

EASTER MESSAGE of Most Reverend Daniel Miehm, Bishop of Peterborough

The Church embraces the celebrations of this Holy Week, commemorating the passion and death and resurrection of the Lord. Thereafter we advance quickly to the wonderful season of Easter, a time of renewal and hope and a time to see with the eyes of faith the great wonders that God has done and continues to do. It is said that one of the best ways to get the attention of your audience is to ask a probing question at the start of a talk. So, give full marks to the angels at the Lord's tomb that Easter morning, who asked one of the most probing questions in all of history: "why do you look for the living among the dead?" Part challenge, part correction and part invitation to see things in a new way, it must have taken the faithful women by surprise. But apparently it was a rhetorical question, since the angels did not wait for an answer, but went on to explain, "He is not here, but has risen." Once they had the attention of their audience, they wasted no time in sharing the good news - good news that the women would also quickly share, as they went to tell the apostles. Pope Francis has said that the question addressed to the women that Easter morning is posed to each one of us. "Why do you look for the living among the dead?" It's one that should grab our attention and invite us to a new way of seeing things. Do we cling to what is sterile, bleak, and hopeless, just because it is familiar? Do we give in to cynicism and defeatism, supposing that things in the world, the Church, our neighbourhoods, and families can never improve? Easter is a call to reject the malaise that can afflict so much of modern life and to embrace a new way of living with a spirit of hope. As the Holy Father has said, "Death, solitude and fear are not the last word. There is a word that transcends them, a word that only God can speak; it is the word of the resurrection." The angels' question should snap us to attention this Easter, reminding us that because of the Lord's resurrection, we can always lay claim to hope. May God bless you and yours richly in this season of great joy.

POPE FRANCIS - "The risen Christ is hope for all who continue to suffer. The Easter message does not offer us a mirage or reveal a magic formula. It does not point to an escape from the difficult situation we are experiencing."

ST. MARY'S CWL

1. The St. Mary's CWL Parking Lot Yard Sale will take place in mid June. Please set aside (at home) items you will be donating to the sale. Please, **NO ITEMS** that require gasoline to operate. Make sure items are in good condition.
2. The APRIL CWL MEETING is cancelled as executive members are unable to attend.
3. The CWL word of the week is CHANGE. Are you ready to transform your SPIRITUAL LIFE, SERVE OTHERS and act on SOCIAL JUSTICE? This CHANGE is possible when you are part of the CWL. It has all these values at the heart of its mission.
4. St. Mary's CWL Council is holding elections at the May meeting. If you are a CWL member and interested in putting forth your name for an executive position, contact Pat Murphy @ 905-349-2847.
5. The Peterborough CWL Diocese Convention is May 4 & 5 in Huntsville at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church & Parish Hall. For more information contact Pat Murphy @ 905-349=2847.

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

Parish Email: bvm.grafton@bellnet.ca Parish Website: www.assumptiongrafton.ca

Diocesan Website: www.peterboroughdiocese.org

Fr. Martin Dalida, Parish Priest

Melissa Lilje, Parish Secretary

EASTER SUNDAY (Resurrection of the Lord)

March 30-31, 2024



**He is not here
He is RISEN**



ALLELUIA!!!

Parish Committees & Organisations

Parish Pastoral Council, *Michael Mullin*
(Chairperson)-416-300-8680

Finance, *Dennis Goulin*-905-372-7684

Lectors, *Richard Holland*-905-349-3710

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, *Melissa Lilje*-905-239-2504

K of C and Ushers, *Darrell Manley*-905-744-0865

Counters, *Wes Krentz*-905-396-2578

Development and Peace/Library, *Suzanne Lip-
taylor*-905-372-3031

St Mary's Choir, *Alfons Casteels*-905-269-2352

Religious Articles, *Alta Vance*-905-344-7443

St. Mary's Elementary School, Grafton: *Angelo
Costa* (Principal)-905-349-2061

St Mary's Secondary School, Cobourg: *Jason
Roberts* (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 & 4:30 pm, or anytime on request.

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

THE WEEK OF MARCH 31 AT THE ALTAR

April 1, Mon. 9 am - NO MASS TODAY

April 2, Tues. 9 am

April 3, Wed. 9 am - Special intention of Anna by Maria Marszal

April 4, Thurs. 9 am - +Fr. Henry Adoptante by Friends

April 5, Friday 9am (Mass & Benediction) - +Matt Varcoe by Maria Marszal

April 6, Saturday 9 am

April 6, Saturday 4 pm - For the people of the parish

April 7, Sunday 10 am - +John Liptay by Suzanne Liptay

Liturgical



Ministers

April 6 & 7 Weekend Masses

4 pm

10 am

LECTORS: Paige Mullin

Kathleen Ancker

EMHC: Greg Blick

Margaret Harry

USHERS: Nick & Darrell Manley

Ian Manley & Ed Nemec



WEEKLY OFFERING

Last Weekend

"For God loves a cheerful giver."

Sunday Offertory- \$1, 990

2 Corinthians 9:7

Balance - \$9, 567

Month of March - POP: \$715, Etransfer & Canada Helps: \$388

PRAYING FOR THE SICK MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

(with consent to have his/her name here, please call the office)



PRAY FOR SICK and SHUT IN

Heather Hughes, Graham Stratford, Jeannie Grol

E-TRANSFERS - The Parish is able to accept e-transfers. If you forget your envelope or you are visiting and want to make a one time donation, you can log onto your mobile banking after Mass and send your donation to office@assumptiongrifton.ca. Make sure to put your envelope # or name and address in the message section of the transfer. The transfers are auto deposit so no need to set up a password.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners, During this solemn Easter season we joyfully give thanks to God for the many blessings bestowed on us as individuals and as a faith community. Because Jesus has died and risen, conquering sin and death, we believe that with him we too shall live. In this spirit of faith and hope, I wish you and your families a most holy and blessed Easter. Thank you all for your active participations during Lenten and Holy Week observances, for your continued support (spiritual and financial) to our parish. Special thank you goes to those who donate flowers for Easter decorations, to our choir, to extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, to our Readers, and to everyone, who in one way or another helped make our liturgical celebrations meaningful. May you be filled with the love, hope, joy and peace of the Risen Lord. Christ is risen! He is truly risen, Alleluia, Alleluia! Fr. Martin



14 FIRST COMMUNICANTS - We are happy for 14 Kids whose first Communion this coming Sunday Mass marks their first milestone in a long journey of spirituality. May this day be the start of their blessed journey filled with God's love and grace.

BIBLICAL PROOFS THAT CHRIST HAS RISEN - Matthew 28:6: "He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said." Mark 16:6: "And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen; He is not here; behold, here is the place where they laid Him." Luke 24:39: "Jesus said to them, see my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; touch me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." 1Corinthians 15:3-4: "For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures." 1Corinthians 15:15-23: "And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is useless. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive." Given all these, how can we refute the veracity of Christ's resurrection?

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - Novena to the Divine Mercy started at Good Friday by praying the Chaplet and may be done individually. On Sunday, April 7th, Divine Mercy Sunday, is the feast day and everyone is invited to gather to the church at 3pm for prayer & veneration. These are ample moments to reflect on the Lord's divine promises to those who propagate the devotion to his Divine Mercy and venerate his divine image.