

Mass Schedule for St. John the Baptist Parish, St. Bridget Parish, and Sacred Heart Parish ~ May 10th - 17th

Saturday May 9		
SJ	5:00pm	Mass for the People of the Parish
Sunday May 10 ~ 6 th Sunday of Easter		
SJ	9:00am	Pat & Pete Peterson ~ Jim & Kathy McHale
SHP	9:00am	Gertrude Parks Beadle ~ Doris Quinn
SB	11:00am	For all mothers of the parish, both living and deceased ~ Marg McMunn
SJ	11:00am	Joe McEachern ~ Anne Cardinal
Monday May 11		
SJ	8:30am	Prayer for the Sick & Suffering
Tuesday May 12		
SB	9:00am	~ No intention booked ~
SJHS	9:30am	St. John's High School Mass Jayden Dowdall ~ Jason, Julie, & Justin Dowdall
SJ	4:30pm	Horst Soehl ~ Ken & Lucille Crawford
Wednesday May 13		
SJ	9:00am	Patty & Joe De Francesco ~ Bernie De Francesco
LL	10:00am	Lanark Lodge Mass
Thursday May 14 ~ St. Matthias		
SJ	8:30am	The protection of all human life
SHP	9:00am	-----MASS CANCELLED-----
SJ	12:00pm	Ross Cotten ~ Maureen Cotten & Family
Friday May 15		
SJ	8:30am	Prayer for the Sick & Suffering
SJ	9:00am	Edie Cordick ~ Cathy Merkley
SJ	9:30am	Holy Adoration & Benediction
SJ	7:00pm	Reconciliation for Confirmation Candidates
Saturday May 16		
SJ	5:00pm	In thanks to St. Jude ~ Bonnie Switzer
SVDP	5:00pm	Margaret Brady ~ Williamson Family
Sunday May 17 ~ The Ascension of the Lord		
SJ	9:00am	Joe McEachern ~ Marie White & Shirley Chaplin
SHP	9:00am	Marie Fritz ~ Doris Quinn
SB	11:00am	~ No intention booked ~
SJ	11:00am	Mass for the People of the Parish
SJ	1:00pm	Confirmation Celebration

Thank you for your contributions!
Regular Sunday Donation \$3010.

NOTICE OF MASS CHANGE

St. Vincent de Paul Church will resume Saturday 5pm Masses, beginning Saturday, May 16th.

PARISH FEATURE & FOCUS †

In today's Gospel, Jesus says, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments" (John 14:15). At first, that can sound like a condition, almost a test. But listen closely: it is not a demand; it is a description. **Love, when it is real, naturally expresses itself in action.**

Think of this: Love reshapes desire. It moves from "I have to" to "I want to." This is what Jesus is inviting us into: **Love is not mere rule-keeping, but a relationship that transforms the heart.**

Jesus knows we cannot do this alone. So, He promises us, "I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate... the Spirit of truth" (John 14:16-17). **The Christian life is not a solo effort powered by willpower; it is a life animated by the Holy Spirit.** God does not just give commands, He gives Himself.

Saint Peter echoes this in the second reading: "Always be ready to give an explanation... for your hope" (1 Peter 3:15). I want us to notice that he does not say "arguments," but hope. People will never be convinced by logic but will be invited by a life that radiates something deeper: **Peace in trial, Patience in suffering, Quiet joy in ordinary days.**

So, the question becomes: do people see this hope in us? The beautiful truth is that hope is not something we manufacture, it is Someone we receive. Similarly, each Holy Eucharist is not just a ritual; It is an encounter with Jesus. **The risen Christ comes to dwell in us, fulfilling His promise: "I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you" (John 14:20).**

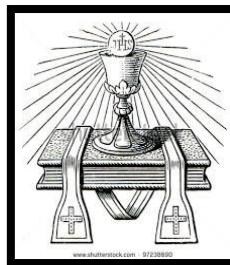
At this altar, love becomes tangible. The One who commands love feeds us with His own life, so that we can love as He loves.

And so, we come, not because we have perfected love, but as those being drawn, week by week, into the life of Divine Love.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

K of C Fundraising Draw for the Perth Special Olympics

1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th prizes to be won! Draw to take place 7 pm July 1, 2026, at Conlon Farm in Perth. \$5/ticket. Tickets available through our local Knights of Columbus members. More details to come!



REMINDER: ANNUAL PRIESTS RETREAT

Fr. Charles & Fr. Anthony will be away the week of May 18th - 22nd, on their annual Priests Retreat. **Weekday Masses will be cancelled. Weekend Masses will proceed as usual. May our Priests enjoy a rejuvenating and blessed retreat!**

The 9-day Novena, leading up to the celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, begins Friday, May 15th.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- † **Foy Hall Garage Sale: Now open for 2026!** Fridays & Saturdays from 10am - 2:30pm! 91 Princess St. in Lanark. Come check out new items at great prices! Hope to see you there!
- † **THIS WEEKEND! "Change for Life" Birthright Fundraiser: On Mother's Day weekend (May 9/10),** baby bottles will be made available to take home to support the moms and babies at Birthright. We encourage you to take home a bottle and fill it with spare change, paper money or a cheque made out to Birthright. **Please return the bottles on Father's Day weekend (June 20,21).** All proceeds support our work to help any woman who is facing an unplanned or difficult pregnancy plan for her future with her child. Thank you in advance and may God bless you for your generous support.
- † **Women & Mother's Retreat:** A retreat for women will be held on **Saturday, May 16th** by a priest from St. Clement Parish. The day will run from 9am-3pm and will include Holy Mass, talks, Adoration, and confession. Location: Saint Francis de Sales Church, 17 Elmsley St N, Smiths Falls. Cost: \$30 (lunch included). If cost is prohibitive, please contact us. For questions, email to francesmgorman@gmail.com. E-transfer can be sent to: mrosarioavellaneda@gmail.com. Please arrange for childcare at home, however babes in arms are welcome. Your registration is complete once payment is received. Please see this week's flocknote or contact the parish office for the link to register!
- † **March 4 Life:** As we celebrate Mother's Day this weekend, we give thanks for the gift of motherhood and the dignity of every human life. **This Thursday,** thousands will gather on Parliament Hill for the annual March for Life. For more information, please visit [March for Life Canada](http://MarchforLifeCanada.org). Bus transportation has once again been arranged for parishioners from our parishes and surrounding communities to attend the Rally and March in Ottawa. **A few seats are still available.** To register, please visit Life Matters Network Bus Registration **as soon as possible.** Please see the posters and displays in the church for additional details. At the time of writing, Thursday's forecast is sunny with a high of 16°C, a perfect day for the March!
- † **Archdiocese of Kingston 200th Anniversary Pilgrimage to the Holy Land:** Join Fr. Justin and Fr. Price on a faith-filled pilgrimage to the Holy Land from October 5-15, 2026. Please see the itinerary in the church and

this week's Flocknote.

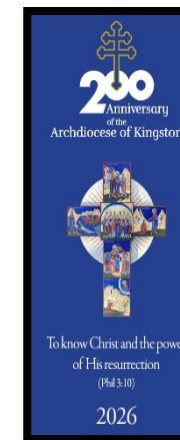


Remember to pray the Rosary daily throughout the month of May!

PRAYERS

Please remember the sick in your prayers, including Maureen Czop, Jeannette Olivier, Marjorie Facette, Doris Quinn, Claudette Timmerman, Mary Rowick, Susan Beaudoin Watson, Barbara Morrison, Pascal Proulx, Kim Lapointe, Camille Bozozuk, & Christiana Enyinnia. **Please remember those who have recently died** in your prayers, especially David Small, Edith Lepine, & Fidelis Ajawara, father of Fr. Cosmas Ajawara. 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.



200th Anniversary of the Archdiocese of Kingston The Jubilee Year Begins!

We began our celebrations for the 200th Anniversary Jubilee of the Archdiocese of Kingston on Monday, December 8th! Jubilee celebrations will take place throughout the year at the Parish, Deanery, and Archdiocesan levels. Keep an eye on the bulletin & Flocknote for parish and deanery events to come! Archdiocesan events can be found in the Fall edition of Journey, which can be found in your church today!

SACRAMENTS

Sacramental Preparation

Reconciliation:

Confirmation candidates will have Reconciliation on **Friday, May 15th @ 7pm.**

Ceremony:

The Confirmation ceremony will be held on **Sunday, May 17th @ 1pm.**



"The Blessed Virgin Mary offered the disciples her prayers, motherly care, and witness. She continues to offer us her

motherly love and intercession. During this month of May, let us rediscover her maternal role in each of our lives. Let us offer our spiritual mother our sincere prayers, that just as she aided the first Apostles with her prayers, she may also guide and intercede for us in our journey of faith. Let us learn from her how to love and trust God completely and how to be faithful witnesses of the risen Lord." - thecatholicstand.com