

THE STAR OF EPIPHANY IS not only in the sky; they are people who inspire us. In our own Epiphany journey, the star often takes the form of people. Parents, grandparents, pastors, friends, and quiet witnesses of faith become stars who point the way to Christ, just as the Magi were led to Jesus. Like the Magi's star, they guided us—by faith, love, and example—to find the Messiah and our Saviour Jesus Christ. We are invited not only to follow such stars but to become one for others.



NEW YEAR, A LIFE BOOSTER - The New Year boosts life because it reawakens hope, restores purpose, and encourages growth. It reminds people that *time is still a gift* and that every day ahead is a chance to live better, love deeper, and begin again. A new year feels like a *fresh page*. Even if nothing changes overnight, the calendar change gives people permission to start again leaving behind failures, regrets, and disappointments. The New Year reminds us that the future is still open. This hope energizes people to believe that things can be better, whether in health, relationships, work, or faith. Setting goals gives direction. When people know *where they are going*, life feels more meaningful and less chaotic. For believers, the New Year is a time to: renew trust in God, seek blessings, recommit to prayer and service. It strengthens faith and reliance on divine guidance.

THE CLOSING OF JUBILEE YEAR - While the Jubilee Year in the Diocese of Peterborough was formally closed last week, and the Universal Church concludes it this week at the Vatican, the graces of the Jubilee do not end with its closing rites. A Jubilee is not meant to be a moment that passes, but a spiritual legacy that continues to shape our faith and daily living. Among the lasting values of the Jubilee Year is a renewed spirit of hope—hope rooted not in circumstances, but in God's unfailing mercy. The Jubilee reminded us that no one is beyond forgiveness and that reconciliation heals both hearts and communities. It also strengthened our call to conversion, inviting us to return to prayer, the sacraments, and trust in God's guidance. As the doors of the Jubilee close, may our hearts remain open—carrying forward its spirit of faith, mercy, unity, and hope into the days ahead.

ST. MARY'S CWL - Happy New Year to everyone here at St. Mary's. May God bless you all in the year 2026! A special Thank you to Pat & Ed Nemec for the beautiful festive urns at the front doors to the church. The next CWL meeting is Jan.05/25 @ 9:30 am at the rectory. The 10:00 am mass on Jan.04/26 is sponsored by the Ontario CWL Provincial Council for "All CWL members at St. Mary's. 'hank you to all CWL members. Your memberships have been paid and will be forwarded to the National Office. Thank you, members, for your dedication to St. Mary's CWL Council. Thank you to all who helped decorate the church for Christmas. The church looked very festive for the Christmas celebrations. Thank you to all parishioners and the CWL for the beautiful poinsettias which added a beautiful color to the church.

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



January 4, 2026



THE 3 MAGI GAVE HIM
GOLD, MYRRH AND
FRANKINCENSE



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-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 @ 9am.

MASSSES FOR THE WEEK

Mass Intentions today Jan 4 : For all CWL members of the diocese of Peterborough

Jan 5, Mon (NO MASS)

Jan 6, Tues 9am

Jan 7, Wed 9am (St. Andre Bessette, religious)

Jan 8, Thurs 9am

Jan 9, Fri 9am - Intention of Marie & Lynn McVety by Elizabeth Wilson

Jan 10, Sat 9am

Jan 10, 4pm (THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD)

Jan 11, 10am (THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD) +Eleanor & Gerald O'Dwyer by Mike & Liz O'Dwyer

January 10-11, 2026 WEEKEND MASSES

4pm

LECTORS: Michael Mullin

EMHC: Paula Blick

USHERS: Darrell & Nick Manley Rob Ugolini & Ed Nemec

10 am

Melissa Lilje

Judith Goulin



Collections Dec 27-28 & New Year

Sunday Offering - \$1, 658

New Year Offering - \$620

Donation- \$5,000



POPE LEO XIV MEANINGFUL WORDS: "The future of the world is not decided by power, but by hearts converted to truth and love."

"Christ did not come to erase our humanity, but to raise it to its highest dignity." "Where Christ is welcomed, fear loses its voice and hope finds its strength." "The Church shines brightest not when she seeks approval, but when she bears faithful witness."



PRAY FOR THE SICK MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Greg Blick, Tass Corbier, Terry Korotki

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - The celebration of the Epiphany proclaims a central truth of our faith: Jesus Christ is revealed as Savior of all people. Through the visit of the Magi, the Church celebrates that God's salvation is not limited to one nation, race, or culture. The Epiphany shows Christ made known to the Gentiles, represented by the wise men who journey from afar, guided by a star and drawn by faith. Epiphany also reminds us that God reveals Himself to those who seek Him sincerely. The Magi teach us openness, perseverance, and humility—recognizing Christ not in power or wealth, but in a humble child. Finally, Epiphany calls us to mission. Having encountered Christ, the Magi return "by another way," symbolizing a transformed life. We too are sent forth to reflect Christ's light in our world, making Him known through our words, actions, and love.

CHRISTMAS DECORATION - Please be informed that on Sunday, January 11, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass, we will be taking down the Christmas decorations in the sanctuary. Volunteers are most welcome, and any help will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued service to our parish.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY - (For prayer with the Word of God) "Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church."

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER FOR HOLY COMMUNION - We extend our heartfelt thanks to Judith Goulin for her generous and dedicated service as Head of the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for a number of years. Her leadership, commitment, and faith-filled service have been a true blessing to our parish. At the same time, we warmly welcome Deirdre Arzheimer as she takes on this important role. We are grateful for her willingness to serve and ask the parish to keep Deirdre in prayer as she begins this ministry.

NEW YEAR 2026 MESSAGE - Dear Parishioners of St. Mary's Parish, As we welcome the New Year, I extend my heartfelt best wishes to each of you and your families. May the Lord bless you with good health, peace, and renewed hope. Let us continue to grow together as one parish family, united in faith, love, and service. May this New Year be filled with God's grace and many blessings for our beloved St. Mary's Parish and for all of you. Fr Martin

APPRECIATION FOR OUR PARISH COUNTERS - We express our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated Parish Counters who faithfully serve the Church through this quiet yet noble ministry. Your work, often done behind the scenes, sustains the material life of our parish and supports its mission of worship, charity, and service. Your commitment ensures that every gift offered in faith is respected and used for the glory of God and the good of the community. Know that your service is not merely administrative—it is a ministry rooted in integrity, sacrifice, and love for the Church. May God bless you abundantly for your generosity of time, your faithfulness, and your silent but essential contribution to the life of our parish.