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and you will set the world on fire"**

St. Catherine of Siena



Parish Ministries

Liturgical Ministries:

- Altar Servers
- Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
- Readers
- Ushers

Music Ministry:

- Saturday Vigil Music
- Sunday Choir & Organist

Parish Groups

- Altar Society
- Friends of St. Kateri
- Friends of St. Mary's
- Gospel Reflection Group
- Holy Communion to Shut-ins
- Hot Lunch Program
- Parish Finance Committee
- Parish Screening Committee
- St. Mary's Parish Friends
- Sacramental Prep

Catholic Organizations

- Catholic Women's League
- Children's Rosary Program
- Development and Peace
- Knights of Columbus
- St. Vincent de Paul Society

HELPED BY GRACE

In an egalitarian society that we live in today, everybody thinks that they are okay and that they are carrying on just fine. It takes only a little crisis, and our vulnerability is exposed. Think of people who become emotionally, spiritually, and socially immobilized when tragedy strikes in their family. Issues like sudden and untimely death or difficult illnesses like cancer, stroke, and the like can make one become bitter and angry with God. It is not that such people are bad people. Far from that! Most of them are people who have been following God faithfully in their faith community until tragedy happens. It's just one of the areas that reflect the human vulnerability and fragility.

The amazing thing about God is that he never abandons us at times like these. He is very much with us during the crisis times, and those moments of darkness in our lives.

Isn't it the type of "helplessness" that St. Paul is talking about in the second reading this weekend. He's saying that Jesus didn't wait for us to help ourselves out of our crisis or sin; he gave us his help by dying on the cross for us. He offered his mercy even before we asked for it! This sounds a bit like the father of the prodigal son in the Gospel of St. Luke. Doesn't it?

The story of the Samaritan woman in today's Gospel shows this principle in action as well. From the outside, this woman might not have seemed all that helpless. But Jesus saw her vulnerability and powerlessness. A woman married many times who was now living in sin. She was helpless to integrate herself into society. That's why she went to draw water at midday, when all the other women would not be there (Jn 4:6-7). She was helpless to explain her irregular marital situation when Jesus brought it up (Jn 4:16-17). And she was helpless against whatever fallen drive or external forces kept pushing her from one relationship to the next.

But Jesus came to her in all her helplessness and offered her the water of life. He didn't wait for her to get her act together. He didn't wait for her to seek him out. He came to her and engaged with her. He gave her hope that her life could change, that she could be saved, and that she could be restored. Simply put, in her helplessness, Jesus helped her.

He can do that for you, too! Even now, Jesus wants to help you, even if you don't think of yourself as "helpless." He sees your need, and he has just the right amount of grace and love to fill that need. So, let Jesus come to you and help you today.

Fr. Dominick Mbah, MSP

Parish Pastoral Team

- Alison Coort / Office Administrator
- Marguerite Goodfellow / Parish Nurse
- Judith Gottschalk / Ministry Rep (contact the parish office)
- Jan Sirek / Deacon /jsirek54@gmail.com
- Fr. Dominik Mbah / Pastor

Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday / 9:30AM - 2:30PM

Parish Office: 705-789-2348
Email: office@stmaryshuntsville.ca
website: maryassumptionparish.com

St Mary's Elementary School / 705-789-6481
St. Dominic's H.S. 705-646-8772

Mass Schedule

Week of March 13th - 19th

Monday, March 13th / 9:00AM
+Siegfried Kreidl

Tuesday, March 14th / 12Noon
SI Walter Grys

Wednesday, March 15th / 11:00AM Exposition & Adoration
Mass 12Noon -
+Sally McIlroy

Thursday, March 16th/ 9:00AM
+Yvon Majeau

Friday, March 17th / 9:00AM
+Annie Jansen

Saturday, March 18th / 4:00PM
+Michael Pincivero

Sunday, March 19th / 9:00AM
SI David Webster & Family

Sunday, March 19th / 11:00AM
+Yvon Majeau

Let us pray for those who have died especially, and for those who have asked for our prayers ...

Jaymie Ward, Phillip Tomkin, Joe Hanrath, Bianca Laurie de Hernandez, Ron & Margaret Smith, Angela & Stephanie Braithwaite, Robert Foley, Ruth Anne Foley, John Dunbar, Doris Lane, Connie Gregory, Sharon & Ben Boivin, Sam Muzzi, Diane Haywood, Timothy Pelyk, Pat Morra, Kirsten MacDonald, Marion Majkot, Peter Poustie, Pam and Don Mackenzie, Esther Phillips, Merle Jordan, Carole Ruttan, Kevin Phillips, Stephanie Jarvis, Ian Bruce, Mabelle Claer, Kristen Hackett, William Brennan, Janine Wright, & Rose Hamblin

Weekend Offertory
March 5, 2023
\$4,297.00

Thank you for your continued generosity.



Please support the good works of Development and Peace as they help others to become self sufficient and create sustainable living in their villages. Thank you.

THE THREE PILLARS OF LENT

Lent is the best time to look deeply at the three pillars of our Christian Religion which comprises Prayer, Almsgiving and Fasting. Prayer and Almsgiving tend to point more on our relationship with God and with our fellow human beings. While Fasting has to do with our individual self up-building. Prayer is a gift from God which we do in return of gratitude back to him. Almsgiving relates to returning our gratitude to God for all the blessings of this life channeled through our reaching out to our brothers and sisters in need. The fact that God did not bless everybody equally in this world is a life lesson which we have to go through for growth and development that shapes our lives for the heavenly homeland where everything is complete for everyone in God. What is very striking in the parable of the rich man and Lazarus is the fact that the rich man didn't appear to be cruel or a mean person. He didn't even try to show Lazarus the door. No, his sin was in failing to notice Lazarus at all. Lazarus was "invisible" to him-just an obstacle to step over when he left the house. Of all we do to help the poor and the less privileged in this world, a very important aspect is the solidarity of presence to those in need. There is the tendency to give to the poor but we do not want to see their face or listen to their story. The rich often tend to associate only with the rich and isolate the poor. Rich countries tend to do the same. The ministry of presence with the poor can be a very powerful tool of encouragement and empowerment in their struggle and pain of growth and development. People of the rich countries often are not so disposed and attracted to travel to the poorer countries for whatever reason. But the gift of presence can be very inspiring and empowering. This is another effective way of gifting the poor and those in need. Give a person a fish, and that person will be in need for more. But teach a person how to fish, not only will that person not look for another but will be able to produce so much as to share with others as well.

Teaching them how to produce food and how to build better houses will be going further. The book of Proverbs exhorts us also with these words: "Whoever cares for the poor lends to the Lord, who will pay back the sum in full" (Prov. 19:17).

As we search and reflect on the teachings of Scripture, let them penetrate our heart. Let them change the way we see the world and the people around us and the those we encounter. Let them help us see as God sees so that we don't miss anyone at our door.

Next Weekend Ministry Schedule - March 18th/19th, 2023

Readers	Jim Waters	Doug McKnight	Michelle MacIsaac
EMC	Diana Snowden	Jo Ann Giesler	John MacInnis
Ushers	Ben Boivin	Maureen McIntyre	Hugh Knox
	Tracy Shisko	Lou Luvison	Bob Lacroix,
	Diana Snowden	Linda Latour	Linda Lacroix
	Marguerite Goodfellow	Doug Neigel	
Counters	Tuesday, Mar. 21st, 2023	Mary Kudryk &	Linda Latour

Mass Schedule / As of Monday, March 20, 2023 there will no longer be a Monday morning 9:00AM Mass. This daily mass is being moved to Fridays at 9:00AM starting immediately.

Gospel Reflections / The Gospel Reflection Group after mass on Mondays will be moving to Fridays starting on Friday, March 24, 2023.

Parish Nurse News / The clinic will be open on Tuesdays from 11:00AM to 12:30PM in the Knight's room.

The "Let's Get Physical" **Exercise Class** is on Wednesdays, in the Parish Hall from 9:30AM to 10:30AM. All are welcome. Please dress comfortably and bring a yoga mat.

Stations of the Cross / A traditional devotional prayer practice during Lent, helps us in part to remember the last hours of Jesus' life and to walk with him, but they are also meant to become our steps in this life to conscientiously question and stand up to anything that attempts to diminish the dignity of another. We will, during the season of Lent, celebrate communally, the Stations of the Cross on Fridays. You have two options: St. Kateri's in Baysville at 3:00PM, or at St. Mary's in Huntsville at 7:00PM. All are welcome to attend. Thank you.

Church Keys / If you have a key to the Church please let Alison in the office know either by phone (705-789-2348) or by email (office@stmaryshuntsville.ca). We are doing a keyholder audit. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Hot Lunch Tuesdays / In order to keep this program running, we need your financial support. We serve **35 to 40 people every week.** Any monetary donations are greatly appreciated. You may use the Poor Box at the entrance of the church, or any envelope designated as Hot Lunch. Again, thank you for making this possible!

Welcome To The Area And The Parish / Whether you are new to the area, or here for a short visit, you are most welcome. We hope and pray that the memories that you have created here in the Muskoka area, will bring you all joy in the future. May God's peace be within you always.

Parish Directories / The Parish Photo Directories have arrived. They will be available for pick up in the sacristy after mass this weekend. If you are unable to pick yours up this weekend they will be available for pick up from the office starting Tuesday, March 14th. They are free for anyone who had their photo taken. There are a limited number for sale after March 17th at a cost of \$10.00 each.

Sunday Choir / The 9:00AM Sunday Choir is looking for someone who can use PowerPoint to create the slides for mass. This could be a high school student looking for volunteer hours. Please contact the office if interested.

St. Mary's Lending Library / It has been carefully organized with good spiritual reading. You can take the book or books home with you. When you are finished, please return them to the library. Thank you and enjoy.

The members of St. Vincent de Paul Society in our parish thank you for your continued and gracious donations to the Food Bank.

Nothing is ever too small or too little.

Peace, Good Will, and Thank you!

SVDP SOCIETY

Hotline:
705-789-0008

In advance, we thank you for whatever you have been able to share with us in the way of monetary donations. The money we collect from you, helps us to buy some perishable food items that we are able to add to their food hampers. Those coming to our food bank receive not only food, but kindness and the encouragement to remain hopeful. *Shalom*

Parish Group Meetings

Mondays	9:30AM	Gospel Reflection Group / Sacristy / following 9:00AM Mass
Mondays	6:00PM	Huntsville Community Choir Practice / Parish Hall
Tuesdays	12:00PM	Hot Lunch / Parish Hall
Wednesdays	9:30AM	Gentle Exercises / Parish Hall
Wednesdays	4:00PM	Pope Francis Book Study / Sacristy
Wednesdays	6:00PM	Choir Practice / Church
Thursdays	6:00PM	Huntsville Community Band / Parish Hall
Fridays		Stations of the Cross during Lent/ 3:00PM at St. Kateri's/ 7:00PM at St. Mary's
March 14, 2023	6:30PM	SVDP Meeting / Zoom