

PARISH NEWS

Dear Reverend Monsignor and Reverend Fathers,

As you know, the Premier made a somber announcement this afternoon. Today's provincial daily infection rate for COVID-19 is over 4800, the Variants of Concern are more transmissible and they are producing serious symptoms in young people, the supply chain for the vaccination program is sorely challenged, the Intensive Care Units are loaded beyond capacity, the healthcare system has been forced to cancel other important services, the medical needs are exceeding the number of healthcare workers in Ontario, and the pandemic restrictions are not always consistently followed.

Fathers – I cannot stress this enough – the situation is serious.

The Premier's announcement impacts the churches and parish offices in these ways:

- **NORTHERN DEANERY** – **Effective Monday, April 19, 2021**, I give my permission for the Sunday and weekday Masses to be celebrated publicly with 10 people (including the priest and liturgical ministers) if the pastors feel that it is safe and feasible to do so. My permission in this regard is specific to the Northern Deanery and all health precautions related to the pandemic must be observed.
 - **PETERBOROUGH, CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN DEANERIES** – **Effective Monday, April 19, 2021**, priests may celebrate weekday Mass for a maximum of 10 people including the celebrant and liturgical ministers, if the pastor deems it safe and feasible. There is to be no public celebration of the Sunday but Mass may be celebrated for the purpose of livestreaming with adherence to the capacity limit of ten (including the celebrant, technicians, and liturgical ministers). Pastors should strive to open the churches on Sundays for private prayer. There will only be one door opened at the church and a designated point person will monitor the number of people in the church ensuring that the cap of 10 is maintained while the church is open.
 - **OTHER LITURGICAL RITES:** Baptisms, weddings and funerals may proceed observing the capacity limit of 10 people.
 - **HEALTH PRECAUTIONS:** All health precautions must be observed including the requirement to maintain contact tracing records.
 - **LAY STAFF MUST WORK FROM HOME.** The exception to this requirement is custodial staff or cleaning staff. (Pastors are asked to communicate this to staff for Monday, April 19th, 2021.)
 - **STAY WITHIN YOUR REGION.** Travel outside of the jurisdiction must be curtailed unless absolutely necessary.
- VACCINATION** – Encourage parishioners to read the materials about the COVID-19 vaccination and to get vaccinated when they are eligible. <https://www.peterboroughdiocese.org/en/how-do-i-find/covid-19-update.aspx>

If you (priests and deacons) test positive for COVID-19, **immediately call the Bishop**. If a member of your lay staff tests positive for COVID-19, immediately call Deb McRae.

I encourage every parish to offer a prayer for the situation we are facing with this pandemic in the Prayers of the Faithful during Mass. We need to pray and petition for God's assistance. If you do not already have this intention included with your Prayers of the Faithful, here is a sample:

*For all those who have died from the COVID-19 virus, locally and globally, let us pause and remember them in the silence of our prayers (a period of silence); for those suffering from the COVID-19 virus and the variants of concern, for those caring for them, and for all who are impacted by the pandemic, we ask for the strength and the healing grace of God, let us pray to the Lord. **Response:** Lord, hear our prayer.*

I thank you for your pastoral care of your parishioners and for your care to ensure that all health precautions are diligently followed.

In Christ,
Bishop Daniel Miehm

Parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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Email: bvm.grafton@bellnet.ca Diocesan Website: www.peterboroughdiocese.org

Parish Website: www.assumptiongrafton.ca

Fr. Asisclo Podelino, Pastor

5th Sunday of Easter

May 2nd, 2021



**“I AM THE VINE, YOU
ARE THE BRANCHES.
WHOEVER ABIDES IN
ME AND I IN THEM
BEARS MUCH FRUIT.”**

Education:

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults: 905 349-2504

St Mary Elementary School, Grafton:

Nicole McGill, Principal 905 349-2061

St Mary Secondary School, Cobourg:

Jason Roberts, Principal 905 372-4339

Catholic School Board www.pvnccdsb.on.ca

Parish Committees & Organisations:

Finance Committee:

Melissa Lilje, Secretary 905 349-2504

Knights of Columbus:

905 349-2504

Parish Pastoral Council

Dennis Goulin Chairperson 905-372-7684

Music at Mass:

Gay Stratford, Organist
10 am Mass on Sun 905 349-2861

Altar Servers

Parish Office 905-349-2504

St Mary's Catholic Women's League:

Pat Murphy, President 905 349-2847

Alta Vance, Religious Articles 905 344-7443

CWL Diocesan website:

www.peterboroughcwl.ca

St Mary's Cemetery Board:

Melissa Lilje, Secretary 905 349-2504

St Vincent de Paul Society

905 377-3263

Eucharistic Ministers

Bruce Lawson 905-349-2751

Ushers

Parish Office 905-349-2504

Lectors

Richard Holland 905-349-3710

Development and Peace

Suzanne Liptay 905-372-3031

Parish Library

Suzanne Liptay 905-372-3031

SACRAMENTAL MINISTRY

Baptisms, Marriages, & Anointing of the Sick may be arranged by calling the Office.

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday at 8:30 am & 4:30 pm, or anytime on request.

First Friday of the month - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - 9am

THE WEEK OF MAY 2ND AT THE ALTAR

May 3, Mon., **Ss Philip & James** - 9 am -

May 3, Mon., **Ss Philip & James** - 11 am

May 4, Tues., Feria - 9 am - **Olaf Arzheimer** [Deirdre Arzheimer]

May 4, Tues., Feria - 11 am -

May 5, Wed., Feria - 9 am - **The Sick of the Parish** [St Mary's CWL]

May 5, Wed., Feria - 11 am -

May 6, Thurs, *St Francois De Laval* - 9 am -

May 6, Thurs, *St Francois De Laval*- 11 am -

May 7, Fri., Feria - 9 am -

May 7, Fri., Feria - 11 am

May 8, Sat., Feria - 9 am - **Michael Cole** [Katherine Cole]

May 8, Sat., Feria - 11 am -

May 8, Sat., **6th Sunday of Easter**

5 pm - **No Mass Today**

May 9, Sun., **6th Sunday of Easter**

9 am - **No Mass Today**

11am - **No Mass Today**

Intercessions:

- Let us pray this Sunday for all Catholic School in the Diocese.
- Let us pray for the sick in our Parish.

PARISH NEWS

PARISH FINANCES

	Last Weekend	Same Time Last Year
Sunday Collection	\$300.00	Shut Down (Covid)
Building Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rose Window	\$1,225.00	\$0.00

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES in May: Don & Eileen Storey (54 years on May 6th), Jim & Mary Catherine O'Neill (29 Years on May 16th), Wayne & Louise Aasen (51 years on May 16th), Greg & Angela Emerson (25 years on May 25th), Fr Davie West (31 years on May 25th). God's Blessings on all of you!

We are announcing new changes of schedule for our daily Mass for we are experiencing more than 10 calls to book for the daily Mass. Starting April 26 from Monday to Saturday there are 2 daily Masses 9:00 am and 11:00 am to accommodate 9 to attend per Mass. The procedure is the same; please call the day before you plan to come to the Mass. Again, There are No Sunday Masses including the Saturday 5:00 pm Mass.

We all acknowledge this Covid challenges our patience, strength, and faith. Our emotions swing from different directions. It can be economic problem or isolation or loneliness, and others. As I said; We travel this road for already more than a year. Let us travel this road with our Risen Lord so that our isolation be turned into companionship, our loneliness be turned into conversation, and our feeling down be turned into hope and belief. I also encourage everyone, I believe you have been doing this already, to continue the social support by calling someone you knew who is living alone or sick or struggling. We lift up each other's spirit by supporting each other. Our Parish Council and Finance Committee is trying to organize a Phone Committee to connect, support, and update you – our parishioners. If anyone who is interested, please give a call to our office – 905-349-2504.

You noticed that the stained glass above at the back of the altar has been removed and temporarily replaced by a plastic glass. The Parish Council and Finance Committee have decided to fix the stained glass for there were 3 small holes (the cold air during winter is taking the heat in the Church) and the wooden frame was also rotting or breaking down. The contract has been made with the Company Robert McCausland Limited in Toronto to do the job and the cost is sixteen thousand nine hundred fifty (\$ 16,950.00). The stained glass will be put back this summer. We appeal to you again, I you know have been very generous to maintain our Church in good condition, to add something to your Sunday Offertory envelop to help pay the cost.

Thank you very much of your support! Fr Ace