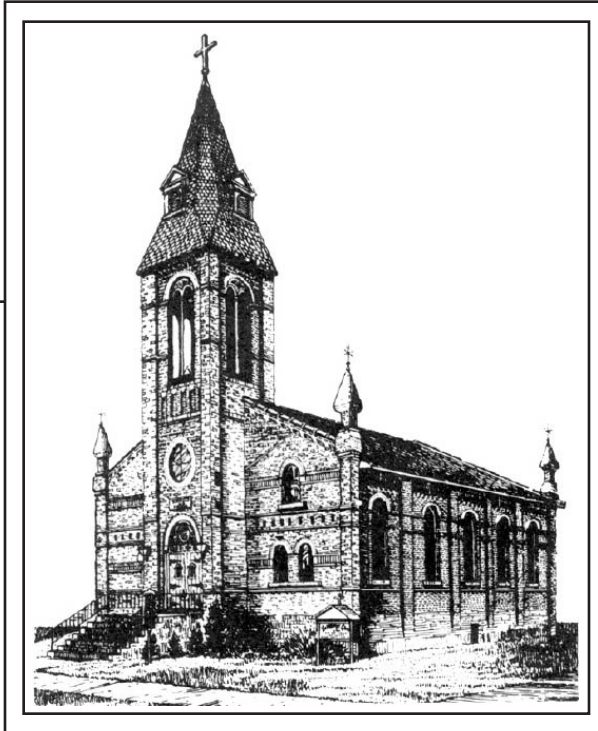


# ST. MARY'S CHURCH

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Fax: 705-445-9659  
Email: [stmarysco@archtoronto.org](mailto:stmarysco@archtoronto.org)  
Web: [stmarysco.archtoronto.org](http://stmarysco.archtoronto.org)



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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](http://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 School . . . . .705-445-2043  
Notre Dame de la Huronie . . . .705-444-1764

**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](mailto:info@collewl.ca)  
647-241-4699

**The Knights of Columbus 3rd Degree**  
Grand Knight: Richard Mittermeier  
email: [gk5793@ontariokofc.ca](mailto:gk5793@ontariokofc.ca)  
[Collingwoodknightsofcolumbus.org](http://Collingwoodknightsofcolumbus.org)

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

# JOY

Well, are you feeling it yet? Do you have or are you getting more of a sense of joy so far in this Advent season of grace? If not, pray for it, seek after it as you owe yourself the inner ability to allow this joy to visit your life from heaven, for that is where the Saviour of the world descended from, sent by His Father, not to make us miserable with external rules but to experience and know, in the language of heaven – Joy! Do you want to hear a strange line from sacred scripture? That Jesus,

*“who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Heb. 12:2)*

What does the Cross that Jesus was killed on have to do with such a word as joy? Would not joy necessarily be that which would offer Him an escape from dying by crucifixion? One would think. However, joy, is the language of heaven and is more fleeting for earth dwellers. We don't generally experience long experiences of joy in our living but we do receive great glimpses now and then which can spurn us on to faithfulness and obedience to God's commands.

And joy is the language of Advent. Christ is coming. Advent = the coming of the Lord which necessarily brings joy to the heart who is seeking Him. To say that Jesus would embrace the wood of the Cross out of love for you is to say that He would and did embrace that wood with your salvation in mind. That should be the cause of our joy. Over and over again in the scriptures we are reminded of the promises of God to us; that there is more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine who need no repentance. (Luke 15:7)

I often think, as I am reflecting on the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary, about who in each of these five scenes is experiencing joy? In the first mystery, the Annunciation by the Angel Gabriel, a great heavenly invitation is sent directly to Mary, asking her if she will give God a human nature. But where is the joy in this first joyful mystery? Mary questions the angel after being troubled by Gabriel's words when she says, "How can this be....?" She was firstly frightened by the Angel of the Lord until the Angel told her not to be afraid. The joy seems to be on the side of the Angel himself who is privileged with the announcement to this human creature who would become with her yes, her consent, her cooperation with this mysterious plan of God, the very Mother of God. But that would bring joy to her later as

"she pondered all these things in her heart" for the time being. As a woman of faith, she had said "yes" to God's plan and invitation to her. Yet, the second Joyful mystery clearly depicts a scene of great joy as Mary goes to her cousin Elizabeth to be with her while she is in the last three months of her pregnancy with John the Baptist. This is a scene that is filled with joy as Mary greets, Elizabeth responded, as John the Baptist leaps in her womb, with great joy and affirms that Mary is the 'Mother of my Saviour' and 'blessed is she who believed all that God had promised her'. How could there not be Advent joy in this scene?

The third joyful mystery, the birth of Jesus, once again would have us asking who is experiencing joy in this scene?

There is Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus who is born in a barn, lying in the bin that the cattle eat from while He is the King of the World! The joy isn't obviously found in poor tired Mary and Joseph nor is it necessarily found in the infant Jesus. The angels who were sent to shepherds in the fields in the dark of night, gives us the clue: the angels invitation of "good tidings of great joy... for today in the City of David is born a Saviour." The joy belongs to the world once it is revealed to us just what has now taken place.

Just as Our Lord speaks of joy and the Cross, He also tells us in John 15:11 that if we keep His commandments, "*that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete*". My joy, your joy – the joy of Christ Himself will be given us and will become our own in Him, from following the commandments, of which we know can be and were reduced by Jesus to just two: Love God and love each other, even and especially perceived enemies. "*There is more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents...*". What a powerful revelation on joy. **Enjoy** this season of the Advent of our God for He is coming. (FrC)

## **AN ADVENT CONFESSION RECOMMENDATION...**

One powerful way of preparing your heart for Christmas, the anniversary of the birth of Christ to the world and to you, is to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession). I highly recommend that you take and use one of the appropriate Examination of Conscience's found at the back of the church for adults, young adults and children. This is the best way to do a personal moral inventory of your life and the areas of sin in thought, word, action or omission. We want to be forgiven all of our sins and therefore all of our sins must be confessed, particularly mortal sins. If we purposely hold back a sin in confession, to hold it back from Christ, then that sin and all our sins are not forgiven. I don't say that to induce fear, because perfect love – the love of Jesus – casts out all fear. So, don't be afraid as you approach Christ's powerful and loving forgiveness and mercy but prepared, celebrate it. (Fr. Charles)

**MASS**  **SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS**

Tues Dec 10 <sup>th</sup> 7:00pm	+Nora McLaughlin & Deceased Members of Family Requested by the Cudney Family
Wed Dec 11 <sup>th</sup> 8:30am	+Mato Krajinovic Requested by wife Katherine & Family
Thurs Dec 12 <sup>th</sup> 8:30am	Special Intentions Andrew Jagielski Requested by Barb Gal
Fri Dec 13 <sup>th</sup> 7:30am	Holy Hour
8:30am	Intentions of Helen & Roy Adams Requested by Christy & Family
Sat Dec 14 <sup>th</sup> 3:30 to 4:00pm	Confession
4:30pm	+Nick Cudney Requested by the Cudney Family
Sun Dec 15 <sup>th</sup> 9:00am	For the People
11:00am	Intentions of the Guerrero Family

*Please Pray for the Sick*

Jean Ferguson, Fred Coulson, Hilary Joseph, Henry Niepalla, , Albert Sant, Teresa & Feliks Kosierb, Elizabeth Pavilsa, Ashley Zavitz, Alex Poirier & Family, Tammy MacDonald, Anita Taglione, Denis Fennessy, Mary Little, Yvonne Grimm, Joyce Mittermeier, Janine Wright

*Please Pray for the Recently Deceased*

Mr. Marianna (Ramulu) Naddi



**The Sanctuary Lamp Burns**

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Regular Collection Nov 24<sup>th</sup> \$4647.20 (Inc PAG)  
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**MISSALS**

We have about 20 Missals still available for purchase in the little store at the back of the church, or from the parish office. The cost is \$7.00.

**DAY OF CONFESSIONS FOR ADVENT**



Wednesday December 18<sup>th</sup>  
9:00am to 11:00am  
6:00pm to 8:00pm

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

The Masses for Christmas and New Year's will be as follows:

**Tuesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)**  
**4:30pm and 6:30pm**  
**Wednesday, December 25 (Christmas Day)**  
**9:00am and 11:00am**

**Feast of the Holy Family/New Year's Eve**  
**Tuesday, December 31**  
**4:30pm**  
**Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God/New Year's Day**  
**Wednesday, January 1**  
**10:00am**

**PAG – PREAUTHORIZED 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 or credit card. These funds are then deposited directly to the parish account. For more information, please call your parish office.

**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.

**OFFERTORY ENVELOPES**

Offertory Envelopes are ready for pick up they will be in the parish hall starting this weekend until the 22<sup>nd</sup> then they will be brought back into the office for Christmas and New Year. If you would like to start using envelopes please give me a call at the parish office and I will get a box ready for you.

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