

MASS SCHEDULE - St. John

Sat., July 19 Vigil of 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
4:00 pm For Gerry Coughlin  
from Dorothy Anne Coughlin.

Sun., July 20 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
10:30 am For all parishioners.

Mon. July 21 Ferial weekday  
8:00 am No intention.

Tue., July 22 Mass at Sacred Heart 8:00 AM

Wed. July 23 Ferial weekday  
8:00 am + All souls in purgatory especially for  
F.O.S.S. (friends of the suffering souls)

Thu., July 24 Mass at Sacred Heart 8:00 AM

Fri., July 25 Mass at Sacred Heart 8:00 AM

Sat., July 26 Vigil of 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
4:00 pm For Rita Johnston from the family.

Sun., July 27 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
10:30 am For all parishioners.

Last Weekend – July 13		
Mass	Attendance	Contributions
4:00 pm Saturday	55	\$ 493
10:30 am Sunday	83	\$ 511
Online donations:		\$ 193
Total	138	\$ 1,197
Special donation: Annual Bishop Appeal \$245		
Thank you for your generosity and support!		

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Dear parishioners,

In the First Reading, Abraham receives three unknown visitors with generosity and reverence - without realizing it, he was welcoming the Lord Himself. Hebrews 13:2 affirms this mystery: *“Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels.”* In the Gospel Martha, Mary and Lazarus welcomed Jesus to their house with generosity. The main message for us is Hospitality: that when we welcome our neighbor, we welcome God into our souls. For *“whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me”*.

And so, while Martha was rushing around the house with work, Mary was quietly absorbed listening to the Lord. Perhaps Martha passed by a

few times, sighing loudly or coughing a little harder – hoping to catch her sister’s eye, or that Jesus might notice her burden. But Mary didn’t flinch. She couldn’t. She was caught in the gentle words of Jesus. Finally, the frustration boiled over and Martha could take no more. The Gospel put it politely: *“Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me”*”. Marta’s question is in the form of a complaint: 1) because of the weight of physical work 2) or perhaps because spiritual things are not considered important. *“The Lord said to her, ‘Martha, Martha’”*. The temperament of Martha had boiled over, she was frustrated. So, the repetition of her name is not accidental: It is the Lord’s gentle way of calming her down. Also, in Scripture, the repetition of the name is a sign of a loving reprimand. *“Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things”* Theophilactus says: ‘The Lord does not blame hospitality, but care for many things, that is, absorption and tumult. And see how the Lord, at first, said nothing to Martha; but when she tried to distract from the spiritual, it is then that the Lord corrected her.’

It is said: *“Mary sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak”* Mary’s position is important: it is not simply said that she was sitting near Jesus, but at his feet; to show the readiness, the interest and the desire to hear the Lord. In this passage, Mary does not say a single word, but only listens. For this reason, Christ is the one who speaks in her defense and says: *“There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her”*. Such was the union of Mary’s soul to the Lord, that the Lord makes an affirmation towards the future, saying: *“it will not be taken from her”*.

For us the most important lesson to learn in this passage is the phrase: *“There is need of only one thing”*: to be with Him. That’s why after we receive the Eucharist at the Mass, I always

insist that we should not be distracted and look at Him Who is inside of us. Let us ask our Blessed Mother to spend time with the Lord. Amen.  
Fr. Gaston Giacinti, IVE

WEEKLY NEWS

Prayers  
Please, pray for our IVE Mission in Gaza. Holy Family is the only Catholic Church in the Gaza Strip. Thursday morning it has been bombed by Israel's Army. The SSVM Sisters and Sisters of Charity are fine. Fr. Gabriel Romanelli, and others have shrapnel wounds and are doing ok. Suheir, our postulant, is in serious condition. And 3 were killed. Let us pray to Our Blessed Mother for peace!

Sacramental Preparation Program 2025-2026  
First Reconciliation grades 2-12 (October-January), First Holy Communion grades 2 -12 (February- May), Confirmation grades 7-12 (October - May) Shortly in the website we will have the pre-registration form.

Elaine Fitzgerald  
Elaine Fitzgerald passed away peacefully surrounded by family on May 2025, parishioners and friends are invited to her gravesite service at Douro on Wednesday July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10AM and a light lunch to follow at the church hall.

DIOCESAN & OTHER NEWS:

In the Footsteps of the Holy Canadian Martyrs Walking Pilgrimage The 11th Annual Walking Pilgrimage - will take place on August 10-15, 2025. We will depart from St Joseph's Church Powassan on August 10 and walk 130 km over 5 days to reach Holy Family Church, Britt where we will venerate the relics of the Martyrs. Contact frpeterlukow@peterboroughdiocese.org for a registration form. Early bird deadline is June 27 and July 25th is the final deadline.  
St. Paul's Annual Beef BBQ (Aug 10th, 3-7PM)  
Tickets are now on sale for the Annual Beef BBQ at St. Paul the Apostle in Lakefield! Enjoy a

delicious Full Beef BBQ dinner, fresh, local veggies, mouth-watering homemade pies, fantastic LIVE entertainment and an exciting raffle fundraiser for our accessibility renovations. Make a day of it in beautiful Lakefield. The church grounds are right along the scenic Otonabee River so you can arrive by boat too. Sunday, August 10th 3:00-7:00PM. 4 Reid Street, Lakefield. Adults: \$25. Kids (7-14): \$10. Children (0-6): FREE. All welcome!

150th Anniversary of St. Mary’s Grafton  
Please join us in celebrating our 150th Anniversary with His Excellency Bishop Miehm on August 17 at the 10 am Mass followed by cake & coffee. Other events scheduled: Golf Tournament on August 15, 2:30 pm, August 16, 11 am Cemetery Mass followed by a BBQ. All are welcome to attend.  
🔗 Stay up to date with event details and share your connection at Website: [www.stmarygrafton.ca](http://www.stmarygrafton.ca)  
Michael Mullin [mmullinkofc@gmail.com](mailto:mmullinkofc@gmail.com)

Retrouvaille Toronto---September 5-7  
Retrouvaille is a lifeline for troubled marriages, designed to help couples who have drifted apart, are facing struggles or are considering ending their marriages. Retrouvaille has helped many couples put the pieces together and rebuild a lasting relationship.  
The next Toronto Retrouvaille Marriage Weekend is Sept 5-7, 2025.  
More Information/Register: Deadline to register is Wednesday Sept 3, 2025 [helpourmarriage.org](http://helpourmarriage.org)

GOSPEL Luke 10.38-42 of Sunday July 20

Now as Jesus and his disciples went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to what he was saying.  
But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.”  
But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”