

ST. MARY'S PARISH

Weekly Newsletter

Keep a lamp burning always. With all vigilance guard your heart, for in it are the sources of life. (Ex 27.20) (Pro. 4.23)

PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION

Please Switch Your Donations to Automatic Deductions Dear Parishioners, This is an appeal for those that currently donate through envelopes to switch to Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD), Debit Card, or Credit Card donations, at least until Sunday Masses resume.

Currently, 59% of St. Mary's donations come from Sunday envelopes. With no Sunday Masses these donations may not be there while most of our expenses continue and are non discretionary. For example, salaries, priests' living expenses, utilities (including heat and hot water), and diocesan tax make up 79% of our costs. By switching to an automated form of donations, at least for the time being, you will literally help St. Mary's to keep the lights on and the doors open. Please call the Parish Office at 613-728-9811 and ask Catherine our Office Manager, to switch your donations to one of the methods described above.

Make A Cash or Cheque Donation

To make a donation by cheque please mail the cheque to St. Mary's Parish, 100 Young Street Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 3P7.

Stand up in the presence of the elderly, show respect for the aged, and fear your God. I am the Lord. (Lev 19.32)

Father Mark will try to post his private masses of the Major Liturgies during this Lenten and Easter Season. You can watch these videos on Father Mark's YouTube Channel and on Father Mark's Facebook page. You can also visit St. Mary's website and click onto "[A Word From Fr. Mark](#)"

If you haven't yet, please watch [Parish Pandemic Response Unit - Fr. Mark Goring](#) AND [The Catholic Church NEVER Closes - Fr. Mark Goring](#)

St. Mary's I.V. League - Isolated and Vulnerable Parishioners

St. Mary's is prepared to help parishioners, especially those that are isolated or vulnerable, to get through this difficult time. We have volunteers that are ready to help with acquiring essential items like food or medications. We are also available for prayer over the phone, or regular calls just to check-in.

Father Mark's Team Extreme

A call to younger people between the ages of 18 - 49 yrs old, ideally with a vehicle and who are less at risk - To respond to these extreme times - willing and able to serve the Isolated and Vulnerable with simple but essential tasks like picking up groceries, medication, or similar duties. To volunteer, Please call the Parish office.

Going Online! Connecting your ministry or small groups!

For Fellowship some of the ministries at St. Mary's have found creative ways to continue connecting with one another. Here are 2 ways that you can do the same with your ministry, your small group and with your family and friends. Try Zoom – zoom.us – Free up to 100 people or you can try Facebook Live Streaming

A Message from Archbishop Terrence Prendergast

Recently, Pope Francis gave instructions through the Vatican Congregation in charge of the Sacrament of Penance (also known as Confession) for this difficult time. In simple language, if we cannot go to Confession, then confessing our sins to God out of our love for him with a sincere desire for forgiveness and the intention to avoid sin and to go to individual confession as soon as it is possible, God forgives us our sins. God is just and merciful. He sees our love for Him and He knows our desire for forgiveness. So, when the churches can be opened again and priests can hear confessions, come and experience once more the grace of hearing "your sins are forgiven, go in peace!" In closing, I ask our Catholics here in Eastern Ontario to embrace this spiritual sacrifice of being deprived of the Eucharist and Confession together, with the intention of an end to the spread of the Coronavirus, for the healing of those afflicted by it, and for strength for those who are providing care for the afflicted. May our present Eucharistic fast draw us closer to our Lord and nurture in us an intense hunger and new appreciation for the Blessed Sacrament. God bless you, ✠ Terrence

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100 Young St | 613-728-9811

www.stmarysottawa.ca