

Living the  
**Gospel**



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# ST. MARY'S CHURCH

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### THE LIVING WATER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT BY ST. CYRIL OF JERUSALEM

The water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of living water, welling up into eternal life. This is a new kind of water, a living, leaping water, welling up for those who are worthy. But why did Christ call the grace of the Spirit water? Because all things are dependent on water; plants and animals have their origin in water. Water comes down from heaven as rain, and although it is always the same in itself, it produces many different effects, one in the palm tree, another in the vine, and so on throughout the whole of creation. It does not come down, now as one thing, now as another, but while remaining essentially the same, it adapts itself to the needs of every creature that receives it.

In the same way the Holy Spirit, whose nature is always the same, simple and indivisible, apportions grace to each man as he wills. Like a dry tree which puts forth shoots when watered, the soul bears the fruit of holiness when repentance has made it worthy of receiving the Holy Spirit. Although the Spirit never changes, the effects of this action, by the will of God and in the name of Christ, are both many and marvelous.

The Spirit makes one man a teacher of divine truth, inspires another to prophesy, gives another the power of casting out devils, enables another to interpret holy Scripture. The Spirit strengthens one man's self-control, shows another how to help the poor, teaches another to fast and lead a life of asceticism, makes another oblivious to the needs of the body, trains another for martyrdom. His action is different in different people, but the Spirit himself is always the same. In each person, Scripture says, the Spirit reveals his presence in a particular way for the common good.

The Spirit comes gently and makes himself known by his fragrance. He is not felt as a burden, for he is light, very light. Rays of light and knowledge stream before him as he approaches. The Spirit comes with the tenderness of a true friend and protector to save, to heal, to teach, to counsel, to strengthen, to console. The Spirit comes to enlighten the mind first of the one who receives him, and then, through him, the minds of others as well.

As light strikes the eyes of a man who comes out of darkness into the sunshine and enables him to see clearly things he could not discern before, so light floods the soul of the man counted worthy of receiving the Holy Spirit and enables him to see things beyond the range of human vision, things hitherto undreamed of.

On reflection on this 4th-century theologian of the Early Church, the third paragraph speaks of the variety of gifts, specifically mentioning gifts such as teaching, casting out demons, and interpreting sacred scripture. I have written about this before, but it always strikes me as not only obvious but also profound.

Anyone who says we can go it alone in our faith journey with Christ is sadly mistaken. Just as the various parts of the human body perform different roles in the body's overall functioning and health, so too does the visible Church that Christ founded on Peter – the Catholic Church – depend on all its members together for all of the Spirit's gifts to be made visible. A good example of this is seen in the Catholic priesthood. While all priests generally receive the same academic, spiritual and social training in seminaries, priests are not all the same. Some gifts lend themselves well to fundraising and church-building, while others have the gift of preaching and teaching. Some priests struggle to prepare homilies, while others have a natural, God-given ability to do so. What one does with ease, another struggles with. Some priests are quiet and more reserved; others are more outgoing and people-oriented. Some priests are leaders and great organizers, while others will turn to parishioners to do these things. Yet in all of these, all the gifts necessary for the building up and the continuance of the Church are found. And where do the gifts come from? We could say from the individuals themselves, but that wouldn't be the whole truth. They come from Christ and are manifest through the power and movement of the Holy Spirit and human cooperation with the Spirit's inspiration and gifts.

Parishes are also good examples of how the reality St. Cyril speaks of is made manifest in the gifts of a parish community. Parishes need lectors, singers, musicians, ushers and greeters, Extraordinary Eucharistic ministers, money-counters, individuals who care for the cleaning and maintenance of the altar linens, caretakers, volunteers, people who serve the poor, and those who contribute food and money to this end. Others create and care for gardens or church flowers, while some lead the Rosary. Different people, different gifts. But this also means that not everyone would make a good lector (reader), even if they have a great love of God. And not everyone would make a great cantor, even if they love music. All the gifts necessary to the life of St. Mary's parish in Collingwood are found within the parish, and therefore it is good for people to consider their individual, God-given gifts and step forward to offer them to God in the local parish.

As members of the Church, the Body of Christ, we have the gifts of the Spirit right in front of us and within us. Say "yes" to the Spirit's wonderful gifts! (*Fr. Charles*)



**MASS** *SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS*

Tuesday June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	
7:00pm	+Helen Adams Requested by Christy & Family
Wednesday June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	NO MASS
Thursday June 4 <sup>th</sup>	
8:30am	+Roger Szydziak & Terry O'Hearn Requested by the O'Hearn Family
Friday June 5 <sup>th</sup>	
7:30am	HOLY HOUR
8:30am	+Teresa Bouchard & +Ann Savela Requested by Elizabeth Ivey
Saturday June 6 <sup>th</sup>	
8:30am	+Clemence Light Requested by the O'Hearn Family
3:30pm	CONFESSIONS
4:30pm	+Roy Adams Requested by Knights of Columbus 3 <sup>rd</sup> Degree
Sunday June 7 <sup>th</sup>	
9:00am	For the People
11:00am	+Antonietta Carlucci Requested by Antonietta & Domenic Sanfilippo

*Please Pray for the Sick*



Alex Poirier, Hudson Ford, Janine Wright  
Jean Poirier, Frank Brennan, Gordon Norris

*Please Pray for the Recently Deceased*



Elinore Van der Vechte, John Debeau,  
Father Claudio Moser, OFM

THE SANCTUARY LAMP BURNS  
FOR THE INTENTIONS OF  
GORDON NORRIS  
MAY 31<sup>ST</sup> TO JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup>



Sunday May 24<sup>th</sup> 2026

Inc PAG	\$4,966.70
ShareLife 2026 Goal	\$46,000.00
Raised So Far	\$21,277.60



**St. Mary's CWL** is hosting a bake sale after Mass on June 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>. All members of the parish are invited to donate a favourite baked good to this delicious fundraiser. Sign-up sheets are posted at both church entrances. Baked goods **MUST BE PRE-WRAPPED**. Wrappers will be available in the church hall after Mass on June 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>. Baked goods can be dropped off at the church hall on June 13<sup>th</sup> between 10:00 a.m. and 12 noon.

**Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity  
May 31, 2026**

**ShareLife Sunday collections take place this weekend, celebrating 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

Today is our third weekend of special collections for ShareLife Sunday. Reverence for life at all stages has been a core principle of ShareLife since its founding in 1976. We recognize the sacredness of life from conception to natural death. ShareLife-funded agencies uphold this value in everything they do, bringing hope, healing, and compassion to those who need it most. This mission of love is witnessed at Rose of Sharon, where Executive Director Deanne Kukulewicz gratefully notes that "your commitment to ShareLife is an investment in young parents and their futures, fostering a community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive."

Thus far we have raised \$21,277.60 toward our goal of \$46,000.00. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate).

**Totus Tuus Summer Camp at St. Patrick**

**Parish, Stayner** Youth and families from St. Mary's Parish are warmly invited to join the Totus Tuus Summer Camp at St. Patrick Parish in Stayner! Totus Tuus is a Catholic camp ministry offered through the Archdiocese of Toronto that is dedicated to evangelization, faith formation, and leadership development through prayer, catechesis, music, games, and fun activities. **Day Program (Grades 1-6)**

July 6-10

Cost: \$100 per child **Evening Program (Grades 6-12)**

July 5-9

Cost: \$25 per youth Registration is available online at: [totustuutoronto.ca/stpatrick](http://totustuutoronto.ca/stpatrick) For more information, please contact Lyne at:

[stpatnoelyouth@gmail.com](mailto:stpatnoelyouth@gmail.com)

We are also looking for volunteers to help with both the day and evening programs. If you are interested in volunteering, we would love to hear from you

**St. Mary's Church** is happy to welcome our new music director, Marilyn Reesor, to our parish. Marilyn brings over thirty years of experience as a liturgical musician as well as classical performer and teacher. Part of her mandate is to develop a musical ministry at St. Mary's and encourage the involvement of our own parishioners in this mission. If you are a singer and/or capable musician, please consider joining our new music ministry to help celebrate our masses in song. Marilyn provides gentle, professional guidance as well as cantorial and liturgical training. If you or anyone you know may be interested, please contact Marilyn at [Mreesor@archtoronto.org](mailto:Mreesor@archtoronto.org) or speak with her after mass. She will be delighted to meet you!

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