

ST. MArY’S CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL is collecting items for their North Pole Gift Shop. Items such as toys, puzzles, books, picture frames, and mugs or any items you would put out in a yard sale would be greatly appreciated. Items can be dropped off at the school between 8:30 and 4:15 until December 12. On Wednesday, December 17, the gift shop opens for students to purchase Christmas gifts for their family. All items are sold for \$1.00. This is the student’s favourite day of the year so while you are getting out those Christmas decorations, take a look around for items that might make a parent smile when presented Christmas morning!

PARISH COUNCIL- FINANCIL HEALTH REPORT - As Chair of the Parish Council, I am pleased to share a very positive update on the financial health of our parish. Thanks to your generosity and continued support, our General Account now has a balance of \$32,885.15(as of November 3, 2025), and our Bingo Account has \$3,891. This improvement allows us to care for our parish more proactively and responsibly. Over the past few months, your contributions have helped us make several wise financial decisions: Purchased a snowblower for the parish. This will save us from having to hire snow removal services throughout the winter. Purchased a new printer, reducing ongoing rental costs and saving money month after month. That’s a wonderful sign that we are on the right track. As we enter winter, we know that unexpected expenses always arise. Please continue your support so we can maintain this strong financial footing. A special note of thanks to Jackie Innis and our Bingo team. The Bingo fund is a vital resource that makes restoration projects possible. If you have a few hours a month to spare, please consider helping with the Bingo team. *Michael Mullin*

COBOURG ODD FELLOWS AND REBEKAHS HUMANITARIAN SERVICES - St. Mary’s Parish extends a sincere thank you to the Cobourg Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Humanitarian Services for their generous donation of a wheelchair to our parish. Their commitment to helping individuals and families in our community is truly appreciated. The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs collect, refurbish, and loan medical and assistive equipment—including wheelchairs, walkers, and crutches—to anyone in need, free of charge. If you have medical or assistive equipment that you no longer need, please consider donating it to their program. Contact info: Ph. 905-373-4887.

ST. MARY’S CWL - The next CWL meeting is Dec.01/25 @ 9:30 am at the rectory. The CWL Project "Helping Others" is underway. It runs until Nov.30/25. Please donate Personal Care Items for babies, children, youth, adults and seniors. There is a list on the bulletin board if you need ideas. There is a tub inside the front entrance in which you can donate your items. Thank you for your donations. It is so appreciated. Please MARK Dec.06 on your calendar. That is the date of the Grafton Christmas Market here at St. Mary CES in the GYM. Hours: Noon - 5:00 pm. St. Mary's CWL will be there operating the CWL Canteen which is featuring its CWL Marvellous Chili. There will be a number of VENDORS selling their wares. Please plan to attend. The Grafton Christmas Market will be based at the Arena with many vendors there as well. St. Andrew's United Church & St. George's Anglican Church also invite you to their Christmas Market activities. Members: Don't forget CWL Fees are due by Nov.30/25. Please follow instructions in the Membership envelope to pay fees.

Parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

103 Lyle Street South. P. O. Box 239, Grafton. Ontario K0K 2G0

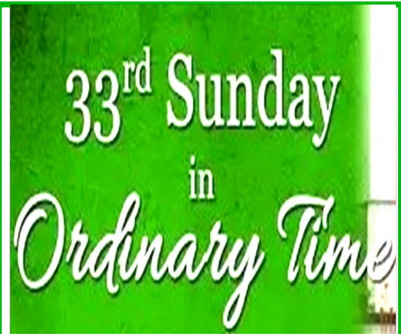
Tel: 905-349-2504

Parish Email: office@assumptiongrafton.ca Parish Website: stmarygrafton.ca

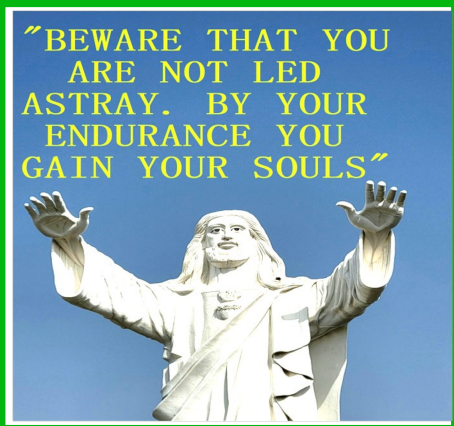
Diocesan Website: www.peterboroughdiocese.org

Bookkeeper - Gabrielito Garcia

Fr. Martin Dalida - Parish Priest



November 15-16,



Parish Committees & Organizations

Parish Pastoral Council, *Michael Mullin*
(Chairperson)- 416 300 8680
Finance, *Alfons Casteels* - 905 269 2352
Lectors, *Joanna Mecozzi* - 905 375 9502
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion,
Judith Goulin-905 372 7684
Catholic Women’s League, *Pat Murphy*
(President)-905 349 2847
Bingo Volunteers, *Jackie Innis*-905 349 2880
St Vincent de Paul, *Wes Krentz*-905 377 3263
Cemetery Board, *Francis Calnan* 905 269 0795

KC and Ushers, *Darrell Manley*-905 744 0865
Counters, *Wes Krentz*-905 396 2578
Development and Peace/Library, *Suzanne Liptay*-905 372 3031
St Mary’s Choir, *Alfons Casteels*-905 269 2352
Parish Handyman, *Ed Nemec*-905 349 2923
Religious Articles, *Kathy Ancker*- 905-344-0048
St. Mary’s Elementary School, Grafton, *Nancy Jones (Principal)*-905 349 2061
St Mary’s Secondary School, Cobourg, *Jill Barker- Principal*)-Tel. 905 372 4339

SACRAMENTAL MINISTRY

Baptisms, Marriages, & Anointing of the Sick may be arranged by calling the Office.
Confessions: Saturday at 8:30 am & 3:30 pm, or anytime on request.
First Friday of the month - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament @ 9am.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Mass Intentions for today: Nov 16 for the Deceased members of St. Mary's CWL Grafton

Nov 17, Mon - NO MASS

Nov 18, Tues 9am

Nov 19, Wed 9am

Nov 20, Thurs 9am

Nov 21, Fri 9am (Presentation of BVM) +For All Souls

Nov 22, Sat 9am (St. Cecilia, virgin & martyr) For personal Intention of Ian Manley

Nov 22, Sat 4pm (Feast of Christ the King) + For All souls by Nick Manley

Nov 23, Sun 10am (Feast of Christ the King) People of the parish

Nov 22-23 WEEKEND MASSES

	4pm	10 am
LECTORS:	Michael Mullin	Michael Stephenson
EMHC:	Deirdre Arzheimer	Bernadette Murray
USHERS:	Darrell & Nick Manley	Joe O'Kane & Theo Mensen

Collections Weekend of Nov 8-9, 2025



Sunday Offering - \$1,675

All Souls' Day Offerings - \$835

Building Maintenance -\$270

Heating - 265

Needs of Canadian Church - \$315

ADVENT ACTIVITIES, CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASSES

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE- CONFESSION (Dec 20, Saturday 9am)

DECORATIONS DAY (Dec 21, Sunday 11am)

CHRISTMAS EVE (Dec 24, Wednesday 4pm)

CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT (Dec 24, Wednesday 8pm)

CHRISTMAS DAY (Dec 25, Thursday 10am)

NEW YEAR EVE (Dec 31, Wednesday 4PM)

NEW YEAR DAY (Jan 1, 2026, Thursday 10am)



PRAY FOR THE SICK MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Terry Korotki, Dalton McDonald

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

WINTER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - Now that winter has arrived, we're looking for a few volunteers to help keep our church entrances safe and welcoming. If you attend either weekend or weekday Masses, please consider coming a little early to help shovel the snow & spread salt to clear the walkway. Even a few minutes of teamwork before Mass can make a big difference for our parish family. Thank you for helping keep St. Mary's safe for everyone this winter!



WORLD DAY OF THE POOR (Today, November 16) - In 2017, Pope Francis instituted The World Day of the Poor to encourage the Church to actively address poverty in its various forms. It is time for Christians and all men and women of goodwill to reflect and take action, encouraging people to connect with those experiencing poverty and work towards ending cycles of poverty. For this year 2025, Pope Leo XIV issues a message centered on the theme: "You are my hope", and expresses his hope that this Jubilee Year may encourage the development of policies aimed at combatting forms of poverty both old and new. "Poverty has structural causes that must be addressed and eliminated," he writes, calling for policies that reflect the Church's commitment to labour, education, housing and healthcare as universal rights. "The poor are not a distraction for the Church," he reiterates, "They are our beloved brothers and sisters... they put us in contact with the truth of the Gospel." In 2025, it is estimated that approximately 808 million people will be living in extreme poverty, which represents 9.9% of the global population. Another estimate suggests that around 838 million individuals are living below the international poverty line of \$3 per person per day (globalclimatereview.org).

PALLIATIVE CARE VS. MAiD - (From Vatican) "The Vatican has consistently condemned euthanasia and assisted suicide, emphasizing the moral obligation to provide care and support for those in the terminal stages of life. The church teaches that life is a sacred and inviolable gift, and medical assistance in dying is a violation of this principle." (From Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, CCCC) "Our position remains unequivocal. Euthanasia and assisted suicide constitute the deliberate killing of human life in violation of God's Commandments; they erode our shared dignity by failing to see, to accept, and accompany those suffering and dying. Furthermore, they undermine the fundamental duty we have to take care of the weakest and most vulnerable members of society. Human life must be protected from conception to natural death, at all stages and in all conditions." The church advocates for palliative care which is seen as a concrete sign of solidarity with the suffering and dying. The church's stance is based on the belief that life is a right, not death, and that medical assistance in dying is a crime against human life.

PRIEST SITS DOWN AFTER HOMILY - The priest sitting down after the homily is a practice that had been observed for centuries and is rooted in tradition and biblical meaning. This moment of silence allows the congregation to digest the homily's content and fosters a contemplative atmosphere, enriching the worship experience by allowing time for internalization of the gospel message. Furthermore, such moments of silence in the liturgy enhances faithful spiritual experience of the Mass.

