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**"Be who God meant you to be
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
- Associate Missionaries of St. Paul
- 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



'Whoever wants to become my follower, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.'

Mark 8:34

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Parish Pastoral Team

- Alison Coort / Office Administrator
- Marguerite Goodfellow / Parish Nurse
- Judith Gottschalk / Ministry Rep (contact the parish office)
- Jan Sirek / Deacon / jan@sirek.ca
- 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

September 15, 2024

Mass Schedule

Week of September 16th - 22nd

Tuesday, September 17th / 12:00 Noon

SI For All Parishioners

(Req. By: Walter Grys)

Wednesday, September 18th / 12:00 Noon

+Marian Zekulin

(Req By: Jan & Lori Sirek)

Thursday, September 19th / 9:00 AM

+Rennie Melnyk

(Req. By: Walter Grys)

Friday, September 20th / 12:00 Noon

+Rita McEachern

(Req By: Elizabeth Janssen)

Saturday, September 21st / 4:00PM

+Stan & Mary Arsenijevic

(Req. By: The Luvison Family)

Sunday, September 22nd / 9:00AM

SI Peter & Helga Fibikar

(Req. By: Barb & Jack Ataman)

Sunday, September 22nd / 11:00AM

SI For the People of the Parish

Let us pray for those who have died especially

Pat Morra, Al McDonald

and for those who have asked for our prayers ...

Jaymie Ward, Phillip Tomkin, Joe Hanrath, Ron & Margaret Smith, Robert Foley, Ruth Anne Foley, John Dunbar, Doris Lane, Connie Gregory, Sharon & Ben Boivin, Timothy Pelyk, Kirsten MacDonald, 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, Terry Russell, Sheila Bruce, Veronica Cotman, Marjorie Curry and Pat Yantha

Sunday Offertory

September 8, 2024 \$4,559.00

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Discipleship and the Cross

Jesus said to Peter, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me.' What Jesus is talking about is the sacrifice involved in being his disciple.

Sacrifice has a harsh ring to it. It suggests hardship, discipline, renunciation, and pain. Yet there is no achievement without sacrifice. And sacrifice can bring out the very best in people. If there is one thing that proves the truth of this it is surely the marathon.

Practically every city in the world now stages a marathon, with thousands of people of all ages taking part. The marathon (26.2 mls) is an amazing phenomenon. It remains one of the ultimate tests of human endurance. Besides the actual race itself, we have to consider the months of hard training that precede it.

The marathon shows that people are capable of great sacrifices, provided they are motivated. Motivation is everything. It is the fuel in their tank. It is the wind beneath their wings.

Most of those who take part in the marathon have no hope of winning it. Their only reward is the satisfaction that comes from completing it. But along with that come severe muscle soreness, blisters, acute dehydration, and physical exhaustion.

If you watch the runners, you can see that all without exception are suffering. Yet you won't find any of them complaining. The fact that many of them are running for charity helps them to transcend the pain.

And here's the most amazing thing of all: all of them are volunteers. They do it because they want to do it. This gives them greater strength because it enables them to bring all their energies to it.

The marathon shows the importance of commitment. To come back to discipleship. We need to be committed followers of Christ, and not mere hangers-on.

It has been claimed that religion asks too little of people. Often it appeals to people's weaknesses rather than to their strengths.

There is a religion of *devotion*, and a religion of *commitment*. A religion of devotion is a religion of comfort, and it is often centred on self rather than on others. A religion of commitment is a religion of challenge, of risk, and of unselfishness. In the gospel Jesus asks for commitment from his followers. For the committed Christian, suffering is not likelihood; it is a certainty.

Yet this doesn't mean that suffering is something Christians should seek, Jesus did not seek suffering; Gethsemane makes that clear. But suffering will inevitably be part of Christian life as it was part of Jesus' life. There are sacrifices but there are also great rewards, just as there are for marathon runners.

The way of Jesus is the way of love. And the way of love is the way of the cross. But there's nothing terrible about suffering a little of it teaches us to love. If we suffer in the cause of love, the wounds we bear will be honourable wounds. They will mark us out as true disciples of Jesus.

Jesus supports all those who follow him down the narrow road of suffering, and shares his Easter victory with them.

McCarthy, Flor. "Twenty-fourth Sunday of the Year". *New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies, 2011, pp. 310-311.*

Next Weekend Ministry Schedule - September 21st / 22nd, 2024

	4:00 PM MASS	9:00 AM MASS	11:00 AM MASS
Lectors	Ron Downey	Judith Gottschalk	Bert Vanderhulst
EMC	Bob Moore	Jo Ann Giesler	Dean Beaudry
Ushers	Marguerite Goodfellow Walter Grys	Maureen McIntyre Doug Neigel Linda Latour Mike Pearson	Hugh Knox Bob Lacroix, Linda Lacroix
Counters	Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2024	Mary Kudryk &	Linda Latour

Parish Pastoral News

Sacramental Preparation / If you know of someone who has children of **First Holy Communion** or **Confirmation** age and the children do not attend St. Mary Catholic School but are looking to receive either of these sacraments, there will be a Sacramental Preparation meeting for the Parents and Children on **Tuesday, September 17, 2024** at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Please have them contact the office to get the registration forms.

Coffee Sunday / The members of the SVDP will be hosting Coffee Sunday this Sunday, **September 15th, 2024**, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass

Indigenous Reconciliation Fund Update / The IRF seeks to support projects that are determined by First Nations, Indigenous, and Métis partners that promote healing, dialogue, and education in our local communities. The IRF has awarded 8 grants worth nearly \$160K across the Diocese of Peterborough. Help us fund more worthy projects and reach our diocesan commitment of \$400K by giving to the special collection on September 21/22. Learn more and donate online at www.peterboroughdiocese.org. There will be envelopes in the pews beginning September 15th for this special collection.

CWL / The installation of the CWL Executive will take place on Sunday, September 22nd at the 9:00a.m. Mass. The CWL President, Patricia, will be speaking at the Mass on September 15th at both St. Mary's and St. Kateri's.

The CWL will be hosting their **Friday Card games** on the last Friday of the month beginning on Friday, September 27th.

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.

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*

Week of September 16th – 22nd,

RCIA / If you know of someone who is interested in becoming a Catholic or would like to learn more about the Catholic faith, the next meeting for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Program will be on **Sunday, September 22nd** at 3:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Altar Servers / St. Mary of the Assumption is looking for 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.

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.

The **"Let's Get Physical" Exercise Class** will start again on Wednesday Sept 25, 2024. This is a gentle Yoga based class working on increasing strength and balance. There is no charge for this class. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Drive / Tuesday, **September 17th**, will be our Monthly Food Drive. We are in most need of: 1 litre Juice, Cookies, Canned Vegetables, Canned Tomatoes, Salmon, Tuna, Canned Fruit, Coffee, Peanut Butter, Cereal, Juice Boxes, Pudding cups and Fruit Cups. The food drive is from 9:30AM to 12:00Noon at the SVDP Office. Whatever you are able to share is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Group Meetings /Events

Thursdays	6:00 p.m.	Huntsville Community Band Practice / Parish Hall
Sunday	September 15th	Coffee Sunday / Parish Hall / After the 9:00 a.m. Mass
Sunday	September 15th	RCIA / Parish Hall / 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday	September 17th	SVDP Food Drive / SVDP Office / 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Tuesday	September 17th	Sacramental Prep Parent Meeting / Parish Hall / 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	September 18th	Property Committee Meeting / Knights Room / 4:00 p.m.