbed our noses at God. Even if one only has the vaguest of concepts about some mysterious higher power, even to say that He somehow continually watches us, might somehow believe that God could come and destroy or punish us for our neglect of Him. Perhaps for many it is more of a small 'g' god who is out there somewhere, who messes with our lives in mystery; a god to be appeased and kept happy with us so that this god will leave us alone. That kind of god wouldn't, couldn't care about us but instead uses its own power for its benefit and not ours. This is a god to be avoided and is only seen when a sign in the sky could mean something and suggest of our doom instead of our delight.

I am grateful to have been raised, not with a sense of a god to be appeased but 'the' God of Jesus Christ who loves me, us, the world. He has shown Himself to man after creating everything for him, and even when man rebelled against this good God, He promised us several ways out, creating agreements, covenants with us. We broke them all, but He, who is always faithful to us, created a new covenant and the last covenant there will ever be with man in giving us His Son, Jesus. This final covenant was not made so much in words but through The Word Himself, Jesus, who did the unthinkable: that Jesus, who as God created the cosmos, the mysteries of timelessness, entered into time as His feet walked upon the earth. But why? To, as is so overused a term that it often has no impact – to save us because we, as we were, couldn't possibly save ourselves and so were brought back from the brink by traversing dusty roads with puzzled men whom He lived closely with as He taught, healed, moved hearts, opened minds and ultimately revealed Himself as God in the flesh. He also, in mainly the time space of about 1100 days, did all His teaching, proclamation of the Kingdom, miracles, and Himself showed Himself as the sign that they must look to in order to be saved by that which He was going to save them with in His suffering, barbaric torture, rejection and agonizing death. Why? Because that is what man does, who is under the self-imposed sinfulness and rebellion against God. He is so inclined to kill that which it cannot dominate. And so, we killed God.

We are the same people that want to search out and possibly dream of inhabiting other real estate on hopeful planets that support life. We cannot live on the earth in this restlessness for more so we seek to live somewhere else, a kind of geographical cure to our human, self made woes. As someone once quipped, "How can we live on the moon if we cannot live on the earth?"

God has always willed our good but in our rebellion, we have so often shunned it and we do it still, with ever-increasing force and momentum. The so called 'progress' of man even and especially to this day, seeks to strive after a perfect life by creating a wide variety of death. St. John Paul II called this a culture of death. Our perceived movement forward in our own fake enlightenment seeks not to better our lives in an open response to the so-obvious God, but to all the more reject Him and ultimately, His followers and all those who align themselves with the impact He struck the world with in His first coming. As Fulton Sheen once said, (paraphrased): "We have always lived in sin from the time of Adam and Eve. But what has crept into the world in our modern times is something that is distinct from sin – rebellion. Sin is in relationship to our conduct but rebellion is in relationship to authority, even the ultimate of all authority that is God Himself." And this is what is so clearly prevalent in our times and within ourselves. St. Paul himself spoke of this rebellion when he wrote in his Second letter to the Thessalonians (2:3) "And now, brothers, about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and his gathering of us to himself: I beg you, do not suddenly lose your heads or alarm yourselves, whether at some oracular utterance, or pronouncement, or some letter purporting to come from us, alleging that the Day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way whatever. That day cannot come before **the final rebellion** against God, when wickedness will be revealed in human form, the man doomed to perdition. He is the Enemy. He rises in his pride against every god, so called, every object of men's worship, and even takes his seat in the temple of God claiming to be god himself.

We can see this evident rebellion against God and all He has made and proclaimed to be good – life itself. But our rebellion wars against the life God has given us so that it's our life, not God's and we can do with it or dispose of it at will and as suits us best. We see the ever-increasing death toll in the murder of life at its very beginning in the womb and now in the death at our own hands and will at its end, against nature and God's will and intention. It's interesting and a warning to note that the eclipse of this past week had a trail that crossed an eclipse of 2017 at the very point of a town called Carbondale, Illinois, which just so happens to be the town considered to be the abortion capital of America, opened for its strategic location where surrounding states have stricter abortion laws, enabling, inviting abortions to be had in their town. Coincidence or Godcidence? God has called us to life in Himself and paid the price with His own life to secure it. It matters not what we read in the moon or stars but what we read in His Word and his teaching: that He has come as Saviour and will come again as our judge. Look to Christ. (Fr.C)

MASS  **SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS**

Tues April 16 7:00pm	For the People
Wed April 17 8:30am	Unannounced Mass
Thurs April 18 8:30am	✠Elisa Lazaro Requested by Ray Lazaro & Family
Friday April 19 7:30am	Holy Hour
8:30am	✠Emilio Nella Requested by the Nella Family Unannounced Mass
Sat April 20 3:30 to 4:00pm	Confessions
4:30pm	✠George Gerynowicz Requested by the Cudney Family
Sunday April 21 9:00am	For the People
11:00am	Intentions of the Parishioners of St. Mary's Requested by family of Hilary Joseph for all the Prayers

Please Pray for the Sick

Dorothy Dynes, Margot Brandreth, Jean Ferguson, Fred Coulson, Hilary Joseph, Henry Niepalla, Mary Little, Kaz Watroba, Albert Sant & Tracy Rivers, Rose Flanagan, Teresa & Feliks Kosierb, Patrick McKee.

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased

Anita Dignan

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns
For the Intentions of Tiago Furtado
From April 7th to April 27th



Regular Collection \$5062.00 (Inc PAG)



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEK

APRIL 14 TO 20 - EVERY MOMENT MATTERS

This is a time of celebration of every volunteer and each of the contributions you make at any moment. Collectively, every moment of sharing in time, skills and empathy strengthens our community and answers the call to serve others, following the example of Jesus and in response to His call to service for each of us.

Galatians 6:10: "So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith."

**3rd Sunday of Easter
April 14, 2024**



Through ShareLife, you help refugees find safety and freedom

Your generous gift to ShareLife is crucial for immigrants and refugees establishing a new life in Canada. Your love and support have not only provided them with safety and freedom, but have also given them the opportunity to create a brighter future in our community.

Thus far, we have raised \$11,480.00 toward our goal of \$41,000.00. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

Thank you for living the Gospel through ShareLife!

CEMETERY UPDATE



It is that time of year again for a spring clean at the cemetery. We are very pleased with how the cemetery looks after the winter.

We ask that over the next couple of weeks you could go and retrieve any winter wreaths, this will help make the clean up much easier.

We do ask that you do not put breakables and small trinkets on or around headstones, this does impede with the cutting and trimming. Also in the cremation section that there is nothing stuck into the ground, the reason we have the flat markers there is so the mower can pass directly across the top of the markers. Thank you in advance, if you read the bylaws, you will see that it states that these items are not allowed in the cemetery. If you have misplaced the copy of your bylaws please reach out to the parish office.

Thank you

THANK YOU

At both Christmas and Easter, the holy days of the Church year, there are many details and planning undertaken to prepare for and actually set up in order for the various liturgies to be celebrated well and with meaning. I would like to acknowledge and express appreciation to those who assisted in the Easter Triduum. In general, to the several ushers and lectors who served and to those who coordinated their schedule. Brian Rae, our Music Director, planned and prepared the music along with the cantors Leonard Tawaststjerna, Peggy Govers and Fred Pitt. To Jayne, our parish secretary, who handled the communication to those who ushered and read the Word of God. The altar servers: Nathan Godin, Caelan Dennis, Callum Prosser and the two Lassek brothers, Mattheus and Janek, who saved the day in their over-the-top agreement to assist, particularly in providing incense. Chuck Bastyr prepared the fire to be blessed for the Vigil and Greg Wilson, our behind the scenes caretaker, cleaned all things new. Finally, to those who assisted me in the setup of the church for the Easter Vigil: Genevieve Carson and Evan Euteneier.

Congratulations to **Jordan Araujo**, baptized and fully initiated and **Shelley Mendes** and **Evan Euteneier** who were received into the Church and fully initiated.

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