St. Mary's & Our Lady of Lourdes

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



A Special 115th Anniversary Year

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

We thank You for the blessings poured upon St. Mary's Parish over these past 115 years.

You have gathered us as Your family and made our parish a sanctuary of faith.

As we celebrate this holy milestone, we look to our Patroness, the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Grant us grace to take her words to heart, choosing each day to "do whatever He tells you."

Lord Jesus, open our ears to Your voice and strengthen our hearts to obey.

We bring the ordinary "water" of our lives- our prayers, talents, and service.

Fill our jars to the brim, and transform our offerings into the choice wine of Your grace.

Holy Spirit, breathe new life into our parish. Honour the legacy of those who came before us, and inspire us to build a vibrant future for the generations to come.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Mother of Mercy, pray for us.

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 - 6:00pm
Wednesday - 9:20am
Thursday - 10:00am @ Rainycrest
Friday - 10:00am

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

Sunday - 9:00am

Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 9:00 - 10:00am

Rosary

Weekdays before mass
Sunday 8:30am OLOL

Confessions

Tuesday - 5:45pm
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 1 month in advance
Baptism Preparation Class every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm

Children's Liturgy

During Sunday masses
September thru May

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.



November 1, 2026
Solemnity of ALL SAINTS

MASSES FOR THE NEXT WEEK
Monday 2nd ALL SOULS' DAY
12:00pm @ Our Lady of Lourdes
6:00pm @ St. Mary's
Tuesday 3rd (Rosary @ 6pm)
6:20pm + Louis Quesnel – The Lectors' Group
Wednesday 4th (Rosary @ 9am)
9:20am + Louis Quesnel – Frank & Monique Strain
Thursday 5th @ Rainycrest
10:00am + Clora McEvoy – The Sivonen Family
Friday 6th Rosary & Adoration@9am then Mass @ 10:00am For the proper use of wealth. Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service the common good and solidarity of those who have less.
Saturday 7th
5:00pm + Mary Kolynchuk – The Family and **+** Rhonda DeGagne – The Revus Family
Sunday 8th (9am @ Our Lady of Lourdes)
9:00am + Deceased OLOL CWL Members and **+** Dolly & **+** Paddy Roach – The Family
11:00am + Carlota & **+** Santiago Cardona – The Family and the Intentions of All Parishioners

ALL SAINTS
1st reading: (Revelation 7.2-4, 9-14**)**
2nd reading: (1 John 3.1-3**)**
Gospel: (Matthew 5.1-12a**)**

Ministry Schedule
Oct. 31 – Kim/Gemma (Lectors), Sandy (EMHC)
Nov. 1 – Marie/Dale (Lectors), Gina (EMHC)
Nov. 7 – Anna/Ellen (Lectors), Lynn (EMHC)
Nov. 8 – Anne/Kayden (Lectors), Gail (EMHC)

What's going on?!
Nov. 2 – Memorial Mass @ OLOL – 12pm
– Memorial Mass @ St. Mary's – 6pm
Nov. 4 – CWL Mass for Deceased – 6pm followed by Reception and General Meeting
Nov. 8 – Men's Group Meeting – 2pm
Nov. 10 – Mass for Deceased Priests and Parishioners - 6pm

The Annual Diocesan Ministry Campaign runs until December 31, 2026. The theme this year is ***"Love as Jesus Loved".*** The goal for **St. Mary's is $21,000**. The goal for **Our Lady of Lourdes is $5,100.**

MEN'S GROUP

The next Men's Group Meeting will be on Sunday, Nov. 8th at 2pm.

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear brothers and sisters, this week, the Church marks two deeply connected days: the **Solemnity of All Saints (November 1) and the Commemoration of All Souls (November 2)**. Together, these days give us a beautiful glimpse into the mystery of the Communion of Saints—the spiritual bond that links all believers, living and dead. The fellowship which exists among the members of Christ's mystical Body which is the Church. As Catholics, we believe that the Church exists in three "states," yet remains one single family in Christ:

The Church Triumphant (All Saints' Day): On November 1, we look to Heaven. We celebrate not only the famous saints on our calendar, but the countless ordinary people who lived quietly holy lives. As Pope Benedict XVI reminded us, "Our community with the saints is a beautiful reality. They are our older brothers and sisters who have arrived at the goal... and they tell us: 'Take courage, we did it, so can you!'"

The Church Penitent / Suffering (All Souls' Day): On November 2, we turn our hearts to those who have died but are still undergoing their final purification before entering Heaven. Because we are connected in Christ, our prayers, sacrifices, and Masses truly help them on their journey toward God's light. St. Padre Pio noted, "We must pray for the souls in Purgatory. It is unbelievable how much we can do for them, and how much they, in turn, can do for us."

The Church Militant / Pilgrim (You and Me): We are the members still on earth, journeying through the joys and trials of daily life. When we sit in the pews this week, remember that we are never praying alone. We are surrounded by a "great cloud of witnesses." The saints stretch out their hands to help us up, while we stretch out our hands through prayer to assist our beloved dead. This is the Communion of Saints: a family dynamic of love, prayer, and mutual support that even death cannot break. Every member of the church is encouraged to be part of these celebrations. The month of November is the month that we remember the faithful departed. We pray for them in a special way not only on the All Souls' Day but throughout the month.

May the peace, joy and love of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. God bless you.

Fr. Kevin

GABRIEL NETWORK
Empowering Women to Choose Life

Gabriel Network is in cooperation with 'Rite to Life' and functions as an outreach group that fosters support to wormen who may be contemplating abortion. Their efforts support these women and save the lives of innocent children. Our Diocese support this initiative.

OLOL Memorial Mass will be on Monday, November 2nd @ 12pm.
St. Mary's Memorial Mass will be on Monday, November 2nd @ 6pm.



At these masses we will remember our deceased parishioners in a special way who passed away between November 2025 and October 2026.

All members of St. Mary's Catholic Women's League are welcome and encouraged to attend our 2026 Memorial Mass on Wednesday, November 4th at 6pm. At this mass we will remember our League sisters who have gone before us. Let us once again hear their names echoed in our church where they once knelt in prayer. Refreshments will be served in the hall immediately following the mass. Our monthly General Meeting will take place after the gathering.

OUR CHURCH HISTORICAL TRIVIA
Did you know???

Gradually the number of Catholics in Fort Frances began to increase and the Hamel house became too small to hold services. Father Cahill had already acquired land for a future church and hospital. Due to a lack of funds, the Oblate Fathers decided to build a combined house-chapel. The ground floor was to be used as a rectory, while the upper floor would serve as a church. On July 28, 1895 the first mass was said.

St. Mary's Catholic Women's League Christmas Tea & Bazaar – Nov. 15th

Calling all bakers!
Our Christmas Bazaar bake table NEEDS your donations! All donations are most welcome. Please pass this information along to friends and family. Please drop off your baking (marked "bake table") in the church basement: on the afternoon of Saturday, November 14th or before/after the weekend masses. Happy baking!
We also need help in the kitchen with baking and sandwich making. Please sign up in the lobby. Your contribution is deeply appreciated! Thank you!

St. Mary's CWL 50/50 tickets will be for sale at this weekend's masses. They are also available from CWL members and the parish office.
OUR LADY OF LOURDES Catholic Women's League
50/50 DRAW CASH PRIZE of 1/2 TICKETS SOLD
To Be Drawn: 4:00 p.m. Sunday, Dec 6, 2026
2,000 Tickets Printed| $2/ticket
Available from CWL members and the parish office.

FORMED **How to Advent | Episode 1** - Advent is only a few weeks away. Can you believe it? Join us over the next few weeks as we prepare for this season with "How to Advent." **The Story of Death | Eternal Rest | Episode 1** - Where did death come from? What does death mean for the human person? Is it simply just part of life, or is it something else? In this first session, we discuss the story of death and God's response to it: defeating death by dying and rising from the dead. **Saint Charles Borromeo: The Good Shepherd** - As the Cardinal-nephew of Pope Pius IV, Saint Charles Borromeo was one of the wealthiest and most powerful men in all of Rome. Yet he chose the extraordinary challenge of reforming the enormous Archdiocese of Milan to the pampered life of a Renaissance prince, and willingly spent himself in the service of his flock. http://watch.formed.org/this-week-on-formed

Meat Pies for Mary Fundraiser



We are excited to offer a special *Meat Pies for Mary* fundraiser to help raise funds for our Marian Grotto Project. Every pie purchased will help bring us closer to completing this beautiful space of prayer for our parish family. Pre-sales will be available before and after all weekend Masses and at the Parish office until November 22nd. **Cost**: $20 for a hearty 9" Cousineau family recipe pork and potato filled meat pie – perfect for family meals or holiday gatherings. **Pick up Date**: All pre-ordered pies will be ready for pick up on Saturday, November 28th between 12-2pm.
We need volunteers and warmly invite parishioners to sign up and help prepare the pies on Friday, November 27th and Saturday November 28th. Whether you're a seasoned cook or simply eager to lend a hand, your help makes a meaningful difference. Cooking together is always filled with fellowship, laughter, and the joy of working together for Our Lady.
Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board.
For more information contact Miranda Sigurdson.

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, Joyce Gosselin, Isabella Keuler, Arlene Kolynchuk, Maria Langenfurth, Beatrice Lambert, Leanne Crompton, Jerry Darvell, Mindy Wallace, Shirley Buttner, Susan Hunking, Amy LaFroy, Rita Moorhouse, Marco Grigio, Paul Noonan, Bernice Kempf, David Lovisa Sr., Frances Valera Bersamin, Rod Davis, Frank Ball, Pam Makarchuk, Jill Hebert, Dan Pierroz, Mason Hebert

OUR LADY OF LOURDES - Curtis Jourdain, Dale Krueger, Marilyn Perreault, Heather Jeffers

Offertory Collection for Weekend of
Oct. 25, 2026: St. Mary's - $6407.00
Our Lady of Lourdes - $989.00

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St. Mary School, 755 Flinders Ave.
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