

PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY JAN 18-25 - The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2026 is an annual ecumenical observance celebrated by Christians around the world from January 18 to January 25, 2026. It's a time set aside for prayer, reflection, and joint worship across denominational lines, inviting all Christians to pray together for the unity Christ desires for his Church. "There is one body and one Spirit" is this year's theme, emphasizing that, in Christ, all believers share one Body, one Spirit, and one hope, despite the diversity of traditions and expressions of Christian faith. The 2026 prayers and reflections were prepared ecumenically by Christian communities in Armenia, including the Armenian Apostolic Church, Armenian Catholic Church, and various Evangelical churches.



ORDINARY TIME, ITS SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE- In the Church's liturgical calendar, the season of Ordinary Time may sound unremarkable, but in fact it is one of the most spiritually rich seasons of the year. The word "ordinary", meaning "order" or "sequence" refers to the ordered, steady unfolding of the mystery of Christ in our daily lives. It is the season in which we walk with Jesus in the rhythms of everyday life. Unlike Advent, Christmas, Lent, or Easter, which focus on particular events, Ordinary Time focuses on growth — the slow, faithful maturing of our relationship with God. Spiritually, this season reminds us that holiness is not found only in dramatic moments, but in daily faithfulness. Most of our lives are lived not in great celebrations or intense trials, but in ordinary days filled with work, family, prayer, and service. It teaches us that God is deeply present in these simple moments. Just as plants grow quietly and steadily, our faith is meant to deepen gradually through prayer, the sacraments, and living the Gospel. Ordinary Time invites us to keep going, to stay rooted in Christ, and to allow Him to shape us day by day.



ST. MARY'S CEMETERY BOARD - The parish extends its sincere appreciation to Francis Calnan for his years of dedicated leadership as Chair of St. Mary's Cemetery Board. His commitment and faithful service have contributed greatly to the respectful care and administration of our cemetery. We also warmly thank Tina Mullin for stepping forward and for willingly accepted the responsibility of the Chair. We are grateful for her generosity of time and service and wish her every success and blessing in this role to continue to care for this sacred space.

ST. MARY'S CWL - The next CWL meeting is Feb.02/26 @ 9:30 am in the rectory. Last year, in January & February, the CWL held its fundraiser "The Bakeless Bake Sale". This past year has been a busy year for the CWL Council. We have often asked you, the parishioners, for donations to assist the Council. So, the Council has decided to put "The Bakeless Bake Sale" on hold until next January/February 2027 and give your wallets a rest. You deserve a BREAK. As always, thank you for your ongoing support and generosity. It is so appreciated. The 2026 National Theme for the CWL is "Ignite Your Passion; Empower His Mission. "Remember, if you are unwell, please stay at home until you are feeling better, before you venture out.

Parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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Diocesan Website: www.peterboroughdiocese.org

Bookkeeper - Gabrielito Garcia

Fr. Martin Dalida - Parish Priest

**THIRD
SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

January 25, 2026



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 @ 8:30am.

MASSSES FOR THE WEEK

Mass Intentions today Jan 25 - + Colleen Lawson

Jan 26, Mon (NO MASS)

Jan 27, Tues 9am

Jan 28, Wed 9am (St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Doctor of Church)

Jan 29 Thurs 9am

Jan 30, Fri 9am

Jan 31, Sat 9am (St. John Bosco, priest)

Jan 31, 4pm (4th Sun Ordinary Time) For the People of the Parish

Feb 1, 10am (4th Sun Ordinary Time) For Increase of Vocations by St. Mary's CWL



January 31– Feb 1, 2026 WEEKEND MASSES

4pm

10 am

LECTORS: Michael Mullin

Melissa Lilje

EMHC: Pat Rutherford

Judith Goulin

USHERS: Darrell & Nick Manley

Theo Mensen & Ed Nemec



Collections Jan 10-11, 2026

Sunday Offering - \$1, 330



POPE LEO XIV MEANINGFUL WORDS: “A world that forgets God soon forgets the value of the human person.” “The Gospel is always demanding, but it is never without mercy.” “Human solidarity is grounded not on power but on care; not on profit but on gift; not on suspicion but on trust.” Addressed to Catholic Media: “In a fragmented and polarized world, be the antennae that pick up and relay what the weak, marginalized, lonely, and those who need to know the joy of feeling loved. Be sowers of good words, amplifiers of voices that courageously seek reconciliation by disarming hearts of hatred and fanaticism.”



PRAY FOR THE SICK MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Greg Blick, Tass Corbier, Terry Korotki

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

GRATEFUL THANKS - With sincere appreciation, we extend our heartfelt thanks to Gord, Wes, the Manley family and some concerned parishioners for generously giving their time and energy in snow blowing and shoveling the parish grounds. Your kindness and quiet service keep our parish safe and welcoming, especially during the winter months. As the hardest days of snow are still a long way to go, we kindly invite more dedicated volunteers to lend a helping hand. Thank you for your generosity and community spirit. If you need to use the church snow blower machine, feel free to take it at the rectory porch.



FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS - The inclusion of devotions such as the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Sacred Heart and the Holy Rosary during the First Friday Exposition of the Blessed Eucharist was originally intended for the Jubilee Year only. However, given the rich spiritual fruits and the genuine spiritual needs of our parish community, it is a good and worthwhile practice to continue these devotions throughout the year. We trust that this extended time of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament will deepen our faith, strengthen our devotion, and draw us closer to the Lord. All are warmly encouraged to participate and pray together for the needs of the Church, our parish, and the world. Divine Mercy will be assigned for the First Friday in February.



ST. AGNES (Jan 21, feast day) - Though barely in her early teens, Agnes understood something profound: love for Christ demands everything. When pressured to abandon her faith and purity, she did not argue, negotiate, or compromise. She simply stood firm. Her martyrdom reminds us that holiness is not a matter of age, strength, or influence, but of unwavering fidelity. Her virginity was not merely physical; it was the sign of an undivided heart. In a world that often trivializes the sacred and confuses love with possession, Saint Agnes proclaims that true love protects, honors, and gives itself entirely to God. Most of us will not be asked to shed our blood, but we are asked daily to choose Christ over convenience, truth over comfort, and integrity over approval. Every quiet act of faithfulness, every refusal to compromise conscience, becomes a small participation in her witness. Saint Agnes was young in years, yet great in faith. In a society that measured worth by power, status, and pleasure, she chose a different measure — total belonging to Christ. Her name, derived from *agnus* (lamb), beautifully reflects her life: gentle, pure, and offered wholly to God. May Saint Agnes, virgin and martyr, teach us to be pure in heart, courageous in faith, and joyful in belonging to Christ.

