

Welcome! The Exaltation of the Cross

Mass Schedule for St. John the Baptist Parish, St. Bridget Parish, and Sacred Heart Parish ~ September 14th – 21st

Saturday September 13 ~ St. John Chrysostom		
SJ	5:00pm	John & Marian Dowdall ~ Jason, Julie, & Justin Dowdall
SVDP	5:00pm	Margaret Brady ~ Brenda Cavanagh
Sunday September 14 ~ The Exaltation of the Holy Cross		
SJ	9:00am	Mass for the People of the Parish
SHP	9:00am	Nancy Shepherd ~ Gail & Fred Shepherd
SB	11:00am	Special Intention of Brenda White ~
SJ	11:00am	Int. of Marjorie & Jack Facette ~ Barbara Hendry
Monday September 15 ~ Our Lady of Sorrows		
SJ	8:30am	Prayer for the Sick & Suffering
Tuesday September 16 ~ St. Cornelius & St. Cyprian		
SB	9:00am	Andre Daigle & the Int. of his family ~ Lisette Vaillancourt
SJ	4:30pm	Mary Theresa Nagle ~ A Friend
Wednesday September 17		
SJ	9:00am	For the protection of all human life ~ LifeMatters Core Group
Thursday September 18		
SHP	9:00am	~ No Intention Booked ~
SJ	12:00pm	Special Intention ~ Barbara Hendry
PCCC	2:00pm	Perth Community Care Centre Mass
Friday September 19		
SJ	8:30am	Prayer for the Sick & Suffering
SJ	9:00am	Int. of Fr. Charles Enyinnia ~ KoC Council #3531
SJ	9:30am	Holy Adoration & Benediction
Saturday September 20 ~ St. Andrew Kim Tae-Gon, Paul Chonh Ha-Sang & Companions		
SJ	5:00pm	In thanks to St. Jude ~ Bonnie Switzer
SVDP	5:00pm	Margaret Brady ~ John & Cathy Conway
Sunday September 21		
SJ	9:00am	Mass for the People of the Parish
SHP	9:00am	Louis & Roseleen Weatherdon ~ Gail & Fred Shepherd
SB	11:00am	Anniversary int. of Bill & Lillian Mackler ~ Their Family
SJ	11:00am	Ron Southwell ~ Elizabeth Hogan & Family

Thank you for your contributions! Regular Sunday Donation \$3888.



NOTICE



To ensure that what is shared in our parish truly reflects the guidance of the Church and the Archdiocese of Kingston, we kindly ask that no posters, flyers, or notices be placed in the church or Parish buildings without the pastor's permission. Thank you for your cooperation.

PARISH FEATURE & FOCUS



Today we celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. At first, it may sound strange, why exalt a cross, something once used for pain and humiliation? But as Christians, we see the Cross differently. For us, it is the greatest sign of love: God giving His very life for us.

Jesus reminds us in today's Gospel that just as Moses lifted the bronze serpent in the desert to bring healing, so too the Son of Man was lifted up on the Cross to bring us eternal life. What once symbolized death has become for us the very path to life.

But this feast is not only about something long ago; it is about our lives now. We all carry crosses: a parent working two jobs to provide for the family, a young person standing firm in faith while facing peer pressure, or a caregiver patiently tending to an elderly loved one; an illness, a hidden worry, and a heartache we carry. By themselves, these burdens weigh us down. These are modern-day crosses, but when carried with love, they become holy and transformed into places where God's love and grace can shine.

I think of a husband who once told me, "Father, I never realized how many dishes I did have to wash after marriage. At first, it felt like a chore. But then I noticed the joy on my wife's face when I helped, and I realized love made even the dishes lighter." That is the secret of the Cross: love transforms burden into blessing.

I think of a mother I know who quietly cared for her sick child night after night. She was so exhausted, but she never complained. When I asked her how she kept going, she simply smiled and said, "I just look at the Cross and remember: love always finds the strength to endure." That is what the Cross teaches us; it is not a symbol of crushing defeat, but of love that conquers.

The Cross does not take away suffering, but it gives meaning to it. It reminds us that God is present in our struggles, that love can shine brightest in sacrifice, and that every Good Friday carries within it the seed of Easter Sunday.

So today, as we lift high the Cross, not just on the altar, but in our hearts. May it remind us that in every struggle, God is with us; in every trial, His love sustains us, and in every cross, the seed of resurrection is already planted. let us carry our own with courage. **And remember that in every act of love, big or small, we exalt the Cross and share in Christ's victory.**



PRAYERS

Please remember the sick in your prayers, including Maureen Czop, Jeannette Olivier, Marjorie Facette, Heather Luft, Des McKenna, Claudette Timmerman, Theresa Irvin, Deborah La Riccia, Gary & Georgette Whyte, & Demetrie Laming. Please remember those who have recently died in your prayers, especially Jess Crosby. Jesus, I trust in You.

In need of prayer? Connect with our strong prayer warriors, Father Charles, Father Anthony, or one of

our Parish Prayer teams through the Parish Office (for St John's Pastoral Care, CWL, or KOC Prayer group). Jesus, I trust in You.

UPCOMING EVENTS

✠ **THIS WEEKEND! Foy Hall Garage Sale:** The Foy Hall Garage Sale is open every Friday and Saturday throughout the summer, 10am-2:30pm! Come check out the great deals!

✠ **Catholic Women's League - Fall Retreat:** We are happy to welcome Nancy Steele as our keynote speaker to our retreat on **Saturday September 27th, 9am-2pm.** Her talk is entitled "From stumbling blocks to stepping stones. A journey of healing from the inside out. Love defined: discover God's love for you." ALL ladies are invited to this wonderful event. Please contact Ann at 613-868-4090 or annmbjohnson@gmail.com if you plan to attend. A free will offering will be accepted. Please **RSVP by September 22, 2025.** Hope to see you there!

✠ **16th Annual Women's Fall Retreat 2025: Saturday, October 4th,** 9am-3:30pm, St. Michael Catholic High School, 2755 County Rd. 43, Kemptville, ON. We are blessed to have Angèle Regnier, co-founder of Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO), as our guest speaker. Cost (\$50) includes snacks & a delicious lunch. Come and experience the peace and joy of a day spent in God's presence, surrounded by a supportive community of women. **Please register by Sept. 27th** at www.womensfallretreat.com. The Women's Fall Retreat Team, Archdiocese of Kingston

✠ **Save the Date. Life Chain: Sunday Oct. 5th 2-3pm** in Perth and 10:15-11:15am in Lanark.

✠ **15th Anniversary of the Canonization of St. Brother André:** Autumn pilgrimage to St. Joseph Oratory in this Jubilee 2025, on **Sunday, October 12, 2025**, from the Archdioceses of Ottawa-Cornwall, Kingston and Gatineau, and the Dioceses of Pembroke. Departures: Belleville, Kingston, Brockville, Morrisburg, Cornwall. Contact Mike Budge at 613 224-8110 or Eveline McNeil at 613 543-2662 for more information.

✠ **Pilgrimage to Medjugorje | Oct 14–24, 2025:** Join us for a Jubilee Year of Hope pilgrimage! Departing from **Toronto** → through **Warsaw** → **Split, Croatia.** Transfers to Medjugorje by coach Includes 2 meals daily, private 3-piece bath, climate control. Double occupancy | **\$2,675 CAD.** For full details, check the flyer or email Karen.Shannon@queensu.ca.

✠ **Jubilee Year of Hope Pilgrimage to Fatima, Lourdes, Rome, and Assisi | November 5–17, 2025:**

Please join Father Justin Pulikunnel and Father Shawn Hughes, who will travel to Europe to receive the great graces of pilgrimage in this Jubilee Year. Please see the attached information and registration forms. For further information, please do not hesitate to contact Ann Lyng at ann@stmaryscathedral.ca.

✠ **St. Mary's of Egypt Refuge | November 19, 2025:** Have you lost someone you love to euthanasia? You are invited: Euthanasia Healing Retreats

September 14, 2025

A time for guided sharing, a pastoral talk, memorial service and supper. St. John the Compassionate Mission (155 Broadview Ave Toronto, ON). No cost to attend, though a freewill offering is appreciated. Overnight accommodation is available upon request. Registration required: www.beingwith.org/euthanasia-healing-retreats



SACRAMENTS

Catechism Classes for First Communion and Confirmation

Our new cohort of First Communion and Confirmation candidates will begin catechism classes in October. **Mandatory parent meetings** will take place prior to the start of classes:

First Communion parents: Tuesday, September 23rd at 7:00pm.

Confirmation parents: Tuesday, September 30th at 7:00pm.

UPCOMING MEETINGS



[St John Parish Meeting Place, 15 Church St, Perth]

**Notice: 15 Church Street will be cleaned every Wednesday between 1-3pm. Please do not book any meetings during this time.*

CWL Monthly Meeting	2 nd Monday of each Month @ 7pm
Monday Bible Study Group – Contact Jenny Salte for details.	Mondays @ 10am
Parish Council Monthly Meeting	2 nd Tuesday of each month @ 6:30pm
Life Matters Monthly Meeting	3 rd Wednesday of each month @ 10am
Knights of Columbus Monthly Meeting	2 nd Wednesday of each month @ 7pm
Pastoral Care Committee Meeting	TBD
Wednesday Bible Study Group – Contact Jenny Salte for details.	Wednesdays @ 7pm
St. John's Holy Face Group Monthly Meeting	Last Thursday of each month, after the noon Mass
Thursday Bible Study Group – Contact Evelyn Goodfellow for details.	Thursdays @ 1pm
Sunday Mass 11am Choir	Thursdays @ 7pm & Sundays @ 10:15am
St. John's Movie Club	Friday, October 17 th @ 7pm
Life Matters Men's Group – Contact Dave Lapointe for details.	3 rd Saturday of each month
Saturday Mass 5:00pm Choir	Saturdays @ 4:45pm



St. John's Movie Club Update

The Saint John's Movie Club will be holding its next meeting on **Friday, October 17th at 7:00 PM**, at 15 Church St. We will watch a short film and there will be a group discussion following. For more information, contact

Anthony: adellazazera@gmail.com.