

APRIL 6TH, 2025 - FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

St. Thomas More Parish



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Pastor: Fr. Antonio Barol

Please Pray For those who are sick, especially:
George Korcsok, John, Margaret Lechelt, Divina,
Jacob, Sandra Pilipinko, Fr. Ron Meyer, and Anna

Mass Schedule

ST. THOMAS MORE RECTORY CHAPEL

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 10:00 AM

ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH, MILLBROOK

FRIDAY, 5:00 PM

Mass & Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY: 4:00 PM

APRIL 5TH - For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY: 9:00 AM

APRIL 6TH - For the Eternal rest of Adelle Moore

ST. BERNADETTE, NESTLETON

SUNDAY: 11:00 AM

APRIL 6TH - For Peace in the World

***** IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER *****

Saturday, April 12 - 9:30 AM - CWMC Monthly Meeting in the Church Hall - Everyone welcome
Sunday, April 13 - 10:00 AM - Coffee Sunday following 9:00 AM Mass. (Palm Sunday)
Monday, April 14 - 2:00 PM - Chrism Mass in the Cathedral
Wednesday, April 16 - 4:30 PM - Penitential Celebration in the Church followed by Mass and individual confessions



Jubilee Year 2025 – Events Schedule:

https://www.peterboroughdiocese.org/en/get-involved/jubilee-year-2025-events-schedule.aspx?_mid_=35659

Quote of the Week: "If anyone wants to be always with God, he ought to pray often and to read often as well. For when we pray, it is we who talk to God, whereas when we read, it is God who speaks to us. All spiritual progress derives from reading and meditation. For in reading we learn things which we were ignorant, and in meditation we preserve what we have learned." (St. Isidore of Seville)

Pope's Prayer intention for the month of: April:
"For the use of the 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.

PLEASE VISIT THE DIOCESE OF PETERBOROUGH WEBSITE FOR UPDATES AND LINKS TO ON-LINE MASSES

St. Thomas More Parish offers eGive.

Enroll: <https://www.peterboroughdiocese.org/en/get-involved/donate.aspx>

FR. TONY'S MESSAGE FOR THIS WEEK

Dear Sisters/Brothers, Parishioners of St. Thomas More and St. Bernadette,

Theme: "The mercy of God is calling us back to drink the waters of life that flow from Christ at the sacrament of reconciliation, as he did to the people of Israel in the past and to the penitent sinners during the life of Christ."

Readings: First Reading: "Isaiah 43: 16-21; "This is a call to look with hope to the future. God is not dead. Look around you and see God's wonderful works."

Psalm Response: "The Lord has done great things for us, we are filled with joy."

Second Reading: Philippians 3:8-14:"Faith in Christ is our salvation, but we cannot relax. We must continue, while in this life, to strive for the good things of life in Christ."

Gospel: John 8: 1-11;"By his example and works the Lord teaches us that God extends mercy to sinners to free them from slavery to sin."

As part of our Jubilee Year Journey of Hope theme we continue our Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Holy Hour before the 4:00 PM mass every Saturday. Jesus is inviting us to come and pray the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy and the Holy Rosary. During this Jubilee year, please come and spend some time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Spending some time with the Lord in silent prayer and meditation is not wasted but graces are gained. Most of the time we know how much money we have in the bank but we do not know how much time we have left here on earth and so it is time to give some of our borrowed time to the Lord that he may grant us some more days, months and years.

During this Jubilee Year, we are encouraged to visit areas or places of encounter with the Lord, we call Shrines or Holy Places, like the Holy Land or Rome, but it is expensive. Therefore in every diocese, they tried to set aside some churches or places as a place of pilgrimage with special indulgence.

These are the Churches in our diocese: (1) St. Peter-in-Chains Cathedral in Peterborough, for the city deanery, (2) St. Mary's Church in Lindsay, for the central deanery, (3) St. Michael's Church in Cobourg, for the Lakeshore deanery (4) In the northern deanery is St. Patrick's Church in Kearney.

Somebody summarized the Jubilee into four Fs in life that are: Forgiveness, Freedom, Family and Fullness. There are four R verbs that goes with the four Fs to realize the Jubilee, being Redemption, Release, Restoration of Families and Rest. Forgiveness is God's action through the sacrament of reconciliation that we may be released from the bondage of sin thus experiencing Freedom. We focus on the Restoration of Family life so that while we Rest in God's presence we experience the Fullness of God's mercy and love. Let us try to simplify our plan and focus of action to get more on our Jubilee Year celebration. Let us add another 3 sets of Ps, Pray, Plan and Participate. God bless.

A diocesan pilgrimage is also planned for the diocese of Peterborough the Martyr's Shrine in Midland on September 20, 2025.

To visit a shrine is also suggested and what are these? Shrines are erected either to protect relics or to commemorate the presence of God in a particular place at a particular time. The Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy says that they can also have a deep significance as 'signs of cosmic harmony and reflections of divine beauty because of their physical positioning" (paragraph 263). Some are placed over the grave of a saint, while others, like the Oratory of St. Joseph in Montreal, are built on the faith of a visionary. These can be privileged places to ask for God's help or to give thank for favours received. They are often the object of pilgrimage.

This weekend we are reminded of the Development and Peace special collection and please give generously and pray that the Debts will be turned into Hope for our struggling sisters and brothers of the Global south.

For the Holy Week Schedule, please be reminded that we are all invited to join in the Chrism mass at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-chain in Peterborough at 2:00 PM on Monday, April 14. All the priests will be in attendance and would renew their ordination promises. On Wednesday, April 16, we will have a penitential service at 4:30 PM to be followed by Mass and individual confession for those who would want to come. On Holy Thursday, the mass of the Last Supper will be at 5:00 PM with the washing of the feet of the Apostles and a time of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the hall until 10:00 PM. A sign up sheet will be available for families and individuals who would like to come and pray as the invitation of Jesus to his sleepy disciples, "can you not stay awake and pray with me?"

Let us remember that Jesus did not ask for volunteers but He called them to follow him and he did not call the qualified but he qualified them with a special grace. Please if you receive a letter of invitation please, consider it as a blessing and say Yes.

On Good Friday, 2 celebrations of the Veneration of the Cross will happen; at 11:00 AM in Nestleton and at 3:00 PM at St. Thomas More in Millbrook. The Readings of the Passion is proclaimed by three people, the Veneration of the Holy Cross, to be followed by Holy Communion and then a Special collection for the Holy Land will be collected to help our Franciscan Fathers and Brothers keep the Holy places in good shape for pilgrims and for future generations.

The Living Stations of the Holy Cross will also be played in the streets of Peterborough from the Cathedral to Immaculate Conception Church.

On Saturday morning around 10AM, we need some people to help us prepare the sanctuary for the Easter Vigil which will happen around 8PM, to give way to the blessing of New Fire, the Blessing of Holy Water in which we too will renew our baptismal promises.

Please, let us try to focus our attention to the different liturgical and para-liturgical celebrations during the Holy Week. .

Please, take note that our Friday mass in Lent would be at 5:00 PM in the church because after the mass we will have our Stations of the Cross devotion. We missed the two Fridays but this coming Friday March 28, Fr. Tony is back and so we will have the 5:00 PM mass followed by the Stations of the cross.

Please, mark in your calendar the Chrism Mass in Peterborough on Monday, April 14th from 2 PM to 3:30 PM.

God Bless Fr. Tony

Contact Fr. Tony for details about arranging baptisms, marriages, birthday or anniversary announcements or blessings, or mass devotions.