

MARCH 30TH, 2025 - FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

St. Thomas More Parish with St. Bernadette Mission



28 King St. W., P.O. Box 238
Millbrook, ON L0A 1G0



705-932-3325 or 705-854-1533



office@stthomasmillbrook.ca

stthomasmillbrook.ca



PASTOR: FR. ANTONIO BAROL

Please Pray For those who are sick, especially:
George Korcsok, John, Margaret Lechelt, Divina,
Jacob, Victoriana Meneses, Sandra Pilipinko,
Fr. Ron Meyer, Fr. Paul Hickey 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

MARCH 29TH - For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY: 9:00 AM

MARCH 30TH - For all the Sick of our Parish
Family of St. Thomas More and St. Bernadette

ST. BERNADETTE, NESTLETON
SUNDAY: 11:00 AM

MARCH 30TH - For Peace in the World

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

Saturday, April 5 -	- Diocesan-wide day of confession (All churches)
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
Friday, April 18 -	10:00 AM - Way of the Cross - Starting at Peterborough Cathedral



Jubilee Year 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope

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

Quote of the Week: “ God does not ask all souls to show their love by the same works, to climb to heaven by the same ladder, to achieve goodness in the same way of life. What sort of work, then, must I do? Which is my road to heaven? In what kind of life am I to sanctify myself? “ (St. Charles de Foucauld)

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: "Traditionally, the fourth Sunday of Lent is called Laetare Sunday, (Rejoice Sunday.) Anticipating Easter Joy, today's readings invite us to rejoice by being reconciled with God through repentance and the confession of our sins and by celebrating our coming home to be with our loving and forgiving God."

First Reading: Joshua 5. 9a, 10-12: "The people of God celebrate the Passover in the promised land. As a sign that they are 'home', the manna from heaven, is no longer provided." Psalm Response: "Taste and see that the Lord, is good."

Second Reading: 2 Cor. 5. 17-21; "Christ the ambassador, reconciles all to God. Our transgressions find forgiveness in him, so that we might become the very holiness of God."

Gospel: Luke 15. 1-3, 11-32: "Our loving Father is always ready to forgive those who are truly repentant."

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. The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy was approved by St. John Paul II, a prayer revealed to St. Faustina to be prayed especially at 3:00 PM as the hour of great mercy when our Lord Jesus died on the cross for us. 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 bonus 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.

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.

We are now almost in Holy Week and as we try to focus on the different liturgical and para-liturgical celebrations let us not forget that one of the Church law is to go to confession at least once a year especially during Lent. The Diocese of Peterborough is offering to the faithful a Day of Reconciliation on the 5th of April, in which all churches will be open the whole day for people to come any time of the day. For our small parish family I would offer a penitential celebration on Holy Wednesday, April 16th at 4:30 PM to be followed by the Holy Mass at 5:00 PM and individual confession will be available after the mass.

On Holy Thursday during the mass of the Last Supper, part of the liturgy will be the washing of the feet of the Apostles and I will be sending letters to those who would be included in the Apostles list. Consider it a special privilege and an honor to be chosen to act as one of the 12 apostles. 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.

After the mass of the Lord's Supper, there will be time for the silent prayerful adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until evening. I would like to encourage families to sign up for a specific hour or hours that the Blessed Sacrament will always be with somebody until the last hour of the night. Let us target the time between 6PM to 10PM. Please, sign up.

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 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.

Let us put to mind that all Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence and it is also good to go another mile to practice the discipline of fasting and be able to raise some money to be shared to Share Lent of the Development and Peace program of the Church, to help the developing countries.

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.