

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (JAN 1) - (The Importance of Mary, Mother of God, in Christian Faith) Mary holds a unique and essential place in Christianity because of her intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. To honor Mary is ultimately to honor the mystery of the Incarnation—that God truly became human for our salvation. When the Church calls Mary “Mother of God”, it is not primarily about Mary—it is about Jesus. This title affirms that Jesus is fully God and fully human, one divine Person from the moment of His conception. To deny Mary as Mother of God would risk separating Christ’s humanity from His divinity.



Mary is the first and most faithful disciple of Jesus. Her response at the Annunciation—“Let it be done to me according to your word” models total trust, obedience, and surrender to God. Christians look to Mary as a living example of how to say “yes” to God in everyday life. Mary never draws attention to herself. She always points to Christ and invites believers to listen to Him, trust Him, and follow Him. Devotion to Mary deepens, not replaces, our relationship with Christ. Mary matters to Christians because Jesus matters. She helps the Church believe rightly, love deeply, and follow Christ faithfully. Honoring Mary never diminishes Christ—it magnifies Him, just as she proclaimed: “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.”

CLOSING OF THE JUBILEE YEAR - The Jubilee Year now draws to a close, but its grace remains. Through prayer, reconciliation, and service, God has renewed us. As we move forward, may we carry into our daily lives what we have received—faith renewed, hearts converted, and lives *graced with hope*. PRAYER: *“Loving and faithful God, as we bring this Jubilee Year to a close, we thank You for the gift of renewal, reconciliation, and grace. You have reminded us that You walk with Your people and that hope is never lost in You. We thank You for all who journeyed on behalf of our parish & diocese. May the fruits of this holy year remain alive in our hearts. Send us forth as witnesses of Your mercy, and truly graced with hope.”*

THANK YOU, SUZZANE LIPTAY - On behalf of the parish, we extend our heartfelt thanks to Suzanne Liptay for representing our parish of St. Mary’s at the Closing of the Jubilee Year held in St. Peter’s-in-chains cathedral in Peterborough, Sunday Dec 28th. Her participation was a meaningful sign of our parish’s unity with the wider Church.

ST. MARY’S CWL - Happy New Year Fr Martin, CWL members and parishioners. Enjoy your celebration to welcome 2026! On Sunday, Jan.04/26, the 10:00 am mass will be offered for "All CWL Members at St. Mary's." It is sponsored by the Ontario CWL Provincial Council. The next CWL meeting is Jan.05/26 @ 9:30 am at the rectory. Remember, if you are feeling unwell, stay home and get feeling better before you venture out.

Parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

Diocesan Website: www.peterboroughdiocese.org

Bookkeeper - Gabrielito Garcia

Fr. Martin Dalida - Parish Priest

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH



DECEMBER 27-28, 2025



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.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Mass Intentions today: Dec 27 For Deirdre & Olaf Arzheimer, Dec 28 for Melissa Lilje

Dec 29, Mon (NO MASS)

Dec 30, Tues 9am

Dec 31, Wed 4pm (MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, NEW YEAR'S EVE)

Jan 1, Thurs 10am (MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, NEW YEAR'S DAY)

Jan 2, Friday 8:30am (First Friday Devotions: Benediction, Holy Rosary, Mass) Intention for Marie & Lynn McVety by Elizabeth Wilson

Jan 3, Sat 9am - +Mike Kelly by Ian Manley

Jan 3, Sat 4pm (THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD) For the people of the parish

Jan 4, Jan 10am (THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD) All CWL members of the diocese of Peterborough by Ontario Provincial CWL League

January 3- 4, 2026 WEEKEND MASSES

4pm

LECTORS: Dave Hughes

EMHC: Deirdre Arzheimer

USHERS: Darrell & Nick Manley Theo Mensen & Joe O'Kane

10 am

John Logel

Dennis Goulin



Collections Weekend of Dec 20-21, 2025

Sunday Offering - \$1, 812.49

Christmas Offering - \$ 3, 405

Restoration - \$1,075

NEW YEAR MASSES

NEW YEAR'S EVE (Wednesday 4PM, Dec 31, 4pm)

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



PRAY FOR THE SICK MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Greg Blick, Tass Corbier, Terry Korotki

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH (A model of love and

faith amid ordinary life) The Holy Family lived a simple, hidden life in Nazareth. They faced daily work, routine responsibilities, and uncertainty. This reminds modern families that holiness is not only found in extraordinary moments but in everyday faithfulness—loving one another, praying together, and doing ordinary tasks with love. Mary and Joseph experienced fear, displacement, and insecurity—especially during the flight into Egypt. Many families today face migration, job insecurity, illness, or broken relationships. The Holy Family teaches trust in God even when the future is unclear. Joseph's life as a carpenter highlights the dignity of honest work. For modern parents and workers, this affirms that providing for one's family and doing one's job faithfully is a holy calling. The Holy Family lived with God at the center of their relationships. In an age of distractions, technology, and busyness, the holy family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph invite families to make space for prayer, listening, and shared values rooted in faith. They remind us that strong families are built not on perfection, but on faith, love, sacrifice, and trust in God. Their example offers hope and guidance for families striving to live with meaning and unity in today's world.



NEW YEAR 2026 MESSAGE - As we begin the New Year 2026, we do so under the loving care of Mary, Mother of God, whose feast we celebrate at the threshold of the year (Jan 1). Through her "yes," God entered our human story, and through her maternal care, we are continually led closer to her Son, Jesus Christ. We entrust this New Year—its hopes, challenges, joys, and uncertainties—to Mary's intercession. With grateful hearts, I thank you Parishioners, Benefactors, Parish Council, EMHC, Lectors, Choirs, Ushers, CWL, SVDP and Volunteers for your prayers, generosity, service, and faithful presence throughout the past year. Your continued support is a blessing that strengthens our parish and enables us to grow as a community of faith. As we look ahead, may this New Year be marked by renewed commitment, deeper unity, and a shared desire to serve Christ and one another. Under Mary's guidance, may our parish continue to be a place of welcome, hope, and love for all. May God bless you and your families with health, peace, and grace throughout the coming year. Fr. Martin

THANK YOU, POINSETTIA DONORS - We gratefully acknowledge and thank all our poinsettia donors for their generosity. Your offering has added beauty, reverence, and joy to our Christmas celebration. May the Lord bless you and your loved ones abundantly.

