

PARISH LENTEN RETREAT (March 27 & 28) - Join us for a special Parish Lenten Retreat led by Fr. Joseph Lourdasamy, a Franciscan Capuchin priest. This retreat offers a meaningful opportunity for prayer, reflection, and spiritual renewal as we journey through Lent together as a parish community. *Schedule: Friday, March 27 at 7:00pm, Saturday, March 28 at 2:00pm, Confession at 3pm, Holy Mass at 4pm.* All parishioners are warmly encouraged to attend. A free-will offering (Tax Receiptable) will be collected in support of the retreat and speaker. We look forward to welcoming you to this grace-filled Lenten experience.

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE (Feb 22) - By standing in solidarity with society's neglected people whom Development and Peace — Caritas Canada serves, we can walk in Christ's footsteps, mirror his loving gaze, and bring our relationship with him and our faith to fruition. This Lent, D&P's *On Track for Justice* campaign takes us to Brazil. There, one of its partners, *Justiça nos Trilhos*, is helping communities affected by a railway line. Hundreds of open rail cars pass over the tracks every day, carrying ore from one of the world's iron mines to a port nearly 900 kilometers away. Dust and air and noise pollution from these trains have poisoned the lands and made life unbearable for trackside communities.

SHARE LENT 2026 - Brothers & sisters, Founded in 1967 by the Bishops of Canada, following Gospel values and the "Preferential Option for the Poor", the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace – Caritas Canada is dedicated to the promotion of Justice, Peace and Dignity for peoples of the Global South. Through the generosity of Canadians this past year, Development and Peace assisted in 59 projects serving 7 million people in 34 countries in the Global South. Pope Leo observed that in a world where the poor are increasingly numerous, we paradoxically see the growth of a wealthy elite, living in a "bubble" of comfort and luxury, almost in another world compared to ordinary people." We must strive to break this 'bubble' and promote assistance for the poor and disadvantaged. A way to help achieve this is through your participation in this year's Share Lent Campaign – On Track for Justice.

Most Reverend Daniel Miehm, Bishop of Peterborough

ST. MARY'S CWL - We extend our condolences to the Corbier Family and Tass' extended family on the loss of a dear mother, grandmother, great grandmother, caregiver and friend. Tass was an "angel with a heart of gold" who knew how to help and comfort those in need. She loved to sing and share her talent with others. "Eternal rest grant unto her, and may she rest in peace." Tass was a CWL member for 57 years. The next CWL meeting is Mar. 02/26 @ 9:30 am at the rectory. St. Mary's CWL Council is hosting The World Day of Prayer, March 07/26 @ 10:00 am in the gym at St. Mary School. All are invited to attend. We send our thoughts and prayers to the community of Tumbler Ridge in BC on the loss of so many in the tragic events of recent days. May God bless the community, especially the families who have lost a loved one, and help the residents find the strength to move forward, heal and find peace.

Parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

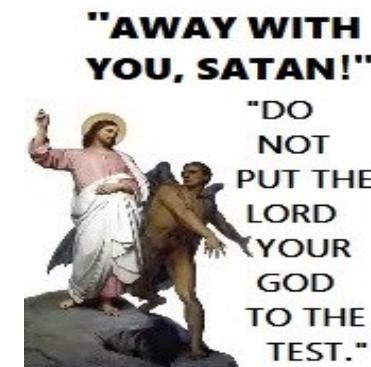
Tel: 905-349-2504

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

Diocesan Website: www.peterboroughdiocese.org

Bookkeeper - Gabrielito Garcia

Fr. Martin Dalida - Parish Priest



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, *Deirdre Arzheimer - 905 396 2837*
 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, *Tina Mullin 905 409 3433*

KC and Ushers, *Darrell Manley-905 744 0865*
 Counters, *Wes Krentz-905 396 2578*
 Development and Peace/Library, *Suzanne Liptay-289 829 0697*
 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 @ 8:00am.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Mass Intentions today Feb28– Sick & Dying, March 1 - +Colleen Lawson

Feb 23, Mon (NO MASS)

Feb 24, Tues 9am - Int. for Terry Korotki by Maria Marszal

Feb 25, Wed 9am - Souls in Purgatory by Ian Manley

Feb 26, Thurs 9am

Feb 27, Fri 9am - Int. for Michele Elder by Marie McVety

Feb 28, Sat 9am +Greg Blick by Ian Manley

Feb 28, Sat 4pm (2nd Sun Lent) +Dennis Farwell by Joan & Tony Farwell

March 1, 10am (2nd Sun Lent) +Tass Corbier by St. Mary's CWL



February 28, March 1, 2026 WEEKEND MASSES

4pm

10 am

LECTORS: Michael Mullin

Joanna Mecozzi

EMHC: Pat Rutherford

John Logel

USHERS: Darrell & Nick Manley

Ed Nemec & Rob Ugolini



Collections February 14-15, 2026

Sunday Offering - \$1, 730

Building Maintenance - \$50

HOLY WEEK MASSES & ACTIVITIES

ALL FRIDAYS DURING LENT @ 9:30am- STATIONS OF THE CROSS

MARCH 27, FRIDAY 7pm, SATURDAY 2pm - PARISH LENTEN RETREAT

MARCH 28 PALM SUNDAY 4pm MASS

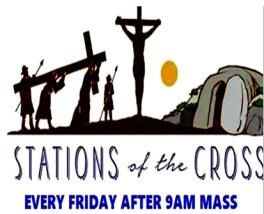
MARCH 29 PALM SUNDAY 10am MASS

APRIL 2 HOLY THURSDAY 7pm - MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER

APRIL 3 GOOD FRIDAY 2:30pm - CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION

APRIL 4 SATURDAY, 7pm - EASTER EVE MASS

APRIL 5 SUNDAY, 10AM - EASTER SUNDAY MASS



PRAY FOR THE SICK MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Michele Elder, Clare Chapin, Claude Boulanger, Terry Korotki

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



THE SEASON OF LENT is one of the most important and meaningful times in the Christian calendar. It is a 40-day period of preparation before Easter, rooted in the 40 days that Jesus Christ spent fasting and praying in the desert. This season of Lent is significantly important for Christians: 1. It calls to examine lives, recognize sin, and turn back to God. 2. It helps deepen prayer life, to grow closer to God and become more attentive to God's will. 3. Doing Fasting & abstinence during Lent helps believers practice self-control and detach from worldly comforts, reminding further that spiritual nourishment is more important than material things. 4. It emphasizes caring for the poor and those in need, that acts of charity express love of neighbor and reflect Christ's compassion. 5. It prepares Christians to celebrate the Resurrection with renewed faith and gratitude. 6. Ultimately, Lent is about transformation, about becoming a better Christian—more loving, forgiving, humble, and faithful. In short, Lent is a journey from ashes to resurrection—a sacred time for repentance, renewal, and deeper union with Christ.

EASTER CARD FUNDRAISER- Easter Cards will be available on the 2nd Sunday of Lent (March 1, 2026) after 10 a.m. Mass. All cards are hand-made by parishioner, Mary Sawyer, who has graciously made these Easter Cards for our fundraiser. Cards (with envelopes) will be available for \$10 each. Profits will assist the CWL to purchase First Communion and Confirmation Gifts for the students of St. Mary's Elementary School in the Spring of 2026.

DEATH IS FOR ALL - The reality of death is one of the most profound truths we face as human beings. No one escapes it. As Scripture reminds us, "It is appointed for all to die once" (Hebrews 9:27). For Christians, death is understood in the light of Jesus Christ. By his death and Resurrection, he transformed death from a curse into a doorway. Through his Cross and rising, death no longer has the final word: Corinthians 15:55 "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" How do Christians happily embrace death? By living each day prepared, remaining in a state of grace, trusting fully in God's mercy, and by letting go of fear because we belong to Christ. Practical Christian attitudes toward death: Live well – A holy life leads to a peaceful death. Repent often – Stay close to the Sacraments. Forgive freely – Do not carry hatred to the grave. Hope firmly – Trust in God's promise of eternal life. For Christians, death is not the end of the story. It is the beginning of eternal life with God.