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and you will set the world on fire"**

St. Catherine of Siena



Ascension Sunday

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
- Holy Communion to Shut-ins
- Hot Lunch Program
- Parish Council
- Finance Committee
- Parish Property Committee
- Parish Screening Committee
- Sacramental Prep

Catholic Organizations

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



We welcome you, Bishop Daniel Miehm, to our Parish to Celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with our Confirmandi

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. Dominick Mbah/
FrDominickMbah@peterboroughdiocese.org

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

Confessions: Saturdays 3:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

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

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May 12, 2024

Mass Schedule

Week of May 13th – 19th

Tuesday, May 14th / 12:00 Noon

+Alice McKay

(Req. By: The Members of the CWL)

Wednesday, May 15th / 12:00 Noon

+Krystyna Lenart Sr.

(Req. By: Jerzy & Krystyna Lenart)

Thursday, May 16th / 9:00 AM

+Glen Murdy

(Req by: Corinne Murdy)

Friday, May 17th / 12:00 Noon

+Alice McKay

(Req. By:)Marguerite Goodfellow

Saturday, May 18th / 4:00PM

SI Walter Grys

(Req. By: Eleanor Wolfe)

Sunday, May 19th / 9:00AM

SI For the People of the Parish

Sunday, May 19th / 11:00AM

+Zoltan Simo

(Req by: Hugh Knox)

*Let us pray for those who have died
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, Timothy Pelyk, Pat Morra, Kirsten MacDonald, Marion Majkot, Peter Poustie, Pam and Don Mackenzie, Esther Phillips, Carole Ruttan, Kevin Phillips, Stephanie Jarvis, Ian Bruce, Mabelle Claer, Janine Wright, Edward and Claire Hortensius, Anna Maria Ertler, Mike & Loretta Pearson, Doris Cristiano, Karl Richter, Dallas Clarke, Jamie Sef-ton, Tcherina Zylstra, Brian O'Connor, Remi LeGros, Emily Warman, and Terry Russell

Sunday Offertory

May 5, 2024 \$4,196.00

Thank you for your continued generosity.

ASCENSION OF THE LORD – HEAVEN IS OUR DESTINATION

The celebration of our Lord's ascension into heaven has a very consoling message. Ascension means we are safe and we are on a journey to meet with Jesus and be with the Father forever through the power of the Holy Spirit. To understand Ascension clearly, let us look at it from Jewish religious-cultural context. From experience, the Jews were very much aware that a relationship with God was a factor for wholeness, completeness, and fulfillment as a human being. In this relationship, they gave much importance to mediators, go-betweens, or priests because they were aware of the fact that, due to their sinfulness, they were not worthy of a relationship with God.

If relatedness with God is essential to one's fulfillment as a human being, and no human being is worthy for such a relationship, then one has to look for ways and means to ascertain this relationship. Jewish religion created the institution of the priesthood and the whole sacrificial cult to answer this dilemma. The Jews believed that sins are atoned and a relationship with God happens at the offer of sacrifice.

At the offering of sacrifice in the temple, every Jew had to choose an animal to be sacrificed to God as a symbol of himself being offered to God. One cannot offer oneself because one is not worthy. It was also not the individual who offered the animal in sacrifice, it was the priest who brought it to the altar, burned it in sacrifice. It was the smoke of the sacrifice that entered into the presence of God and pleased him. And when God is pleased with the sacrifice, then the relationship with God is ascertained. This is the necessary background to grasp the impact of the Ascension of Jesus into heaven.

Jesus is our true mediator and priest. It was through the offer of his sacrifice that our sins were atoned. The Father was also pleased with Jesus' sacrifice that "he became the source of everlasting life for those who obey him." The content of Jesus' sacrifice was first faithfulness and obedience to God his Father. As gift for this obedience and faithfulness, the Father raised him from the dead and brought him into his very presence, at the bosom of the Trinity. Like the smoke of sacrifice in the OT with which God was pleased, Jesus was brought by the Father into his presence and stays with him now to constantly intercede and mediate for our sake.

Hence, the author of the Letter to the Hebrews writes: "Let us, then, hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we have a great High Priest who has gone into the very presence of God – Jesus, the Son of God.

Let us have confidence in our relationship with God because, in God, we have somebody who knows us and who understands our human condition. Despite our sins and our failures, let us not lose heart, we have a God who understands. Ascension is a gift of reassurance. Far from abandoning us, Jesus is on his way to facilitate our blessed eternity in heaven.

This is the message we should bring home with us on this feast of the Ascension of Jesus into heaven and continue to share it with every human being. Praise God with great joy and share the good news.

Fr. Dominick

Next Weekend Ministry Schedule - May 18th / 19th, 2024

	4:00PM MASS	9:00AM MASS	11:00AM MASS
Lectors	Ben Boivin	Judith Gottschalk	Mary Jane Zimmerman
EMC	Catherine Treacy	Jo Ann Giesler	Diane Poling
Ushers	Marguerite Goodfellow Walter Grys	Lou Luvison Andre Lamy	Hugh Knox Bob Lacroix, Linda Lacroix
		Ian Etherington Urszula Lewgowd	
Counters	Tuesday, May 14, 2024	Bob Moore &	Jo Anne Giesler

Parish Pastoral News

Taizé Prayer Service / As we approach the Feast of Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit, let us gather together as the early Christians did in prayer, praise and song. Please come and join in a Taizé Prayer service centered on the Holy Spirit on **Wednesday, May 15th from 7-8 pm** at St. Mary's Church.

Come Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of Your love.

Pentecost Prayer Night - Please join our church community in praising the Lord and listening to the Holy Spirit on **Saturday May 18th, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Church. We will have music, teaching, prayer, and testimonies from parishioners about the Holy Spirit moving in their lives. It will be a night of encouragement and of living our faith journey together as the Body of Christ. All are welcome!

Parish Nurse News / The Parish Nurse clinic is now closed for the season. If you would like to speak with me, call or email the Parish Office and I will either call you or make a Home Visit.

Parish Nurse Ministry



The **"Let's Get Physical" Exercise Class** will wind up for the season on May 22, 2024. It has been a pleasure to exercise together and we will start up again in September. Watch the bulletin for the new start date.

Oremus, Let us Pray / is a prayer book with many beautiful traditional prayers, commentaries, and more. We are selling them for \$20.00 each. Please contact the office by email (office@stmaryshuntsville.ca) or phone (705-789-2348) to get your copy.

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

Week of May 13th - 19th, 2024

Mass Intentions / A reminder that we have empty days for Mass intentions if you would like to book a Mass for family or loved ones.

SVDP / Total donations to St. Vincent de Paul in April were \$4,360.75 and 93 calls were answered. Thank you for ongoing support.

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.

Readers, Ushers, and Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Communion (EMC) / Perhaps you have considered one of these ministries, especially if you are not presently involved, or you are new to the parish. If you are interested, please contact the office (see cover of bulletin). Your participation in these ministries helps to bring our community together as we serve one another.

Altar Servers / If you have received your First Holy Communion and would like to participate in the Mass in an even more active way, then consider becoming an altar server. Training will be provided. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Sirek at 705-571-1681 or elizabeth.sirek@gmail.com.

Pentecost Praise & Worship Night
May 18, 2024
7:00 p.m.

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 /Events

Wednesdays	9:30 AM	Gentle Exercise Class / Parish Hall
Wednesdays	6:00 PM	Choir Practice / Choir Loft
Thursdays	6:00 PM	Huntsville Community Band Practice / Parish Hall
Monday	May 13th	CWL General Meeting / Parish Hall/ 10:00 a.m.