

PARISH NEWS Con't

Bishop Miehm

Bishop Miehm's Christmas Message has been published. It may be found on the website for the Diocese of Peterborough through the web link below, and it will be distributed through the parishes at Christmas.

https://www.peterboroughdiocese.org/en/about-us/bishop_s-letters.aspx

Merry Christmas!

We the staff of St. Mary's Parish (Fr. Ace, Melissa, and Shirley) wish each one of you and your family a very Merry Christmas!

Every time Christmas comes we are touched something of a mystery for Christmas is indeed a mystery of God who entered the world and became flesh by the path of humility. Christmas is full of surprises and the greatest surprise arrives: the Most High is a little baby. Christmas is welcoming on earth the surprises of Heaven. Christmas is the victory of humility over arrogance, of simplicity over abundance, of the silent voice of God over the noise of consumerism. Let us open our hearts and be willing to receive surprises, that is, an unexpected change of life. Christmas does not mean repeating the past but treasuring, reviving and with gratitude, that our celebration may touch our souls with the Lord's mercy, peace, and joy and lead us to a new birth of faith, hope, and love and allows the best in each one of us to shine. Merry Christmas!

New Year's Masses

Dec. 31 - Saturday 5:00 pm

Jan. 1 - Sunday 10:00 am

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 Fax: 905-349-1035

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

Parish Website: www.assumptiongrafton.ca

Fr. Asisclo Podelino, Pastor

Christmas

December 25th, 2022



**“THE SHEPHERDS
FOUND MARY AND
JOSEPH, AND THE
CHILD LYING IN
THE MANGER.”**

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:

St Mary's Choir
10 am Mass on Sun

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

Judith Goulin 905-372-7684

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 DECEMBER 25TH AT THE ALTAR

Dec. 26, Mon., **St Stephen** -9 am -
 Dec. 27, Tues., **St John** - 9 am -
 Dec. 28, Wed., **Holy Innocents** - 9 am -
 Dec. 29, Thurs., **5th Day of Christmas** - 9 am -
 Dec. 30, Fri., **Holy Family** - 9 am - **Olaf & Deirdre Arzheimer** [Deirdre Arzheimer]
 Dec. 31, Sat., **7th Day of Christmas** - 9 am -
 Dec. 31, Sat., **Mary, Mother of God**
 5 pm - **For the People of the Parish**
 Jan. 1, Sun., **Mary, Mother of God**
 10 am - **Gay Stratford** [The Mensen Family]

NEXT WEEKEND LAY MINISTERS Dec 31/Jan 1	5 pm	10:00 am
Lectors	Paula Blick	Bernadette Murray
Eucharistic Ministers	Paula Blick	Judith & Dennis Gou- lin
Ushers/Greeters	The Manley's	Theo Mensen / Ed Nemec

Intercessions:

- Let us pray this Sunday for the Seminarians of the Diocese of Peterborough
- Let us pray for the sick in our Parish.

PARISH NEWS PARISH FINANCES

	Last Weekend	Same Time Last Year
Sunday Collection	\$2,085.00	\$2,167.00
Building Maintenance	\$0.00	\$500.00
Poinsettias	\$335.00	\$235.00

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES IN DECEMBER

Harvey & Carol Scott (46 yrs. on December 10), Richard & Sarah Holland (51 yrs. on December 12), John & Melissa Lilje (4 yrs. on December 19).
 God's continued blessings on all of you!

Livestreaming of the Mass for Christmas

The Mass for Christmas will be live-streamed from the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains Sunday, December 25, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. Mass for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Please click the link below to join in prayer: <https://youtu.be/i3vpRNIG2qM>

CWL NEWS:

Merry Christmas to all CWL members and
 parishioners at St. Mary's.
 A Merry and Blessed Christmas to Father Ace.
 To all Parishioners:
 Dance like Frosty.
 Shine like Rudolph.
 Give like Santa.
 And LOVE like JESUS!



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2022

“All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ‘Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,’ which means ‘God is with us.’” (Matthew 1:22-23).

Dear Friends in Christ,

Christmas is a special time which touches our hearts in real and deep ways. It conjures up images of family, hearth, and home, and we know that it is natural to want to be “home for the holidays.” People will travel great distances to be with the ones they love, eager to share together the joy of this season.

It is ironic therefore to think that, at that first Christmas, Mary and Joseph were far from home, away from family, having to rely on the kindness of strangers while bunking down in a stable. Despite all these challenges, they welcomed the baby Jesus with joy, knowing that he was God’s gift not only to them, but to the entire world. That stable may have been messy and noisy, but it was a place filled with love, faith, and thanksgiving. And it was a moment that would forever speak of God’s love, compassion and faithfulness toward each of his beloved children.

Wherever we find ourselves this Christmas – at home or far from it – we are called to make a place for the Lord Jesus, whose humble birth we celebrate. He is truly Emmanuel, God with us, who comes to us in our joys and sorrows, our triumphs and trials, our celebrations and our sadness. Let the Lord find a home in your hearts this Christmas: be assured of God’s constant love for you and let that grace inspire you to gladden the hearts of others.

May you enjoy a Merry Christmas Day and Season.

Yours in Christ,

+ Most Reverend Daniel Miehm
Bishop of Peterborough