St. Mary's & Our Lady of Lourdes

Serving the Roman Catholic Communities of Fort Frances and Couchiching First Nation



Parish Office

209 Victoria Avenue, Fort Frances, Ontario P9A 2B8 Tel: 807 274-5233

Fax: 807 274-7966

Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00am-3:00pm Web: www.stmarysfortfrances.com Email: stmarys@tbaytel.net

Pastoral Team

Rev. Fr. Kevin Ezeobi, SMMM, Pastor

Parish Staff

Mrs. Tina Roth, Administrative Secretary stmarys@tbaytel.net
Mr. Gerald Cousineau, Custodian

Join Us!

To become a parishioner, please complete a Parish Registration form at the entrance of the church.

Mass Schedule

Saturday - 5:00pm, Sunday - 11:00am Tuesday - 6:20pm, Wednesday - 9:20am Friday - 10:00am Thursday - 10:00am @ Rainycrest

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

Sunday - 9:00am

Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 9:00 - 10:00am

Confessions

Wednesday - Friday - 9:00am Saturday - 3:30 - 4:30pm 8:30 - 8:50am @ OLOL or by appointment

(Events celebrated at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish are denoted by OLOL)

Baptisms

Please call 3 months in advance Baptism Preparation Class every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm

Children's Liturgy

During Sunday masses September thru May

Rosary

Weekdays before mass Sunday 8:40am OLOL

Anointing of the Sick

Please call to request a visit, or in an emergency ask hospital staff for "Roman Catholic Priest on call"

Marriage

Please call 6 months in advance

Becoming Catholic (RCIA)

Process begins in September, please call at any time

*****OUR MISSION*****



Our Mission is to glorify God by fostering a belonging church where all are loved and led into an authentic, life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ.





December 25, 2025 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



MASSES FOR THE NEXT WEEK

Monday 29th

6:20pm Intentions of Rainycrest Residents
Tuesday 30th

6:20pm + Marilyn McKinnon – Jim & Sandra

Wednesday 31st NEW YEAR'S EVE

11:00am @ St. Mary's

+ Deceased Loved Ones of the Schaum Family - Margrit

Thursday 1st NEW YEAR'S DAY

9:00am @ OLOL

+ Brian, + John & + Jennie McPherson - Cheryl, Rick & Brittany

11:00am @ St. Mary's

+ Deceased Loved Ones of the Woertz & Bitzer Families – Margrit

Friday 2nd Rosary & Adoration @ 9:00am then mass @

10:00am For prayer with the Word of God – Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

Saturday 3rd

5:00pm + Albert & Anne Turgeon – The Family Sunday 4th (9am @ OLOL)

The Epiphany of the Lord

9:00am + George, + Dolly, + Chuck McPherson &

+ Janice Parks - Donna & Kathy

11:00am + Bob Mitchelson - Grace Huntley

Ministry Schedule

Dec. 24 @ 5pm - Kayden/Miranda (Lectors), Greg (EMHC)

Dec. 24 @ 11pm - Kim/Jeremiah (Lectors), Sandy (EMHC)

Dec. 25 @ 11am - Ingrid/Shelley (Lectors), Gail (EMHC)

Dec. 27 - Anna/Giles (Lectors), Gina (EMHC)

Dec. 28 – Marie/Michael (Lectors), Gail (EMHC)

Dec. 31 – Gemma/Miranda (Lectors), Gina (EMHC)

Jan. 1 – Gilles/Kim (Lectors), Gina (EMHC)



St. Mary's Church is celebrating 75 years! We would like to get a committee together to plan activities and functions to acknowledge this

milestone. We will have our first planning meeting after the mass on Tuesday, January 6th. If you are interested in helping out with this, please contact the parish office or come to the meeting.

From the Pastor's Desk

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, for the past four weeks we have been preparing ourselves spiritually, materially and otherwise, to welcome Our Lord and Saviour on this Christmas. We should always remember that God gave us the special gift of His son not just for a single day but for every moment of our lives. Christmas is about God's closeness to us- "the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (John 1:14). He came as a humble child born by a young Virgin in a manger.

Emmanuel (God with us) is here. The true light gives light to everyone here; He wants to enter our homes and spiritual houses (our souls) but he will not force his way into our hearts. "He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to those who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God (John 1:11-13).

This is a season of joy, a season of peace, a season of gratitude to God. It is a time to do charity, Jesus is the reason for this season and he wants us to take care of the needy. May the birthday of Jesus Christ, Our Saviour and Prince of peace bring a lasting joy, healing, peace and protection to your home. Be joyful.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR! Fr. Kevin C. Ezeobi, SMMM



From
Father
Kevin,
Tina S
Gerald!

Annual Diocesan Ministry Campaign
The Campaign ends December 31, 2025.
We only have a couple weeks left.
There are extra envelopes by the bulletins.
Please get your donation in now!

The balance that we do not collect comes out of the general funds of the parishes.



<u>December 24, 2025</u> <u>Christmas Eve - The Nativity of the Lord</u>

1st reading: (Isaiah 62.1-5) 2nd reading: (Acts 13.16-17, 22-25) Gospel: (Matthew 1.1-25)

<u>December 25, 2025</u> <u>Christmas Day - The Nativity of The Lord</u>

1st reading: (Isaiah 62.11-12) 2nd reading: (Titus 3.4-7) Gospel: (Luke 2.15-20)

<u>December 28, 2025</u> The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

1st reading: (Sirach 3.2-6, 12-14) 2nd reading: (Colossians 3.12-21 Gospel: (Luke 2.41-52)

<u>December 31, 2025</u> <u>Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity</u>

1st reading: (1 John 2.18-21) Gospel: (John 1.1-18)

<u>January 1, 2026</u>

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

1st reading: (Number 6.22-27) 2nd reading: (Galatians 4.4-7) Gospel: (Luke 2.16-21)

What's going on?!

Jan. 6 – 75th Anniversary planning meeting after the 6pm mass

Jan. 14 - Catechism class after the 6pm mass

- Everyone welcome!

NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Dec. 31 Thanksgiving Mass
11am Mass @ St. Mary's
Thursday, January 1, 2026 New Year's Mass
9am Mass @ Our Lady of Lourdes
11am Mass @ St. Mary's

The office will be closed for the holidays on December 24^{th} and will re-open on January 5^{th} . Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.



We would like to start a Men's Group in January. All men of the parish are invited to join to

share faith and fellowship. Please contact Father Kevin or the Parish Office if you would like to participate.

FORMED

New Year's Resolutions | The Augustine Institute Show - What's

your resolution this year? Dr. Tim Gray welcomes Dr. Scott Hefelfinger, Assistant Professor of Theology in the Augustine Institute Graduate School of Theology, to celebrate one year of the Augustine Institute Show!

The Holy Family - We are excited to announce our series of FORMED Now! Christmas and New Year special episodes. In these episodes, professors from the Augustine Institute Graduate School will lead us in reflections throughout the season! Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus - Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp as we celebrate the feast of The Most Holy Name of Jesus with this litany prayer of the Holy Name. http://watch.formed.org/this-week-on-formed

Please pray for......

ST. MARY'S - Shirley Fraser, Noella Hamilton, David Whalen, Frank Strain, Ewan MacKintosh, Dave Egan, Kathleen DeGagné, Greg Gustafson, Linda Blanc, Lillian Bodnar, Sue Sivonen, Anna Busch, Lorraine Smith, Loretta Foran, Theresa Olson, Yves Aucoin, Anita Artyszuk, Betty Mueller, Joyce Gosselin, Isabella Keuler, Arlene Kolvnchuk, Maria Langenfurth, Beatrice Lambert, Tate Foley, Leanne Crompton, Jerry Darvell, Mindy Wallace, Shirley Buttner, Susan Hunking, Amy LaFroy, Lawrence Desserre, Rita Moorhouse, Marco Grigio, Paul Noonan, Bernice Kempf, David Lovisa Sr. **OUR LADY OF LOURDES** - Curtis Jourdain, Mary Lou Parks, Dale Krueger, Roger Fillion, Laverne (Gabby) Caul, Marilyn Perreault, Heather Jeffers, Candace Tucker

Offertory Collection for Weekend of Dec. 21, 2025: St. Mary's - \$7865.15 Our Lady of Lourdes - \$944.90

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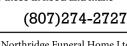


Sundays Are for Giving Back!

This Sunday and every Sunday \$2 from every Large or Medium Pizza sold will be donated to our local Warming Center and Food Bank.

Together, we can help those in need and make a difference

one pizza at a time!





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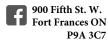
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(807) 223-4663 Toll Free 1-877-235-4663 St. Mary School, 755 Flinders Ave. (807) 274-7756

Jackie Robinson, Director of Education Cathy Piotrowski, Board Vice-Chair Joelle Blanc-Paull, Trustee Amanda Levesque, First Nations Trustee David Sharp, Trustee







For all your equipment needs Rob or Mike

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