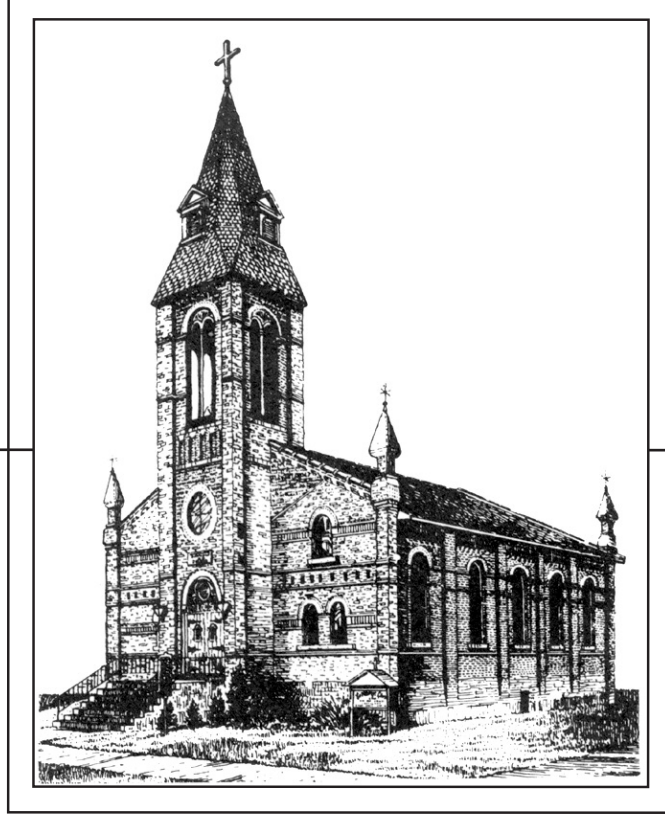


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ST. MARY'S CHURCH



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.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR SICK, SHUT-INS: Holy Communion is brought regularly to sick and shut-ins. Please notify the rectory.

WEEKDAY MASSES
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

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.

RECONCILIATION
Saturday: 3:30 to 4:00 p.m. or by appointment.

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 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.

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.

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

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.

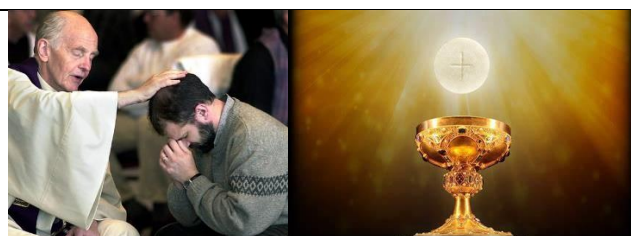
BAPTISMS: Please call the Parish Office.

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

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**A REFLECTION ON
RECONCILIATION & EUCHARIST**



Several years ago, following a funeral I had presided over, a person approached me to thank me for the homily I had given, but also to mention that they personally took offense to an announcement I had made just prior to Communion. Since funerals and weddings tend to bring together a mixed crowd of Catholics and non-Catholics, I usually make an announcement informing the congregation that Holy Communion in the Catholic Church is for those who are Catholic, though I was much more diplomatic and less blunt than that. I also added that those who are Catholic but do not regularly attend Mass and the sacrament of Reconciliation and are, therefore, not disposed to receive the Eucharist, are invited to come forward for a blessing instead of Communion. It was this last line that bothered this person who considered it as just another attempt by the Catholic Church to push people away. We spent a little time talking about this and I cited a passage from St. Paul that I think would be good for all of us to reflect on, particularly since many Catholics have not really been catechized in the beautiful and just teachings of Catholicism.

St. Paul, in speaking about how the Early Church was coming together to celebrate Eucharist, addressed an issue that is the foundation of the Church's teaching about reconciliation before Communion. In his teaching, St. Paul even goes so far as to suggest that because some people receive Communion but are in a state of sin, not having gone to the sacrament of God's forgiveness for some time, it is actually making them sick, even causing death!

He writes in 1 Corinthians 11:27-32;

"Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will have to answer for the body and blood of the Lord. A person should examine themselves, and so eat the bread and drink the cup. For anyone who eats or drinks without discerning the body, eats and drinks judgement on themselves. That is why many among you are ill and infirm, and a considerable number are dying. If we discerned ourselves, we would not be under judgement; but since we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world."

None of us at any time in our lives can really say "I'm worthy", even if we've just stepped out of the confessional with all our sins forgiven. It is Christ who makes us able to come forward, sinners that we are, and say "Amen" to the Body and Blood of Christ. The very last words we say just prior to the reception of Communion attests to our

unworthiness as we say, while the host is held aloft by the priest; "Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed."

The sacrament of Reconciliation balances us out before God where we are able to say, "I'm not worthy of the Lord, but I am seeking to get rid of my sins and live a renewed life, realizing I need Christ's gift of his body and blood for my pilgrim journey to the Father's house". The two extremes that will lead us into sin or error is either thinking we are so unworthy of the Lord that we will never receive Communion because we are hopeless. And the other extreme would be to think that it really doesn't matter at all, as long as we desire to receive Communion.

In speaking with the person after the funeral, I mentioned that while it is a good and noble thing to desire to receive the Eucharist, we should also desire to stand before God forgiven just as much - we should desire to be forgiven as well as receiving the Lord in Communion.

Perhaps one of the difficulties in our day is the fact that we suffer the loss of a sense of sin. Daily news stories make us well aware of the really "bad guys" out there which can serve to make us feel like we're okay. The problem is that when it comes to sin, we need to compare ourselves with Christ not Karla Homolka or Paul Bernardo.

Have you ever tried to sit down and share a meal with someone you were really mad at or just couldn't stand? A meal is far more than just the task of consuming food; it is connected with others and is not possible unless there is unity, harmony and reconciliation. In order to truly commune with God, we need to be in communion with others, or at least are making serious attempts to do so. That's why we begin every celebration of the Eucharist with a *penitential rite* in order that we would recognize that we are not perfect people who have left the dirty world outside, but that we too are dirty and stained as compared to God, and come into his presence desirous of his forgiveness, mercy, love, compassion and power to forgive us.

Being freed of our sins by God is what allows us to continue to live in freedom to receive him in other ways, most especially in the mystery of the Eucharist. Existence in a constant state of sin, while continually receiving Eucharist, erodes the meaning and understanding of Eucharist away to the point that our sin would render the Eucharist ineffective for our lives and would, as St. Paul says, make us unhealthy. It could actually be the cause of our illnesses, depression, anxiety and unhappiness because of what it is - it is Jesus.

Celebrating the sacrament of Reconciliation (confession) is never easy for anyone as it is humiliating to admit before another human being that we are in fact a sinner and are guilty of various sins, however, deferred joys are always the sweetest. If we truly seek to be reconciled to God through the celebration of the forgiving sacrament which Christ himself initiated, we will then be able to *"Taste and see that the Lord is good"*. (Fr. Charles)

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

- Tuesday June 21
8:30am Intentions of George Wedge
Requested by Rebecca Wedge
- Wednesday June 22
7:00pm +Vesma Baltgailis
- Thursday June 23
8:30am Intentions of Nicole Guerrero
- Friday June 24
7:30am HOLY HOUR
8:30am Intentions of Noah Wedge
Requested by Rebecca Wedge
- Saturday June 25
3:30 to 4:00pm Confessions
4:30pm +Therese Szydziak
Requested by Debra & Brian O'Hearn
- Sunday June 26
9:00am +Nancy Greco
Requested by the Cudney Family
- 11:00am The People

Please Pray for the Sick
Chelsea Cando, Dorothy Dynes, Margot Brandreth,
Lynda McKay, Fr. Jim Petrie, Ken Buchan,
Pray for those who have died recently...
Paul Van Boxmeer, Christian Michael Sawatzky

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William Thurald Thompson
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June 12th \$2660.25 (Inc PAG)

MARYGROVE CAMP
June 12 \$1379.75



CWL NEWS
On Tuesday, June 21, the CWL will be holding a POTLUCK luncheon in the Parish Hall at 12 noon. All ladies of the parish are welcome. Our meeting starts right after lunch, please feel free to stay and hear what we are planning.

**Body and Blood of Christ
June 19, 2022**
ShareLife agencies need your support now, more than ever
One the agencies you support through ShareLife is Catholic Cross-cultural Services.
The agency appreciates your help and recently wrote:
"The pandemic has affected the newcomer and refugee communities we serve greatly and brought on multiple challenges to their access to much needed culturally sensitive services. CCS was able to ensure uninterrupted access to services, information, and support for women, mental health and settlement services to those ineligible for any other services due to their immigration status."
For some agencies, ShareLife is the sole funder of their programs. Thanks to your support, no one is ever turned away due to inability to pay. Our goal this year is \$45,000.00. To date we have achieved \$32,207.00. If you have not yet donated and wish to, you can do so online on the parish website or at Sharelife.org.
Please give generously.

HAPPY FATHERS DAY



God our Father

We give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.
We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation;
may they find courage and perseverance
to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.
We pray for fathers around the world
whose children are lost or suffering;
may they know that the God of compassion
walks with them in their sorrow.
We pray for men who are not fathers
but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice. We
remember fathers, grandfather, and great grandfathers
who are no longer with us
but who live forever in our memory
and nourish us with their love.
Amen

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