

Father Oliver's Weekend Reflection:

4th Sunday of Easter 1 Pet 2.20-25 Christ our Shepherd

This passage delivers a message that is both demanding and deeply transformative: it calls us to patiently persevere through suffering, particularly when that pain is undeserved or serves as an expression of God's grace.

But this is not an easy lesson to learn. Our natural tendency is to reject pain, defend ourselves, and demand justice. However, Jesus Christ provides us with another option—one of redeeming love rather than passive resignation. St. Peter specifically refers to Christ: "Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his footsteps." He does not suggest Christ suffered for us in a way that eliminates all suffering from our lives. Rather, Christ suffers for and with us, demonstrating how to bear suffering in a way that transforms it. Consider times in our own lives when we are misunderstood, mistreated, or injured by others. The temptation is to retaliate, keep grudges, or let resentment take root. However, Peter asks us to go a step further: to respond as Christ did—with patience, humility, and forgiveness. Thus, anger and vengeance should not control our hearts.

We are encouraged to unite our suffering with Jesus, the good shepherd, and turn it into a love witness, a participation in his redemptive mission. This includes choosing forgiveness when it is difficult, patience when it is painful, and faith when it is uncertain. May we follow in the footsteps of Christ, our good shepherd, and live lives characterized by his healing love rather than bitterness.

Liturgy and Sacraments:

Baptism & Instruction in the Catholic Faith: The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on Sundays as needed. Parent preparation is required.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Those wishing to join the Catholic Church please call the office (613-543-2544). Classes starting soon!

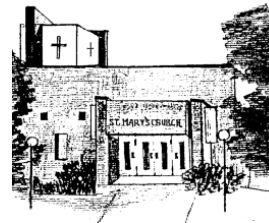
Marriage: 9–12-month notice is needed for the celebration of the Sacrament of Matrimony. Each couple is required to participate in a Marriage Preparation course.

Reconciliation: Confessions heard half hour before Mass or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick: The Sacrament of Anointing is given on request, especially before going to the hospital, or at the hospital or at home.

Sick List: Please call the office if anyone needs prayers, a visit or is seriously ill. If you are unable to attend Mass for an extended period of time, please contact St. Mary's. Arrangements can be made for reception of the Holy Eucharist in the home.

ST. MARY'S - ST. CECILIA'S PARISH



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Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri, 9-12

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Civic Address: St. Mary, 31 Meikle Street, Morrisburg

Civic Address: St. Cecilia, 3 College Street, Iroquois

Father Oliver Wekesa, Administrator

Mrs. Nancy Richer, Parish Secretary

4th Sunday of Easter ~ April 26, 2026

Sun. 26 Apr 9:00 am Jim Kelly (Sandra and Allan Brunt)

Tue. 28 Apr 9:00 am Souls in Purgatory (Linda Fleury)

Wed. 29 Apr 9:00 am Deceased of the Cassidy Family (Pat Bisson)

Fri. 01 May 4:00 pm Peter & Regina Fridgen & Fam (Estate of Bill Fridgen)
3:00 – 4:00 pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sun. 03 May 9:00 am Ellen Coughlan (Woodmass Family)

Tue. 05 May 9:00 am Peter & Regina Fridgen & Fam (Estate of B Fridgen)

Tue. 05 May 6:00 pm First Confession and First Communion Practice

Wed. 06 May **9:30 am** Claire Altimas (Denis Doyle and Louise Altimas)
School Mass

Thu. 08 May 6:00 pm First Communion **All Parishioners Welcome**

Marian Mass

Sat. 10 Jan 8:30 am Peter & Regina Fridgen & Fam (Estate of B Fridgen)
8:30 – 9:00 am Rosary ~ Mass at 9:00 am

4th Sunday of Easter

Etransfers Available: We have set up the ability to send etransfers to the Church, please use StMary.Morrisburg@archkingston.ca in the remarks area please give your name and what you wish the money to be used for eg. Roof, Regular Collection etc.

Collection: 3rd Sunday of Easter: \$1,555.00 (2025: \$2,185.00)
Repairs and Maintenance: \$150.00; Roof: \$100.00
Etransfers: Total per month; March \$900.00; February \$400.00; January \$100.00
Roof Collected to date: \$17,420.00; (Total cost \$120,000)

Meetings:

KNIGHTS - Mon 11 May, 7 pm St. Mary's Meeting Room

CWL - Mon 18 May, 7 pm St. Mary's Meeting Room

Bible/Faith Study: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 6 pm St. Mary's Meeting Room

Rosary Group: 1st and 3rd Tuesday after 9 am Mass

Sacramental Preparation: Meetings will be held after the 9 am Mass

First Communion: 1st Reconciliation & rehearsal May 5, 6:00 pm;

1st Communion May 8, 6:00 pm

Confirmation: April 26 (**Confirmation on Friday June 5, 6:00 pm**)

Parish Activities:

Choirs: St. Mary's: Jim Boissonneault (543-3435) new members are welcome!

AA Meeting: Wednesday, 8:00 pm,

Coffee Social: May 10th Marg Zambon (613-652-4741)



Pray for those who are sick in our families and parish especially:
Lola Kennedy, Tony Byvelds, Bridget Van Der Zweep, John Ricci, Alice McNairn, Noella Kirkwood, and Louise Altimas.

Pray for the repose of the soul of Bill McSheffrey, Robert Miller, Father Stan Alanen, Julie Watters (nee Durivage), Margaret Lortie; Jim Kelly, Juliet Gremli, Catherine Lortie, Tina Serviss, and Beat Schraner.

Religious Items for Free: Please see the back of the Church for some items that have been donated to the Church. Free to take home with you.

April 26, 2026

Free Will Offering for Missals and Word Among Us if you are able, please consider helping with the cost of these items, the box is located at the back of the church. Thank you for your continued support of our Parish.

50/50 Raffle Tickets: ****Last Chance**** The Knights of Columbus presents its Ontario Charities raffle tickets in support of their local projects 50/50 grand prize is **April 26**. Tickets are 10 for \$10, 40 for \$20, 125 for \$50 and 300 for \$100 or online at <https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/k-of-c-ont/295>.

Faith, Hope and Love Retreat: May 2nd, Sacred Heart Parish Centre, Cardinal cost \$10. Doors open at 8:30 am; retreat 9:00 am to 2:00 pm lunch include. Guest Speaker is Deacon Greg Vaughn. Register by email to stmarkcwlprescott@gmail.com before April 15th. See bulletin board for poster.



Parish Picnic will be on June 13th

Mass will be at 5:00 pm followed by fellowship and bbq.
More information closer to the date!

High School Bursaries: Any high school student from our parish planning to attend post-secondary school in September should see their guidance counselor or a member of the CWL to obtain a bursary application. Applications are due by May 1st.



Food Bank Collection: Please bring can goods, kraft dinner, pasta sauce, baby/junior food, shampoo, toilet paper, juice, peanut butter or any non-perishable food. A cash donation can be made, please make cheque to Community Food Share and put in the collection basket marked Food Bank. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

Do you need help getting to Mass? If you are in need of a ride to Mass during the weekend please contact Knights of Columbus member Peter Patenaude (613-641-2015). If you have space and can offer someone a ride please contact Peter.