

MASS SCHEDULE - St. John

- Sat., Mar 14 Vigil of the Fourth Sunday in Lent**
4:00 pm + Rita Giardino from Joel & Susan Walton.
- Sun., Mar 15 The Fourth Sunday in Lent**
10:30 am For all parishioners.
- Mon. Mar 16 Ferial Weekday**
8:00 am For Margaret Elmhirst & Family
- Tue., Mar 17 Mass at Sacred Heart 8:00 AM**
- Wed. Mar 18 St. Cyril of Jerusalem Bishop, Doctor**
8:00 am +Elizabeth Zwierzcek from the Marrocco family.
- Thu., Mar 19 Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary** (the Mass is at 11 am at Sacred Heart and no 8:00 am Mass)
- Fri., Mar 20 Mass at Sacred Heart 8:00 AM**
- Sat., Mar 21 Vigil of the Fifth Sunday of Lent**
4:00pm + Loretta Collins from Joel & Susan Walton.
- Sun., Mar 22 The Fifth Sunday of Lent**
10:30 am For all parishioners.

Last Weekend – March 8, 2026		
Mass	Attendance	Contributions
4:00 pm Saturday	70	\$ 553
10:30 am Sunday	79	\$ 960
Online donations:		\$ 193
Total	149	\$ 1706

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Parishioners,

As we journey through the holy season of Lent, our community accompanies those preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation) at the Easter Vigil. Through Baptism one becomes a son or daughter of God. Through Confirmation one receives the Holy Spirit and becomes a soldier of Christ. Through Holy Communion one receives the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ.

Among the most significant steps in this preparation are the "Three Scrutinies," special rites celebrated on the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent. The Scrutinies are based on the Gospel readings from St. John and are intended to strengthen the catechumens by uncovering and healing what is weak and by strengthening what is good. They also invite the entire community to a deeper conversion, as we reflect on

our own need for God's mercy and transformation.

The First Scrutiny, celebrated on the Third Sunday of Lent, is based on the passage of the Samaritan Woman at the Well. This scrutiny focuses on the living water that Christ offers to quench our deepest spiritual thirst. **The Second Scrutiny**, celebrated on the Fourth Sunday of Lent, is based on the passage of the Man Born Blind. Here the theme is spiritual enlightenment. The man born blind receives both physical and spiritual sight, symbolizing the journey of faith. **The Third Scrutiny**, celebrated on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, is based on the passage of the Raising of Lazarus. This final scrutiny emphasizes Christ as the Lord of life.

Through these rites, the catechumens are prepared to fully embrace their new life in Christ at the Easter Vigil. Let us ask our Blessed Mother to help us and our catechumens prepare for the sacred days of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord. Fr. Gaston Giacinti, IVE

WEEKLY NEWS



Congratulations to the 50/50 Winner

The winning ticket for Sun March 8th is 092651 for \$138 & we still have the raffle price for Sun. Jan. 11th of \$88.50 ticket 591779.

Bible Study - Gospel of Matthew - March 19th

Join the DRIVEN TO PRAISE prayer Group as we journey now through the Gospel of St. Matthew 7-8 pm at St. John the Baptist. For more info contact Daniel 647 928 6414.

Note There will be no 8am Mass and morning adoration on Thursday March 19th but there will be a Mass at 11am at Sacred Heart, details below.

Mass of St. Joseph, Thursday March 19

The solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Principal Patron of Canada, Patron of the Universal Church and foundation feast day for the sisters serving at our Parish will be on March 19 everyone is invited to the 11am Mass at Sacred Heart church followed by a potluck.

Bake Sale "The Catholic Missionary Children Oratory" will have a bake sale at the entrance of the Church on March 21st & 22nd to raise funds to help children in need. Please support their efforts to do almsgiving.

Easter Lilies A Donation would be appreciated to help purchase Lilies for the decoration of the church on Easter. Please drop your donation in the collection basket using the envelopes provided.

Lenten Activities

The Way of the Cross – The way of the Cross will be guided every Friday during Lent, at Saint John the Baptist at 12:00am & at Sacred Heart at 6:30pm, or if First Friday after the 6:30pm Mass.

The way of the Cross for Children ages 7 to 12 10:30 am Saturday, March 14, and 28 at St. John.

Presentation for Lent March 21st and March 22nd

Fr. Gaston will present a PowerPoint on the timeline of Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

Saturday, March 21st at Sacred Heart Church, after the 5:30pm Mass (in the basement).

Sunday, March 22nd at Saint John's, after the 10:30am Mass (in the basement).

Holy Thursday April 2nd

6:00 pm at Sacred Heart

8:00 pm at Sacred Heart TLM

8:00 pm at St. John

Good Friday April 3rd

12:00 pm at Sacred Heart TLM

3:00 pm at Sacred Heart

4:30 pm at St. John

Easter Vigil April 4th

8:00 pm St. John

8:00 pm at Sacred Heart TLM

DIOCESAN & OTHER NEWS:

St. Alphonsus Oratory Adoration Chapel is in need of more adorers. Can you commit to One Hour a week to spend in prayer before the blessed Sacrament? Schedule is set hourly, for Monday to Friday, 9am to 8pm. Please contact Renate 905-934 5234; email ren.van60@gmail.com or Mary Ellen (705) 917-1637 maryellenandfrank2021@gmail.com

Solemn Reception and Veneration of the relic of St.

Sister Maria Faustina Sunday, March 22nd 10am at Our Lady of Mercy Parish 196 Bridge Street West, Bancroft.

Chief Celebrant Bishop of Pembroke Rev. Michael Brehl, C.Ss.R. Veneration will follow after Mass, luncheon served in the hall following the celebration.

World Youth Day 2027

Anyone interested please email FrStephenDecarlo@peterboroughdiocese.org

Journey Through Lent With Bishop Miehm

As we journey through Lent 2026, we are pleased to inform you that the Fourth Sunday of Lent video of the series titled "Journey through Lent" is now available on the CCCB website in English:

<https://www.cccb.ca/lent/>

Way of the Cross 2026 Way of the Cross returns this Good Friday, April 3rd, 2026! Beginning at 10 AM at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains, the young people of the Diocese will reenact the Stations of the Cross along Hunter Street leading to Immaculate Conception Parish on Rogers Street. All are welcome!

GOSPEL John 9.1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38 (shorter) March 15

(For the longer version, see the print edition of Living with Christ.)

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth.

He spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent).

Then the man who was blind went and washed, and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a Prophet."

They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, & are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshipped him.



Pro - life Corner

Bill C-9 threatens our religious freedom by preventing Christians from quoting Bible passages that others might find offensive, especially those relating to moral teachings on life, marriage and family! A third reading will be held this Friday. Please call or email your MP to vote against this Bill.