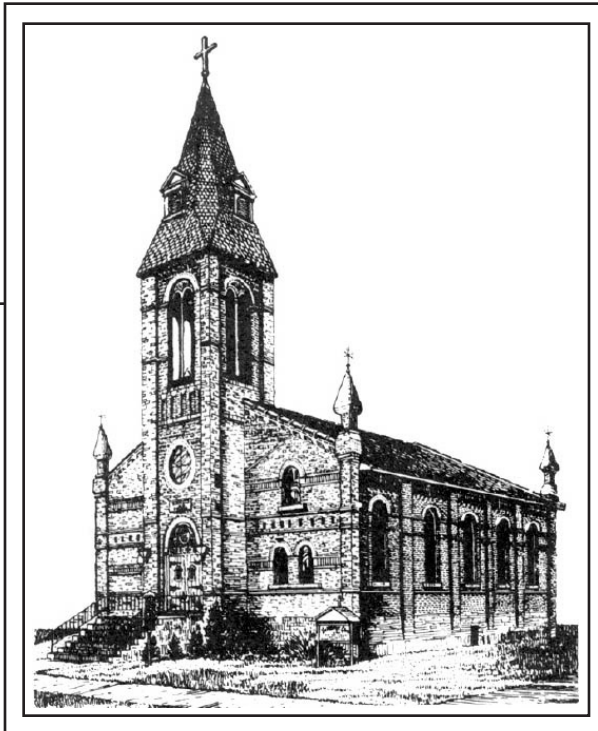


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63 Elgin Street
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Fax: 705-445-9659
Email: stmarysco@archtoronto.org
Web: stmarysco.archtoronto.org



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 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

LAST WORDS

As the last days of my time here at St. Mary's as pastor are coming to a close, I am given over to thoughts about the importance of saying goodbye. Saying goodbye is difficult, yet it is as inevitable as long as we are living, breathing, and forming relationships.

Last words are important. The last words of a dying man can often sum up what matters most after all has been said and done in his life. He might use his last words to tell his son what he ought not do with his life; "Son, don't do what I did." Or he might say that it has been wonderful and that, if he could do it all over again, he wouldn't change a thing. The last words of a man who was obviously doubted by those who knew him in life were inscribed on his tombstone, which read: "I told you I was sick!" The final words of someone who is dying for a cause might be words of death to his oppressors or of liberty to the struggle he has given his life for. They are important because there will be no others, and they bring completion to one's life in words.

Of all the last words ever spoken into the air of this world, none are more important and profound than those of Our Lord. The human breath that carried them past his lips and to the very universe itself would soon be extinguished by the crime of deicide, the murder of God, but three days later would be restored by the breath of the Holy Spirit. Jesus' last words still speak to us and are not merely meaningless final thoughts. On and from the cross, he commends his mother to John and John to his mother, yet in this commendation he gives his mother, Mary, to all of us, saying to all people of every place and time, "This is your Mother." John, Jesus' beloved disciple, stood beneath the cross, representing all of us, as we are given Mary as the Universal Mother.

His words, "I thirst", not only address his bodily need for hydration but also speak to us about his thirst for all the souls he created to come to him, return to him, and dwell within his love and life. God thirsts for us because he wants the best for us, and the best is found in living with him and for him. Each of us is keenly aware of our own thirsts for meaning, for love, for belonging and acceptance, and for a sense of security within. Jesus, God made flesh, in hanging upon the Cross, entered into and addressed every human longing to be fulfilled. He made it possible for us to have our thirst quenched, yet we still long for even more of the life-giving waters he promises. In his last words, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do", we find a truth about our lives and sin. We do not fully know what our sins mean in relation to our own happiness, because sin blinds us to our need to be whole. Sin is always a "temporary fix" for a far greater need within the human heart and soul. When Jesus says, "Father, forgive them", he means it, and it happens in the sacrament of Reconciliation that he himself instituted, not only in his words of forgiveness but also in his blood shed on the Cross. He knows that we don't fully realize what our sins are doing to us, for if we did and kept on doing them, we could never come within the pale of hearing those words of forgiveness.

When Jesus cried out to his Father in his great agony, he spoke on behalf of every human soul who would know what it is to feel alone and abandoned. He cried, "My God, my God! Why have you forsaken me?" He entered into the sense of every lost soul who thought that God was nowhere to be found when tough times came. As he hung dying on the very material he had made his living with as a carpenter, nature shared his mood by hiding its light as darkness covered the earth. The shame of all nature is shown as it hides its face from the one who created all things. Jesus, in his humanity, entered completely into our pain and experience of loneliness. There is so much loneliness in the world that even husbands and wives within a marriage can know what it is to feel alone, or that teenagers sometimes think that whatever is happening to them at the present moment determines what they will feel for the rest of their lives. All the things Jesus addressed in his dying words have become living words for our human desires and needs. He knew we would experience a "dark night of the soul" and thus would speak to that darkness and forever change it through his passion, death and resurrection.

Finally, those last words would come from his lips, "It is finished." Yes, the work he came to do, the goal he set out to accomplish, was now finished, and his life's work was complete. As the Messiah and Saviour of all humanity, Jesus had fulfilled the mission given him by his Father. Yet 2000 years of human history, marked by sin, darkness, and death, have shown that Christ's work is anything but finished. Is this a contradiction? No! As the Christ, the founder of the Church, the long-awaited Messiah, he had completed the saving work he was sent to do. His work continues in a world that cannot rest until it finally finds Christ. Christ, the head of the Church, has redeemed us, but we, the body of Christ, carry on the work of redemption, with an active role to play as his modern disciples to "make disciples of all nations".

If you look at the gospel stories, you will find that the very first words Jesus spoke when he began to call his disciples were "come", "come and see", in response to the question asked of him, "Master, where do you live?" The invitational words of Christ invite but never force the one who searches and desires to follow the true meaning of life and living. His very last words to the disciples who had lived with him, followed him, ate, drank and slept with him, and who denied him in the end only to be forgiven and restored after he rose from the dead; those disciples who heard his last words before he ascended into heaven - "Go!" "Go into all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. And I will be with you." The Church's commission to "go" is a great sending that has been renewed and fresh in every age since and will continue, with success measured by the will and love of God, because, as he said, he is with us!

As I take my leave after five short years at St. Mary's, it is with sadness, yet mingled with the great memory of being part of Christ's mandate to us all at this dynamic, faith-filled, service-to-others-oriented parish. I will remember you all with a heart glad for the wonderful experience. I pray for you, thank you, and bless you all, in the name of the Father, and of the Son +, and of the Holy Spirit. (Fr. Charles)



MASS
SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Tuesday June 23 rd	
6:30pm	CONFESSIONS
7:00pm	Intentions of the Guerrero Family
Wednesday June 24 th	
8:30am	NO MASS
Thursday June 25 th	
8:30am	NO MASS
Friday June 26 th	
7:30am	HOLY HOUR
8:30am	UNANNOUNCED MASS
Saturday June 27 th	
8:30am	+Theresa Syzdziaak
3:30pm	CONFESSIONS
4:30pm	+Joyce Mittermeier
	Requested by Gayle Robinson
Sunday June 28 th	
9:00am	For the People
11:00am	+David & Andy Calado
	Requested by Helena Calado

Please Pray for the Sick

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



Please Pray for the Recently Deceased

Fr. Peter Damian Power



THE SANCTUARY LAMP BURNS
FOR THE INTENTIONS OF
FR. CHARLES FORGET
JUNE 21ST TO JUNE 27TH



Sunday June 14th 2026

Inc PAG	\$5,377.65
Marygrove Camp	\$2,036.10
ShareLife 2026 Goal	\$46,000.00
Raised So Far	\$27,731.20



THANK YOU

The CWL would like to send out a heartfelt thank you to everyone who baked and donated to the bake sale.

CATHOLIC MOM'S GROUP

Meetup Tuesday June 23rd
1.30 to 3:00pm Church Hall
"Drawing Closer to God"
We will be focusing on the Sacred Heart
Children welcome
Bring some colouring pencils

12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME June 21, 2026
You create memories that last a lifetime through ShareLife

For many parents, who are unable to care for their children on a full-time basis, summer break brings both mental and financial worry. Agencies you support through ShareLife, such as Camp Ozanam, Office of Catholic Youth, Silent Voice Canada, and St. Bernadette's Family Resource Centre, offer day programs and summer camps that bring children and youth, and their parents, much-needed relief.

St. Bernadette's Family Resource Centre cares for individuals who are facing developmental and physical challenges. At St. Jude's Academy of the Arts Adult Day Program, adult children with development disabilities are met with patience and empathy. You provide families with peace of mind, knowing that their loved ones are welcomed into a community and safe space that affirms their dignity and worth.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

FAREWELL FR. CHARLES

Change is an inevitable part of our faith journey, yet it rarely comes without a heavy heart. This month, our parish family prepares to say goodbye to a truly beloved shepherd, Fr. Charles Forget, as he answers the call to serve at St. Paul's Basilica in Toronto. While we are deeply saddened to see him leave, we are immensely grateful for the 5 years he has dedicated to walking alongside us.

From the moment Father Charles arrived, his impact was felt. He didn't just lead our liturgies; he became a vital part of our daily lives. Through his thought-provoking homilies, he challenged us to think deeper, love harder, and live out the Gospel with authenticity.

Over the years, Father Charles has been with us through life's most profound moments. He has baptized our children, celebrated our marriages, comforted us in our grief, and guided many of us through quiet moments of spiritual renewal. His dedication left an indelible mark on our community.

"His leadership was defined not just by his words at the altar, but by his kindness in the hallways, his readiness to listen, and his infectious sense of humor."

As Father Charles packs his bags for his next assignment, he leaves behind a stronger, more vibrant parish. We take comfort in knowing that the same spiritual guidance and warmth he gifted us will now bless the community at St. Paul's Basilica.

Please join us in the Parish Hall this Sunday after the 11:00am Mass for a farewell reception, enjoy some refreshments, and offer a collective blessing for his next chapter.

Father Charles, you will always have a home here at St. Mary's. We promise to keep you in our prayers, and we ask that you keep us in yours. May God richly bless you with abundant graces as you continue your holy ministry.

Thank you, Father!

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