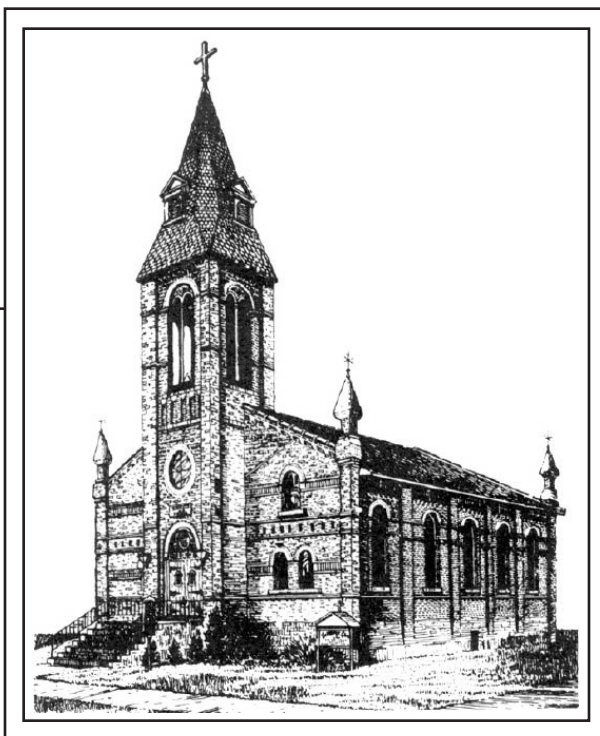


ST. MARY'S CHURCH

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

FUNERAL EULOGIES

When a person dies, among the most important things we know we can do (and desire to do), is to remember them. We recall all of those parts, stories and the uniqueness or simplicity of them that paints a picture from those who knew them best for those who perhaps didn't. And so, one can well understand why family and friends would like to give a eulogy in church at the Funeral Mass before the assembled family and friends. If eulogies in the Catholic Church, forbidden until recently, was an experiment, to my mind as a priest and presider, they weren't a success. Though protocols and boundaries to be expected by the Church were often clearly relayed to families, they were also often ignored and sometimes disrespectfully so, as eulogists would even mock the Church and faith and religion in general – in the very place where Catholic truth and faith is expounded! And that is why I and most priests don't allow them and suggest that eulogies can be given at a wake service at the funeral home, at the reception or, weather permitting, at the cemetery. But, still, why no eulogies? Because a Catholic Funeral Mass is not about the deceased but about Jesus Christ, the Resurrection and Life, and what He has made possible for the deceased as we gather in the Mass that commends their soul to Jesus Christ.

When my mother died in 2020, just weeks before Covid lockdowns hit, we were fortunate to be able to gather and do the work of prayerful commendation in a full church accompanied by the angelic voices of members of the St. Michael's Choir School at St. Leo's parish in Brooklin, Ontario. Cardinal Thomas Collins presided at the funeral. My brother, David, composed and gave the eulogy before the Funeral Mass began and while it was about my mother, it said so much about faith in Jesus Christ – extremely rare in funeral eulogies I've heard, especially in funeral homes.

And this is what he wrote and said:

"Good morning.

My name is David Forget and I'm Margaret's youngest son. I am honoured to be sharing her eulogy with you today. On behalf of my siblings: Jim, Jay, Marianne, Fr. Charles, Mark and Paula, thank you for coming to assist in commending my mother, Margaret, to life with Jesus forever.

As a family, we certainly came from good stock – parents who loved us and had a strong faith in God. In particular, my mother grew up in a large Irish family of nine children on a farm in Campbellford, Ontario. They were taught early on about the Catholic faith and the importance of hard work, discipline and being good people. Our Mom shared those same important principles with us.

Growing up, our Mom stayed at home with us. My Dad wasn't always around as he worked long hours to support us. So, she took on the role of mother, leader, teacher, moralist and disciplinarian, to name but a few. Later in life, as a family, we would often talk and wonder about how our Mom managed it all. But somehow, she did and raised us "rotten kids" as she would say, rather well too.

My mother was a people-person and, as noted in her obituary, she valued the underdog, the lonely, the alcoholic, the unborn, and the forgotten. My father, at the time of his

death in 2014, was a 53-year-member of Alcoholics Anonymous. My mother was at his side at virtually every meeting he ever attended and although not an alcoholic herself, she helped many people over the years to achieve and maintain sobriety. She was vigilant and never gave up on people.

My mother was never one for fussy things. She didn't place a high value on fancy clothes, jewelry, fine china and other extravagances ... what some might consider the finer things in life, although she never left the house with a hair out of place or without lipstick. As she used to say, "you just never know who you're going to meet!" What was important to her was her family and those around her, especially those who needed assistance. Her faith was her foundation.

As us rotten kids grew up and moved away from home, Mom began working for *Para Med Health Services*, a job she truly enjoyed. She had endless patience and compassion for the elderly and those suffering from Dementia. Her "three hour-a-day" job, as my Dad used to call it, would turn out to be much longer simply because my Mom had a hard time in not helping out other residents, even when they weren't under her care and even when it was past her time to go home. It's ironic in some ways that she would be plagued with Dementia herself, being diagnosed early in life with the disease in her mid-60's.

Back in 2013, I was in a transition point in my life and approached my Dad asking if it would be okay if I could live back at home with he and Mom for a year. He said sure. That one year turned into five. Looking back now, I feel so honoured to have spent that time with my parents, but in particular with my Mom who at the time was manifesting many of the telltale characteristics of early Dementia which included repeating herself, asking the same questions over and over again, confusion, frustration, being upset. But through all of this, my Mom's tenacity and kindness always shone through. When I would leave for work, she would always insist in getting the door for me and say "TGIF!". Every day was Friday for her ... not a bad way to be in the end.

I heard this quote recently and it resonated with me ... "*Do not seek death. Death will find you. But seek the road which makes death a fulfilment*". My Mom always sought that road, a road that often wasn't popular or easy but in the end, she lived by her principles and was unwavering. And, though many say this in the death of a loved one, she died peacefully surrounded by her family that loved her and rallied to ensure that her every need was met and that she wouldn't be alone. That was the legacy that she created and the legacy that we, her family will pass on.

Mom, we love you and we miss you terribly already. But we are buoyed up knowing that you are with Jesus and Dad, the loves of your life. (And in that order.) Rest in peace Mama."

And so, as we always did as a family in church, we heard of the heart of my mother's life at her funeral that was but a shadow of the great center of it that was always Jesus Himself. We honoured, worshipped and listened to Jesus... as we sat with our Mom. (*Fr. Charles*)



Tues June 24th

6:30pm Confession
7:00pm +Feliks Kosierb
Requested by Helen Szuta & Family

Wed June 25th

8:30am +Mark Vlahovic
Requested by Mary Cudney & Christina Kemsley

Unannounced Mass

Thurs June 26th

8:30am +Jean Ferguson
Requested by the St. Mary's CWL

Fri June 27th

7:30am Holy Hour
8:30am +Jolanta Okon
Requested by the St. Mary's CWL

Sat June 28th

8:30am Unannounced Mass
3:30pm Confession
4:30pm +Gene Cudney
Requested by Jon & Christina

Sun June 29th

9:00am For the people
11:00am +Micheline Iadnardi
Requested by Geraldine & Frank Bondi

Please Pray for the Sick

Fred Coulson, Hilary Joseph, Albert Sant, Teresa Kosierb, Elizabeth Pavilsa, Alex Poirier & Family, Tammy MacDonald, Anita Taglione, Mary Little, Yvonne Grimm, Janine Wright, Anne Johnston, Dorothy Shaughnessy, Rose Flanagan, Pat Ironside-Mayes, Bev Underhill, Patrick McKee.

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased

Sharon Sheffer

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Norma Still

June 15th to June 28th



Regular Collection June 15th

Inc. PAG	\$4318.00
Marygrove Camp	\$1802.55
ShareLife	\$23,882.40



Solemnity of the Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

June 22nd, 2025



Thank you for bringing empathy to the table

Covenant House, an agency you support through ShareLife, fosters a profound sense of belonging among at-risk children in the Youth in Transition program. Their community dinners create a welcoming space for shared experiences, made possible by your empathetic heart. "These gatherings are an opportunity for youth to learn more about each other and taste food from different cultures," says Fred Shayo-Mushi, Support Services Manager of Covenant House Toronto. "The dinners make everyone feel like they matter because of your love."

Thus far we have raised \$23,882.40 toward our goal of \$46,400.00. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

CELL PHONE PROJECT

VICTIMS SERVICES OF SIMCOE COUNTY

St. Mary's CWL Council in Barrie are collecting old cell phones to donate to the homeless. The phones can be of any age, including flip phones, even better if you still have the chargers. The phones will be factory reset by Victims Services, if you the owner has not done this. Taking out the sim card does not take all the information out of your phone. You can google this if you wish to do it yourself. We will be collecting phones until Sunday June 29th; there will be a box in the hallway between the church and the hall. If you need any further information, please call the parish office.

BAKE SALE & COFFEE SUNDAY

St. Mary's CWL will be hosting a **BAKE SALE** after the 4:30 pm, 9:00 & 11:00 am Masses this weekend. They will also be hosting coffee Sunday after the 9 & 11am Masses.

CHALICE



Chalice is coming to St. Mary's Parish!

At the June 28-29 Masses, Canada's largest Catholic Child Sponsorship organization will provide you the opportunity to begin a relationship with a child in the developing world through the benefits of Child Sponsorship. These are children in extreme poverty who need your support to excel in their education and fulfill their God-given potential. Please visit chalice.ca for more information about Chalice and its mission.

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