THE FOUR LAST THINGS (Death, Judgment, Heaven and Hell) "Meditating on these 4 Last Things helps us orient our lives to what truly matters in this world, and knowing the reality of our future can help us make better choices in the present moment. With death and an afterlife in the picture, our lives have the chance to change, forcing us to consider the eternal consequences of our actions. *HELL:* Hell is a place of eternal separation from God and punishment for our sins. All people who die in a state of Mortal Sin or Original Sin go to Hell, no exceptions. To die in mortal sin without repenting and accepting God's merciful love means remaining separated from him for ever by our own free choice. This state of definitive self-exclusion from communion with God and the blessed is called 'hell'" (CCC 1033). "God predestines no one to go to hell; for this, a willful turning away from God (a mortal sin) is necessary, and persistence in it until the end. In the Eucharistic liturgy and in the daily prayers of her faithful, the Church implores the mercy of God, who does not want 'any to perish, but all to come to repentance'" (CCC 1037).

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE - The Fall 2023 Development and Peace-Caritas Canada's Stand for the Land campaign had highlighted the struggles of the people of Guapinol and the San Pedro sector in Honduras, who have been valiantly opposing an open-pit iron mine that is poisoning the land and waters in their local national park. The campaign letter was signed by 52,629 Canadians, including a good number from our parish, and has now been delivered to the Honduran ambassador to Canada. (The goal had been to collect 32,000 signatures.) Thank you for your involvement and support. The ambassador promised to convey our message to her government. The solidarity of over 52,000 Canadians will strengthen the hand of the Government of Honduras and help it overcome powerful vested interests to protect the interests of its vulnerable citizens. **ST. MARY'S CWL**

1. The next CWL meeting is Monday May 13th @ 9:30 am at the rectory.

3. The CWL Word of the Week is COURAGE. CWL members have a history of great COUR-AGE. In the 1920's, Winnifred Fulton travelled by horse back to start more than 30 councils. Today, we continue to carry the message of Faith, Service, and Social Justice to women across Canada and internationally.

4. ATTENTION PARISHIONERS! The ST. MARY'S CWL PARKING LOT YARD SALE will be on June 15/24. Set aside (at home) items that you are donating to the sale. Please NO ITEMS that require gasoline to operate, no furniture, no large & heavy items such as exercise bikes. 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 KOK 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



"This JESUS will come in the same way as you saw HIM go into heaven."



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 Liptay-905-372-3031 St Mary's Choir, Alfons Casteels-905-269-2352 Sanctuary Decorations & Altar Linens, Cheryl Krentz-905-269-1950 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 & 3:30 pm, or anytime on request. First Friday of the month - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - 9am

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

May 13, Mon - NO MASS TODAY May 14, Tues. 9 am (St. Matthias, Apostle) May 15, Wed. 9 am May 16, Thurs. 9 am May 17, Fri. 9am - + Cathy Vicchiarelli by Michael & Tina Mullin May 18, Sat. 9 am May 18, Saturday 4 pm - For the people of the parish May 19, Sunday 10 am - + Zack Sawyer by John & Kathy Ancker



LAST WEEKEND

"FOR GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER" 2 COR 9:7 Sunday Offertory - \$2, 055 Building Maintenance -\$365 Balance - \$16,717

MAY 18 & 19 WEEKEND MASSES

	4 pm	10 am
LECTORS:	Jackie Innis	Bernadette Murray
EMHC:	Pat Rutherford	Dennis Goulin
USHERS:	Nick & Darrell Manley	Ed Nemec & Theo Mensen

PRAYING FOR THE SICK MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Phyllis Cooper, Jeannie Grol

<u>E-TRANSFERS</u> - 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@assumptiongrafton.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

THE ASCENSION OF JESUS - The ascension of Christ is one of the accepted doctrines of Christianity. The Apostles' Creed & Nicene Creed all confess that Christ ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father. The ascension of Jesus allowed eyewitnesses to see both the resurrected Christ on earth and the victorious, eternal King returning to heaven to rule on his throne at the right hand of God the Father forever. In acts 1:11 reads, "Jesus was taken up, and a cloud hid him from their sight.



As the disciples were watching him ascend, two angels dressed in white robes stood beside them and asked why they were looking into the sky. The angels told them: "This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." This event is another instance of Jesus Christ bridging the gap between the human and the divine.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY - Mother's Day is a celebration honoring the mother of the

family or individual, as well as motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society. Mothers play an indispensable role in our lives, impacting us in profound ways. Here are some reasons why mothers are so important: 1. Mothers serve as the emotional backbones of families. They provide a safe space for everyone's feelings and work tirelessly to shield us from hurt. Their magical touch and comforting kisses help heal both

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sus Christ.



physical and emotional wounds. 2. Mothers make countless sacrifices to ensure our wellbeing. Their efforts often go unnoticed, but they shape our lives for the better. 3. Mothers are forgiving, and their love knows no bounds. 4. Mothers support our dreams when no one else will. They also set boundaries that guide us toward becoming better individuals. Even if we didn't always appreciate those decisions, they kept us out of trouble. 5. A mother's ears and eyes capture every detail of our lives. 6. Mothers teach us essential life skills, preparing us for adulthood. Remember those times she insisted we do our homework? Now we know how much her support means to us. Without our mothers, we wouldn't be here. Their love, guidance, and sacrifices shape us into the people we become. Today we take the opportunity on Mother's Day to show our appreciation. <u>HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION</u> - The observance of Holy Days of Obligation is part of the Sunday Duty, the first of the Precepts of the Church, which is to "Attend Mass on Sundays and Days of Obligation. Canada has two days of obligations: January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God; and December 25, the Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord Je-