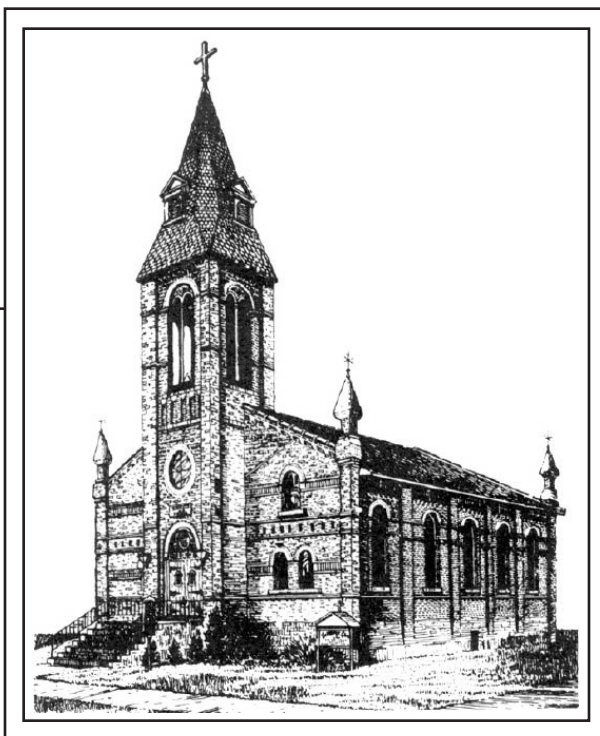


ST. MARY'S CHURCH

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.
Tuesday 6:30 p.m. to Mass

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
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

A TRICKLE OF BLOOD

Imagine... It's a typical Tuesday evening in January in Collingwood, Ontario. It's cold and dark and a few Mass-goers amble into St. Mary's church for the 7 o'clock Mass. The sparse crowd seem to separate themselves from those around them with a sense that each are here for their own spiritual reasons, searching and need. The silence in the church is broken by the hour chime on the sacristy clock announcing the time for Mass to begin as Fr. Charles enters the sanctuary led by a single server while the small crowd rises to their feet as Mass begins as it always begins. Father genuflects to the tabernacle then turns and bowing, embraces the altar with a kiss, then rises and moves to the presiders' chair where he makes the ancient Sign of the Cross, tracing that cross on his body accompanied by the words "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit". He invites the people to recall their sins in order to better prepare for the sacred mystery that is the Mass divided in two parts, the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. The priest then invites all to pray as he says the Opening Prayer and then is seated to hear the readings from God's word in the lectionary on the pulpit. The first reading followed by the psalm as a response to it is proclaimed by a lector. Then the priest and all in the church rise to their feet as Father approaches the pulpit to read the Gospel and then give a brief homily on the readings. This is the same reality of Mass celebrated throughout the Archdiocese of Toronto and in parishes in dioceses the world over.

Now, the Liturgy of the Word is over and the priest approaches the sacred altar for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. He receives the gifts from the altar server, first in receiving the chalice and a single large host on the paten. After the prayer over the gifts, he begins the Institution Narrative; the words of consecration spoken by Jesus at the Last Supper. He takes the host from the paten and holding it slightly above the altar, he bows forward and speaks into the circular host, saying, "*TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT; FOR THIS IS MY BODY WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU*". He then raises the Host high held, in his fingers, to show it to the people as he gazes upward at heaven now in his hands. Strangely, the priest first feels and then sees a small trickle of blood running into his hand holding the Sacred Host. There is a flutter of his heart as in a split second he questions whether he has a cut that is bleeding on his hand but also realizes that blood at this moment is one with the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist now present in the Host. "It can't be!", he thinks as he shakingly lowers the Host back to the paten. He genuflects, his heart racing as he inspects his hands finding no cut. "There is blood on my hand, but it's not mine", he thinks to himself. "No, it can't be...". But it is true. The Sacred Host has begun to bleed and while he knows he can't fully comprehend this surreal manifestation. His breathing is fast and heavy as his heart races in light of what he is seeing. There is hesitation as he wonders how to proceed. Now, some in the small congregation are noticing Father's strange behaviour and wonder if he is not feeling well. Then one person sees the blood Father Charles is staring at on his hands. A voice from the

congregation calls out to the priest as to whether he's okay. They rise from their kneeler and hesitating, step out into the aisle sensing they should offer help as they cautiously and haltingly move toward the altar, for the look on the priest's face appears to be one of shock. The approach of the person toward the altar breaks the trance-like incredulity of the one acting in the person of Christ, as he looks at them and says, shakily, "The Host is bleeding!"

Imagine. This whole scene would be a replaying of the great miracle that took place in Bolsena, Italy in 1263, at the hands of a priest celebrating Mass while inwardly he had been questioning the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. The host began to bleed and ran down his hands and onto the altar. He reported it directly to the Pope, Urban IV, who was living in nearby Orvieto, whose church now holds and displays the sacred relic of the blood-stained corporal.

If this wonder of a host producing blood at the words of consecration actually took place at St. Mary's, following the event word would so quickly spread and, in age where many would take videos of a drowning person instead of saving them, people would flock to our church seeking some evidence that would feed their curiosity. The Archdiocese would investigate the supposed miracle sight and examine the evidence. Subsequent weekday Masses would be packed to standing room only, perhaps in the hope that the miracle might happen again. And the media would send crews and reporters to feature the story to readers and audiences. Friday morning Holy Hour's, where the priest regularly exposes a consecrated Host in the receptacle called a *monstrance*, to a couple dozen worshipers, would be packed as onlookers wouldn't take their gaze off of the exposed Host in case the miracle should happen again. One might wonder whether such an extraordinary, holy event would incite faith or frenzy; devotion or excited response to spectacle?

It should come as no surprise to people who truly believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, that this reality does take place at every Mass around the world, regardless of the faith or lack thereof of the priest celebrating; whether people perceive it or not; whether they believe what Jesus instituted at the Last Supper with his apostles the night before His death.

While there are many places around the world where large crowds gather for Holy Hours and the celebration of Holy Mass itself, most of our churches are largely empty of those who would truly say, "I believe". And many of those who are retired, from a life of busyness and work may be faithful to Sunday Mass but might never consider attending weekday Mass or a Holy Hour to be with Jesus, to hear Jesus speak to them, to engage in the words of consecration when before their eyes and yet mysteriously hidden in a flat, round piece of bread marked with a simple cross, the words of consecration are heard as Jesus becomes truly present in this staple element of life – in bread, and when wine becomes the veritable Blood of Jesus! What we see but so often do not see is real and is a miracle that remains unseen but received in hands and on tongue, making us partakers of the miraculous. It's Jesus! (FrC)

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Tues Jan 21 st	
6:30pm to Mass	Confession
7:00pm	Unannounced Mass
Wed Jan 22 nd	
8:30am	✙Marie & Denis Fonseka Requested by Rupika & Family
Thurs Jan 23 rd	
8:30am	Prayer Intentions the Rosary Apostolate Requested by Fllo MacRae
Fri Jan 24 th	
7:30am	HOLY HOUR
8:30am	✙Emilia & Ted Requested by Eva
Sat Jan 25 th	
3:30 to 4:00pm	Confession
4:30pm	✙Gene Cudney Requested by Lidia & Hamdija Hrapovic
Sun Jan 26 th	
9:00am	✙Giovani Palmisano Requested by the Lassak Family
11:00am	For the People

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, Mary Little, Yvonne Grimm, Janine Wright, Anne Johnston, Dorothy Shaughnessy, Rose Flanagan

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased

Father Pierre Wood



The Sanctuary Lamp Burns

For the Intentions of
St. Mary's Parishioners
Jan 19th to Jan 25th 2025



Christmas Collection	\$15,354.75
New Year Collection	\$ 2,355.50
Regular Collection Jan 5 th & 12 th	\$8112.00 (Inc PAG)
ShareLife Final 2024	\$44,834.00

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Please don't forget to pick up your 2025 Offertory Envelopes. They will be out on the shelf in-between the church and the hall. **Anyone who would like to start using envelopes, please call the office and I will get a box ready.**

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR

February 22, 2025

As many of you know over the years, St. Mary's has been involved in the Coldest Night of the year walk for homeless youth, with our team St. Mary's Angels. In the 7 years we were involved we raised a total of \$25,520.00.

After a 2-year hiatus, the Angels are back and the St. Mary's CWL are taking the lead on this. We will have a new Captain Cara O'Hearn.

We need your help!

We are inviting you the parishioners to either join our team, or support someone who is walking. The funds raised will support youth at risk of homelessness in the areas of Collingwood, Stayner, Wasaga Beach and Thornbury.

Please support us as you can!

Simply **DONATE OR JOIN** our team St. Mary's Angels, to show you care! By going to cnoy.org/Collingwood and look for our team name.

If you require further information just give me a call at the parish office, and I will put you in touch with Cara, or you can email Cara at caraprimab@gmail.com
Thank You.

COFFEE SUNDAY

The CWL is hosting Coffee Sunday following the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Mass this Sunday January 19th in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome to coffee / tea / cookies/refreshments and to meet fellow parishioners.

There will also be activities for the children.

HOLD THE DATE

There will be a parish potluck on Saturday February 15th. There are sign up sheets at both entrances of the church. They give an option if you would like to bring an appetizer, main course or desert. A wonderful idea to have the parishioners come together to enjoy some good food and conversation and getting to know one another.

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