

**ST. THOMAS, THE APOSTLE - How His Disbelief Strengthens Our Faith** -“St. Thomas is best known for his role in verifying and his unwillingness to believe the Resurrection of Christ, earning him the title, "The Doubting Thomas." After verifying the wounds were true, St. Thomas became convinced of the reality of the Resurrection and exclaimed, "My Lord and My God," thus making a public profession of Faith in the Divinity of Jesus. He never doubted the Lord again after that, and he dedicated his life to helping others to believe in Jesus. Thank God for 'Doubting Thomas'. His initial skepticism gives hope to all those who struggle with doubt, as his story shows that honest questioning can lead to sincere faith. In the end, Thomas emerged as a devoted follower of Christ, willing to give his life entirely for the gospel. His doubts healed the wounds of our own disbelief. Thomas the doubter became Thomas the model believer, an example for each one of us.”

**SIN OF DESPAIR & SIN OF PRESUMPTION** - They are two sins against hope (CCC 2091). The sin of despair is losing hope in our salvation by failing to trust God. It is a spiritual state in which one believes that his/her sins are so large that God is incapable of forgiving, or that the sins exceed his own ability to overcome. In despair one believes his sin is too great to be forgiven, thus, he better not repent and seek forgiveness. The sin of presumption is losing hope by either relying on ourselves for our salvation instead of God or taking God's mercy for granted without fear. The sin of presumption is when a person assumes that God's mercy is a given without any genuine repentance or effort on our part. This attitude disregards the need for sincere conversion and cooperation with God's grace. In essence, presumption treats forgiveness as an entitlement rather than a gift that requires humility, contrition, and active participation in the process of reconciliation. In despair one believes that forgiveness is impossible just as in presumption one believes repentance is unnecessary or superfluous.

**CATHOLIC PRO-LIFE & RESPECT FOR LIFE (Working on)**

1. Care for the dignity of the human person in different ages of existence.
2. Reciprocal respect between the sexes and among the generations.
3. Defense of the dignity of every single human being.
4. Promotion of the quality of human life that integrates material and spiritual values.
5. An "authentic human ecology," which can help restore "the original balance of creation between the human person and the entire universe.

**ST. MARY'S CWL**

1. Congratulations to the candidates that are celebrating their First Communion this Sunday. May God bless you!
2. The CWL Word of the Week is CHARITY. CWL councils provide an opportunity for others to contribute monetary aid through fundraising activities that create awareness and community building. The CWL is an organization that gives to others.
3. ATTENTION PARISHIONERS: The ST. MARY'S CWL PARKING LOT YARD SALE will take place in mid June. Set aside (at home) all items that you will be donating to the sale. Please NO ITEMS that need gasoline to operate and make sure items are in good condition.
4. The CWL April meeting is cancelled. Executive members are away.

**Parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

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Parish Email: [bvm.grafton@bellnet.ca](mailto:bvm.grafton@bellnet.ca) Parish Website: [www.assumptiongrafton.ca](http://www.assumptiongrafton.ca)

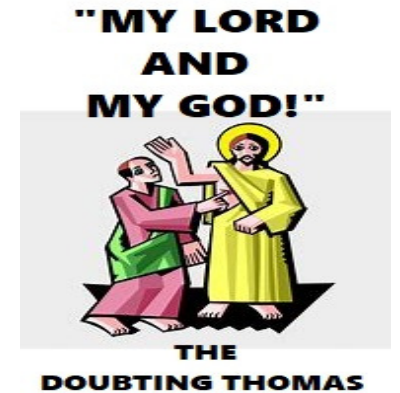
Diocesan Website: [www.peterboroughdiocese.org](http://www.peterboroughdiocese.org)

**Fr. Martin Dalida, Parish Priest**

**Melissa Lilje, Parish Secretary**

**2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (Divine Mercy)**

**April 6-7, 2024**



**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-tay*-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 APRIL 7 AT THE ALTAR

April 8, Mon. 9 am - Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

April 9, Tues. 9 am - NO MASS TODAY

April 10, Wed. 9 am

April 11, Thurs. 9 am (St. Stanislaus) - Intention of the success of South Deanery meeting of priests hosted by St. Mary's parish, Grafton

April 12, Friday 9am

April 13, Saturday 9 am

April 13 Saturday 4 pm - For the people of the parish

April 14, Sunday 10 am - +John & Jane Boreham by the family



### April 13 & 14 Weekend Masses

4 pm

10 am

LECTORS: Jackie Innis

Joanna Mecozzi

EMHC: Paula Blick

Dennis Goulin

USHERS: Nick & Darrell Manley

Theo Mensen & Rob Ugolini



### Last Weekend

*"For God loves a cheerful giver."*

Sunday Offertory- \$2, 926

2 Corinthians 9:7

Balance - \$11, 919.91

Good Friday-Holy Land - 1,198

### PRAYING FOR THE SICK MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

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



**Heather Hughes, 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

**FIRST COMMUNICANTS** - We are happy for 14 Kids whose first Communion today at 10 am 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. We commend the parents for helping guide their children come closer to Jesus our Lord through receiving the Holy Body of Christ in this great Sacrament of Communion. We acknowledge the help of Sister Donna and the St. Mary's school for their important role in this spiritual process for the said children.

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY** - Today, April 7th, is the feast day of Divine Mercy and everyone is invited to gather to the church later 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. "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world."

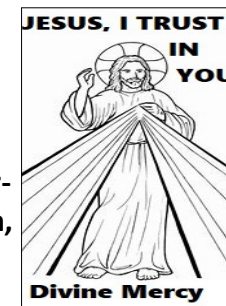
**Dear Parishioners**, During this solemn Easter season we joyfully give thanks to God for the many blessings bestowed on us as individuals and as a faith community. Because Jesus has died and risen, conquering sin and death, we believe that with him we too shall live. In this spirit of faith and hope, 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 donated cash & flowers for Easter decorations (*give me the names of your departed loved ones to be included as intention for Mass on Friday April 19, 9am*), 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 + GRAHAM STRATFORD** - Our parish community mourns for the passing of a long time parishioner & faithful supporter of the parish of St. Mary's. Graham died peacefully in April 1st and was buried Saturday April 6th. We commend his soul to the mercy of God; may he rest in peace.

**SOUTH DEANERY MEETING** (hosted by our parish) - Please say a prayer for the success of the South Deanery Meeting of priests on Thursday, April 11. We thank our St. Mary's CWL for their kind willingness to serve food for the attending priests.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL (For The Role Of Women)** - "Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world."



FIRST COMMUNION



JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU  
Divine Mercy