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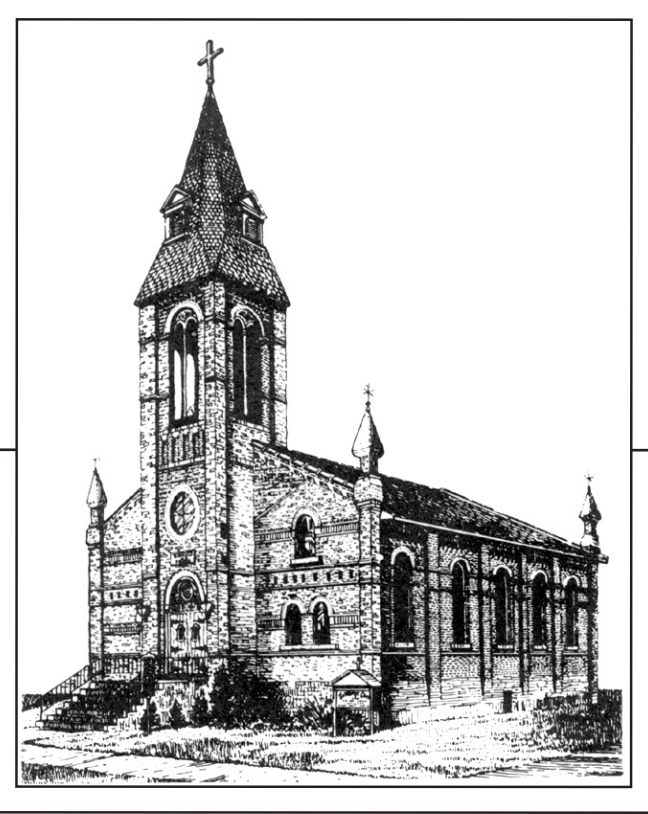
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# ST. MARY'S CHURCH

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

Emilie Spence, Sacramental  
Co-Ordinator/Youth Minister  
SMYMCollingwood@gmail.com

**The Society of  
St. Vincent de Paul**  
President:  
Adrian O'Connor  
Tel: 705-444-0999  
https://ssvpcollingwood.ca

**SUNDAY MASSES**  
Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

**WEEKDAY MASSES**  
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30 a.m.  
Wednesday 7:00 p.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 Wednesday 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: Jean Stewart  
(705) 445-2151

The Knights of Columbus 3rd Degree  
Grand Knight: Angelo Vivona  
(705) 446 5147  
collingwoodknightsforcolumbus.org

The Knights of Columbus 4th Degree  
Faithful Navigator: Domenic Sanfilippo  
(705) 445 7615

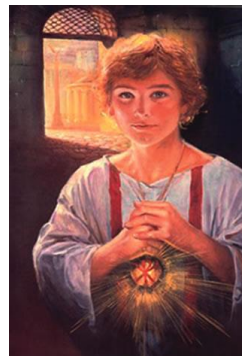


**IF YOU WANT TO BE A GOOD PERSON, IT DOES MATTER WHAT YOU BELIEVE**

*Years ago, I read the following article by now Bishop Robert Barron and thought it would be beneficial for our reading and spiritual formation to share it with you. How often have we heard the opposite to the above headline that holds it doesn't really matter what you believe, particularly when someone is against religion? Fr. Barron ably makes the case that it does matter what we believe.*

We have been and are witnessing a blurring of the lines and a general falling away from Catholic faith and faith in general in the past decades. It is so often a choosing of the world over the world of Christ that is the symptom of the problem which remains just that, a problem. We are living at a time when Christ is making it manifestly obvious that he wants us back.

To read, watch and be edified by this greater teacher and man of Faith, go to his website: [wordonfire.org](http://wordonfire.org) (Fr. Charles)



"A team of sociologists, led by Catholic University professor William D'Antonio, recently published a survey that has gotten quite a bit of media attention, for it shows that many Catholics disagree with core doctrines of their church and yet still consider themselves "good Catholics." For instance, 40% of the respondents said that belief in the real presence of Jesus in the eucharist

is not essential to be a faithful Catholic. Perhaps the most startling statistic is this: fully 88% of those surveyed said "how a person lives is more important than whether he or she is a Catholic." In a follow up piece in the Chicago Sun-Times, a reporter asked a number of people on the street for their reaction to these findings. One man said, "I'm a very good Catholic because I follow what's in my heart, more than what the church tells me to do..."

As even the most casual student of societal trends knows, this sort of cavalier attitude toward doctrine is rampant, at least in the West. I dare say that most people in Europe or North America would hold some version of the following: as long as, deep down, you are a good person, it doesn't much matter what you believe. The intellectual pedigree of this popular idea can be traced back at least to the 18th century German philosopher Immanuel Kant, who held that religion is fundamentally reducible to ethics. All other forms of religious life and practice—dogmas, rituals, liturgies, sacraments, etc.—are meant, Kant thought, simply to contribute to upright moral behavior. In the measure that they fulfill this purpose, they are acceptable, but in the measure that they contribute nothing to ethics, they become irrelevant, even dangerous.

I would argue that what is truly dangerous is precisely the bifurcation (*the splitting off into two branches*) between doctrine and ethics that Kant inaugurated and that has become so ingrained in the contemporary imagination. For though we rarely aver (*assert*) to the fact, so many of the ethical norms that we

take for granted are deeply rooted in very definite doctrinal claims of the Judeo-Christian traditions. When the dogmas are ignored or declared irrelevant, the normativity of the moral claims is, sooner or later, attenuated (*weakened in force or effect*).

I would imagine that, if pressed, most people in our society would characterize "being a good person" as treating others with love, honoring the dignity, freedom, and inherent worth of their fellow human beings. And most would agree that ethical violations—stealing, lying, sexual misbehavior, infidelity, cheating, doing physical harm, etc.—are correctly seen as negations of love. But what is love? Love is not primarily a feeling or an instinct; rather, it is the act of willing the good of the other as other. It is radical self-gift, living for the sake of the other. To be kind to someone else so that he might be kind to you, or to treat a fellow human being justly so that he, in turn, might treat you with justice is not to love, for such moves are tantamount to indirect self-interest. Truly to love is to move outside of the black hole of one's egotism, to resist the centripetal force that compels one to assume the attitude of self-protection. But this means that love is rightly described as a "theological virtue," for it represents a participation in the love that God is. Since God has no need, only God can utterly exist for the sake of the other. All of the great masters of the Christian spiritual tradition saw that we are able to love only inasmuch as we have received, as a grace, a share in the very life, energy, and nature of God. So far, we've looked at the subjective side of love. But what of its object? Why, precisely, are we convinced that our fellow human beings are in possession of rights, endowed with dignity, and of inherent worth? This conviction has become so ingrained in us, so taken for granted, that we forget how peculiarly theological it is. Every human being, regardless of considerations of race, education, intelligence, strength, or accomplishment is a subject of inestimable value because he or she has been created by God and destined by God for eternal life. Take God out of the equation, and human dignity rather rapidly evanesces. If you doubt me on this score, I would invite you to look to societies in which belief in a Creator God was not operative. In classical Greece, the society of Plato and Aristotle, only a certain handful of people—aristocratic, virtuous, propertied, and well-educated—were seen as worthy of respect. Everyone else was expected to do as he or she was told; infants deemed imperfect could be exposed; and a startlingly large number of people were consigned to slavery. And in the secular totalitarianisms of the last century, societies in which God was systematically denied, human dignity was so little respected that the piling up of tens of millions of corpses was seen as an acceptable political strategy, Lenin's "cracking of some eggs to make an omelet." In our commitment to love and to human dignity, we are, whether we know it or not, operating out of a theological consciousness. When the doctrines and practices that support religious consciousness are dismissed—as they so often are in contemporary secularism—the moral convictions born of that consciousness are imperiled. This is the massively important point missed by those who so blithely say, "it doesn't matter what you believe, as long as you're a nice person."



**Tuesday February 8<sup>th</sup>**

8:30am Intentions Fr. Edgar Polotan  
Requested by Ken Wright

**Wednesday February 9<sup>th</sup>**

7:00pm Intentions of Nancy & Vince Massa

**Thursday February 10<sup>th</sup>**

8:30am +Isobel Flood  
Requested by Susan & Fred Holmes

**Friday February 11<sup>th</sup>**

7:30am **Holy Hour**  
8:30am +Cathy Garrett  
Requested by Judy Ferguson

**Saturday February 12<sup>th</sup>**

3:30pm Confession  
4:30pm Intentions of Geraldine & Frank Bondi  
Requested by the Family

**Sunday February 13<sup>th</sup>**

9:00am Intentions of the Guerrero Family  
  
11:00am +Len Thibeault  
Requested by Krysta & Nelson & Family

*Please Pray for the Sick*

Audrey Stover, Chelsea Cando, Dorothy Dynes, Lexie Bruce, Margot Brandreth, Ken Buchan, Christian Sawatzky, Lynda McKay, Andrew Witvoe, Fr. Jim Petrie

*Pray for those who have died recently...*

Jack Patterson, Alyssa Walters,



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns  
For the Parishioners of St. Mary's  
From Feb 6 to Feb 12 22

PARISH OFFERTORY  
Jan 30<sup>th</sup> \$2900.00 (inc PAG)

**Confirmation**

Confirmation registration will be open Friday Feb 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday Feb 11<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions please contact Emilie our Sacramental Coordinator at [sacramentsstmarys@gmail.com](mailto:sacramentsstmarys@gmail.com) or by calling the parish office. Ext 4. The date will be set once we are allowed to celebrate the sacrament and those who have registered will be advised.

SECOND COLLECTON FOR OUR BUILDING & MAINTENANCE SUNDAY FEBRUARY 6TH

**Attend the Celebration of Marriage Mass via Livestream**

Bishop Robert Kasun, CSB, will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples celebrating milestone anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and over) in 2022. The Mass will take place at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 13 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica. We invite you to attend via livestream at: [www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live](http://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live). Registration is not required for the livestream,



**CWL MEMBERS**

The 2022 membership fees (25.00) are now due. You may place your cheque in an envelope marked CWL and drop it in the collection basket or the black box on the wall. Also, it can be left in the Parish Office and Marybeth will get it. Thank you. Think positive, lots of prayers to Our Lady of Good Counsel, we will surely be back to our League good times and work for our community.

**COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR February 26, 2022**

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 6 years we have been walking, we have raised \$22,185.00. Again, I am happy to be Captain of the team.

**We need your help!**

We are asking the members of St Mary's Roman Catholic Church to help us raise funds to support youth at risk of homelessness in our local area

**Where does the money raised go?**

The funds raised go to the Home Horizon, Barbara Weider House, a local not for profit charity, where the staff work incredibly hard to give these youth "Hope" for their future. The need is so great whether providing food, shelter, counselling, life skills or family reconciliation. For more information go to [www.homehorizon.ca](http://www.homehorizon.ca)

**Please support us as you can!**

Simply **DONATE OR JOIN** our team St. Mary's Angels, in a virtual walk to show you care! [Croy.org/Collingwood](http://Croy.org/Collingwood) and look for our team name. If you require further information just give me a call at the parish office. Thank You.

**So far, we have raised \$1495.00**

**Kindergarten Registration**

Kindergarten Registration at SMCDSB. Is your child turning 4 in 2022? If so, it's time to register for Kindergarten! There is something truly unique and special about learning that is rooted in faith and spiritual growth. It is a blessing that the youngest members of our parish have the opportunity to grow in spirit and faith within a Catholic school community. Catholic schools offer distinct faith-filled learning experiences, with a combined focus on academic, spiritual, social and emotional growth. Together, our Catholic schools and our parish community will guide children in their ongoing growth in faith. To help parents and students get ready for Kindergarten, the board has developed a package, including a parent booklet. We encourage parents who want to register their child for Kindergarten to visit the website at [smcbsb.on.ca](http://smcbsb.on.ca) for welcome videos and registration information.