

SUDAN - In war-torn Sudan, every other person needs humanitarian aid. Far from the eyes of the world, a ten-month civil war in Sudan has robbed its people of everything: their safety, their homes, and their livelihoods. They were fleeing violence and a catastrophic humanitarian situation triggered by the outbreak of civil war almost 10 months ago, when the paramilitary RSF Forces attacked the ruling military junta and its army in the struggle for power. CAFOD Sudan, a partner of the Catholic Church's aid organization Caritas, is struggling to provide basic necessities to a population in which "every second person" needs humanitarian assistance. With over 15,000 lives lost and 10 million displaced, the devastating impact of the ten-month-long conflict in Sudan is laid bare. Nearly 17.7 million people are acutely food insecure, with 4.9 million in emergency levels of acute food insecurity between October 2023 and February 2024

GAZA - In the six months since Israel mounted its military operation in the Gaza Strip to counter a Hamas attack mounted from Gaza, the Palestinian territory's infrastructure has been dealt a crippling blow. Beyond the more than thirty thousand dead, Palestinians of all ages are at risk of starvation, and famine looms in the region.

HAITI - United Nations report, armed gang violence has caused over 50,000 people to flee the capital in recent weeks, adding to over 100,000 refugees already in southern Haiti.

POPE FRANCIS - The Pope gave a solemn accounting of a world in crisis, using the pulpit of his Easter address to renew calls for a cease-fire in Gaza while drawing attention to other conflicts, from Ukraine to Haiti, heightened risks of famine, the threat of climate change and the plight of migrants. "How much suffering we see in the eyes of the children: The children in those lands at war have forgotten how to smile! With those eyes, they ask us: Why? Why all this death? Why all this destruction?"

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. The CWL presented the candidates who celebrated their First Communion last Sunday with a gift to remember their special day.
2. The CWL Word of the Week is COMPASSION. Do you recognize the human dignity in all people? Do you feel motivated to do something to help others? The CWL members embark on many projects that directly impact those who are disadvantaged in society. You can help as a member of the CWL.
3. ATTENTION PARISHIONERS: The ST. MARY'S CWL PARKING LOT YARD SALE be held on JUNE 15/24. At home, set those aside items that you wish to donate to the sale. Please, NO ITEMS that require gasoline to operate and make sure all items are in good condition.

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

3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 13-14, 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 14 AT THE ALTAR

April 15, Mon. 9 am

April 16, Tues. 9 am - NO MASS TODAY

April 17, Wed. 9 am - St. Kateri Tekakwitha

April 18, Thurs. 9 am

April 19, Friday 9am - +Deceased relatives of Easter Flower Donors

April 20, Saturday 9 am - +John Boreham by the family

April 20 Saturday 4 pm - For the people of the parish

April 21, Sunday 10 am - +Graham Stratford by K of C

Liturgical



Ministers

April 20 & 21 Weekend Masses

4 pm

10 am

LECTORS: Michael Mullin

Michael Stephenson

EMHC: Pat Rutherford

Bernadette Murray

USHERS: Nick & Darrell Manley

Joe O'Kane & Ian Manley

Last Weekend

"For God loves a cheerful giver."



WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Offertory- \$1, 845

2 Corinthians 9:7

Building Maintenance - \$410

Balance - \$9, 714.58

PRAYING FOR THE SICK MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY



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

HAPPY WEDDING DAY - Melissa (our parish secretary) and John Lilje will be married Sacramentally on Saturday April 20 4pm at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Port Hope. May their marriage be filled with laughter, joy, and plenty of good memories to cherish forever. May they always be there for each other and face all the challenges of life together. Congratulations!

DECEASED RELATIVES OF EASTER DECORATIONS DONORS -To those who donated cash and flowers for Easter Decorations, you may send me the names of the departed you wish to include in the intentions for the 9am Mass on Friday 19th. Text me @ #705-491-0825 or email: frmartindalida@peterboroughdiocese.org. Fr. Martin

THANKING THE CWL LADIES - For preparing a lovely food and delicious Lasagna to the attending priests during the Deanery Meeting last Thursday. My fear is they might keep on requesting us to host future meetings always because of the good food the CWL serve.

EASTER SEASON - The word "Easter" comes from Old English, meaning simply the "East." The sun which rises in the East, bringing light, warmth, and hope, is a symbol for the Christian of the rising Christ, who is the true Light of the world. The Paschal Candle used during the Easter Vigil is a central symbol of this divine light, which is Christ. It is kept throughout Easter Time and lit for all liturgical celebrations. The season of Easter is the most important of all liturgical times, which Catholics celebrate as the Lord's resurrection from the dead, culminating in his Ascension to the Father and sending of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost Day) upon the Church.

PASCHAL (Easter) CANDLE - It is an ancient symbol of the risen Savior. Its light represents Christ's victory over death and darkness, and the hope Christ brings to the faithful. In the center of the candle is a cross, which symbolizes the sacrifice of Jesus and his victory over death. The letters Alpha & Omega represent that Jesus is the beginning and the end, indicating his eternity and constant presence in our lives. The current year inscribed on the Paschal Candle reminds us of the continuity of faith and the presence of Christ throughout all time. Inserted in the shape of a cross, the five grains symbolize the five wounds of Jesus and his sacrificial love for us. The Paschal Candle remains lit during all the liturgical celebrations during the Easter season until Pentecost Sunday, to remember the presence of the Risen Christ among us. During Baptism Paschal candle is lit to signify that the baptized being "born again" and receive new life, now share in the light of Christ becoming part of his body, the Church. The Paschal Candle is also placed and lit near the casket at the funeral Mass as a reminder that the baptized share in the victory of Christ over sin & death. Romans 14:8 tells us, "If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. Whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord." That explains why paschal candle, which symbolizes Christ Jesus as light to everyone's life is seen lighted during our baptism (when we start to live with the Lord) and during funeral (when we die back to the Lord).

