

ST. JAMES THE GREAT PARISH and ST. ANNE'S

Office: 82 Joseph St., Box 32
 MacTier, ON P0C 1H0
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WEEKEND MASSES
St. Anne's 1150 Whiteside Rd., Fenn's Point, Bala, ON
 Saturday 5:00 pm
 Sunday 9:00 am (May to Bala Cranberry Festival)

Email: office@stjamesmactier.ca
 www.stjamesmactier.ca
Fr. Collins Okafor, Pastor
 Email: frcollinsokafor@peterboroughdiocese.org

St. James the Great (MacTier) 509 High St.
 Sunday 11:00 am



St. James the Great



St. Anne's Mission Church

WEEKDAY MASSES: as scheduled inside.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Please contact the Parish Priest or call the office.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: by appointment, one year or at least six months in advance.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 30 minutes before all weekend Masses or by appt.

Office Admin./
 Bookkeeper: Mandy Near 705-375-2478 (Thurs. 10am-2pm)

CWL: Brenda Baker

Decorations: Doreen Lance

Finance Committee: Patrick Truyens (finance chair)
 Timothy Callahan
 Frank Spykerman
 Brenda Baker

Space Available		Greetings from the Godsoe, Barrett, Brennan, Feuchuk, Herbert and Tittel Families	Space Available
			Space Available
Greetings from Mary-Ellen & Tim Forwell and Family	<i>Thy kingdom come Thy will Reign on earth as it is in Heaven.</i>	Greetings from Arnold & Delores Nussey	
God's Blessings from the Smailys Family	Greetings from Doyle Capital Corporation	PRAYER TO ST. JAMES THE GREAT O glorious Apostle, St. James, who by reason of thy fervent and generous heart was chosen by Jesus to be a witness of His Glory on Mount Tabor, and of His agony in Gethsemani. Thou, whose very name is a symbol of warfare and victory: obtain for us strength and consolation in the unending warfare of this life, that, having constantly and generously followed Jesus, we may be victors in the strife and deserve to receive the victor's crown in heaven. Amen	
Greetings from St. James The Great Catholic Women's League	<i>G. H. Grassby & Associates</i> <small>Incorporated</small> Gerry Grassby 77 Park Crescent, Richmond Hill L4E 3J5 Office: 905-773-8320 Cell: 416-697-1604 Muskoka: 705-762-1835		
PRAYER TO ST. ANNE Good St. Anne, you were especially favoured by God to be the mother of the most holy Virgin Mary, the Mother of our Saviour. By your power with your most pure daughter and with her divine Son, kindly obtain for us the grace and the favour we seek. Please secure for us also forgiveness of our past sins, the strength to perform faithfully our daily duties and the help we need to persevere in the love of Jesus and Mary. Amen.			
E May God Give to You	RR His Comfort and		A his peace

~ PLEASE REMEMBER OUR PARISH IN YOUR WILL ~

Sunday, April 27th, 2025
2nd Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday

Have you ever felt yourself to be a “Doubting Thomas?” I certainly have!

I look upon God’s world, but doubt that the Creator really intended this— a world where social justice is lacking in many ways, where environmental damage is increasingly threatening, and where peace is so evidently lacking. It is easy to doubt that Jesus is present in this mess. It is much harder to accept that Jesus gave people like me and you the power— and the mandate— to bring about a better world.

Here arises the implications of belief— if we believe Jesus came and remains among us, we must respond as he asked us to act. In John’s Gospel, just as in some situations today, we and our faith communities can be found “with the doors locked for fear.” Yet, while “the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord,” they also understood that they were being sent to continue Christ’s mission— to cure the sick, to comfort the afflicted and even to afflict the comfortable! After all, it is “through believing that you may have life.”

Maybe all of us “Doubting Thomases” will one day proclaim today’s beatitude: ‘Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’ And that the Giver of Life would see our faith communities share our belief to the full.

—Joe Gunn, Ottawa, ON



Sunday Masses—
April 26th and 27th, 2025

Divine Mercy Sunday

Saturday 5:00pm at St. Anne’s
+Repose of the soul of Pope Francis

Sunday 11:00am at St. James
Repose of the soul of Zofia Sikora
 —Ewa Jrek

Weekday Masses
April 28th to May 3rd, 2025

Tuesday 10:00am at St. James

Friday 10:00am Adoration, followed by Mass
at St. James

Saturday 10:00am at St. James

Sunday Masses—
May 3rd and May 4th, 2025

Third Sunday of Easter

Saturday 5:00pm at St. Anne’s
For the people of the parish

Sunday 11:00am at St. James
+Repose of the soul of Richard Spykerman
 —Frank Spykerman

PLEASE NOTE

- The weekly bulletin is sent out every Thursday via email. If you would like to be added to the bulletin email list, please contact the office either by calling 705-375-2478 or email office@stjamesmactier.ca

POPE’S INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

For the use of new technologies: Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times. To read reflections on the Pope’s Prayer Intentions, www.livingwithchrist.ca

APRIL DEVOTION

The month of April is dedicated to the **Holy Eucharist, and the Holy Spirit.**

This tradition has developed because Easter Sunday often falls in April, and when it does fall in March, the Easter season continues on through all of April.

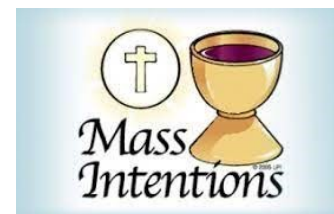
To believe in the Holy Spirit is to profess that the Holy Spirit is one of the persons of the Holy Trinity, consubstantial with the Father and the Son: “with the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*) The Holy Spirit is the Person of Love in the life of God. He is also like a breath, an aspiration of infinite Love, from which we draw the breath of life.

On the day of Pentecost the Divine Spirit communicated such an abundance of life to the whole Church that to symbolize it “there came a sound from heaven, as of a violent wind coming, and it filled the whole house where they (the Apostles) were sitting.” But it is also for us that the Holy Spirit has come, for the group in the Cenacle represented the whole Church. The Holy Spirit came to remain with the Church forever. This is the promise of Jesus Himself. He dwells in the Church permanently and unfailingly, performing in it without ceasing His action of life-giving and sanctification. He establishes the Church infallibly in the truth. It is He Who makes the Church blossom forth with a marvelous supernatural fruitfulness, for He brings to life and full fruition in Virgins, Martyrs, and Confessors those heroic virtues which are one of the marks of true sanctity.

(*The Mysteries of the Rosary*, Dom Columba Marmion, O.S.B.)

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

The sacrifice of the Mass is the greatest celebration in Heaven and the best offering for our departed relatives, friends, special needs, and intentions. Try to offer at least one Mass Intention for deceased family members each year. Please email or call the office or let Fr. Collins know if you require a Mass Request.



LITURGY NOTES— AMEN:

Athletes aim for excellence by isolating groups of muscles to exercise and strengthen. Musicians isolate musical passages and finger movements to practice and perfect their technique. Is there some part of the Mass we could isolate and “rehearse” as we “practice” our faith? Yes, many. But to begin with the humblest word (and humility is always a good place to start), give your “Amen” a workout. If you get used to putting your heart into this word, giving it all the weight it deserves, it will make room for the Holy Spirit to seal the word in your soul. We have all heard intellectual explanations of what “Amen” literally means: “so be it” or “it is true” are often given as English equivalents. More important, however, is the meaning for saying it: “Amen” is your way of assenting in your heart and soul to the prayer that has evoked a response. Many prayers are said by the priest on behalf of all present, and rather than concluding the prayer himself, the priest listens while the Body of Christ assents to what was expressed in the prayer, as many voices become one in saying or singing “Amen” in response. The unity of voices bears witness to all present of the unity of faith which is expressed throughout the Mass, and is a sign to us of Jesus’ prayer for unity becoming a reality. The “Great Amen” is said by all the people at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer at the heart of the Mass, often repeated three times. In concluding the priest’s words, “all glory and honour is yours, forever and ever,” the Amen of all present multiplies the glory given to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit; it hurls our prayers glorifying God towards the heavens, joining it to the voices of the Church around the world and the saints above. It is so much more than simply a concluding formula; “Amen” itself is praise. To practice the “Amen muscle”, listen carefully to the prayer that precedes it, consider the praise which is offered to Almighty God, or the thanksgiving reverently articulated, or the sublime truths of the faith poetically and joyfully expressed as you listen attentively to the prayer; then say “Amen” to this with your heart as well as your voice; with a joyful voice, a voice full of conviction and gratitude; and hear the voices of your brothers and sisters joined with yours in a unity of faith and praise. And be glad that God has invited us all into this Mystical Body which is the Church, a body united in heart and voice, to be a living sacrifice of praise in all that we say and do. (©Padre Piccolo)

MESSAGE ON DEATH OF POPE FRANCIS

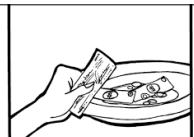
His Eminence Kevin Cardinal Farrell, Camerlenguo of the Holy Roman Church, has announced the death of His Holiness Pope Francis at the age of 88, at his residence Casa Santa Marta in the Vatican, on this Monday, 21 April 2025, at 7:35 a.m. (Rome time).

You will find below a link to the statement by CCCB President, the Most Reverend William T. McGrattan.

In English : <https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/statement-by-the-most-rev-william-t-mcgrattan-bishop-of-calgary-and-president-of-the-canadian-conference-of-catholic-bishops-on-the-passing-of-pope-francis/>

In French: <https://www.cecc.ca/communique-de-presse/declaration-de-mgr-william-t-mcgrattan-veveque-de-calgary-et-president-de-la-conference-des-vevques-catholiques-du-canada-a-la-suite-du-deces-du-pape-francois/>

Please remember in your prayers the repose of the soul of our holy Father Pope Francis, who passed away earlier this week in Rome. <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope.html>



Stewardship News....Thank you for your kind support.

Last week’s offering— **\$686.00**