

## NEW PARISH ASSIGNMENTS, Effective June 28

Fr. Martin Dalida- Our Lady of Assumption Parish- Grafton

Fr. Charles Orchard- Our Lady of Mercy Parish HHarbour/PSevern

### MEET YOUR NEW PASTOR

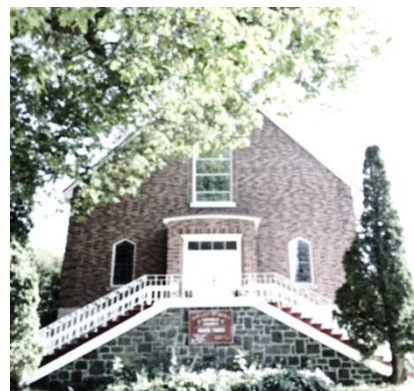
Father Orchard's call to the priesthood was neither sudden nor dramatic, but a slow process of formation that began after his Grade 9 year when he attended a Charismatic Renewal Conference. The weekend event was held at Varsity Stadium on the University of Toronto campus and attracted some 14,000 faithful. "Before the conference, I was a typical young person questioning my faith and beginning to drift away," he says. "The Sunday Mass was a beautiful outdoor celebration. Somewhere, deep in my spirit, I knew there was a God who loved me. It was a profound experience. After completing high school, he spent a year with the National Evangelization Team. There, he met Father Bob Bedard, who had founded the Companions of the Cross in Ottawa in 1985, an order based on the model of Jesus and the apostles. Priests, seminarians and young men considering the priesthood live together, pray together and support each other. Fr. Bedard invited him to come to Ottawa to live with the Companions and attend university. "I received the call to the priesthood during those years," he says. After earning an undergraduate degree in philosophy and religious studies, he entered St Augustine's Seminary in Scarborough where, during a third-year practicum in a parish, the call became clear and deep. "I said a full yes to God," Father Orchard recalls. "I hear you calling and I say 'Yes.'"



**WELCOME SUMMER PARISHIONERS!**- I rejoice to welcome our summer parishioners and visitors. Letting you know how important you are to us and just how much we appreciate that you continue to feel at home in our parish of Our Lady of Mercy & St. John the Baptist Church. Again, welcome!

**CHINA** – "Pope Francis expresses closeness to Catholics in China, including those who suffer, and calls on the faithful to pray that the Gospel may be proclaimed in its fullness, as the Church marks the World Day of Prayer for the Church in China. "I wish to assure my thoughts and closeness to our brothers and sisters in China, and share in their joys and hopes. I offer a special thought to all those who suffer - pastors and the faithful - so that in the communion and solidarity of the universal Church they may experience consolation and encouragement."

## OUR PARISH BULLETIN



Our Lady of Mercy Church  
Honey Harbour



St. John the Baptist Church  
Port Severn

### Address:

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### Weekend Masses

**Port Severn:** Saturday 5 P.M. (From Victoria to Thanksgiving)  
Sunday 9 A.M. (All Year Round)

**Honey Harbour:** Sunday 11 A.M.

### Weekday Masses

(See inside bulletin)

**Confession:** 20 minutes before weekend Masses

**Wedding and Baptism:** Call the office

## PENTECOST SUNDAY

May 27-28, 2023

**GOSPEL TODAY** John 20:19-23 - "The Season of Easter concludes with today's celebration, the Feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. In Pentecost, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world.



 **Sunday Offerings \$1,395**

**WEEKDAY MASSES** (At Honey Harbour Chapel)

Thursday June 1, 11am- For peace in the world

Friday June 2, 10:30am – Exposition of Bl. Sacrament & Mass

**WEEKEND MASSES** (Blessed Trinity Sunday)

Sat June 3, 5pm @ PS - + For Stanley Matys by Mary Matys

Sunday June 4, 9am @ PS – For the people of the parish

Sunday June 4, 11am @Honey Harbour

**MILLIE LEDUC**, Daughter of Leonard Leduc & Jenny Donaghy has recently received the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Sacrament of Confirmation confers special graces of the Holy Spirit upon the person being confirmed, just as such graces were granted to the Apostles on Pentecost. The Holy Spirit bestows seven gifts—wisdom, understanding, knowledge, fortitude, counsel, piety, and fear of the Lord—to assist us in our mission and witness. Confirmation will deepen Millie's baptismal life that calls her to be missionary witnesses of Jesus Christ in our families, neighborhoods, society, and the world. Through Confirmation, Millie's personal relationship with Christ is strengthened. We wish her all of God's blessings and success in life—both in her faith in God and in her pursuit of life. Congratulations!

**NEW SIGN PROJECT** – It's done! With it, St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church is recognizable to visitors and people new in this area. Thank you again to Gerry & Wally who worked hard in spearheading this important sign for St. John the Baptist Church in Port Severn. To those who contributed financial support for the completion of the said project, you deserve our sincere appreciation and gratitude. May God keep us always bound together in faith and in desire to serve Him & our faith community.

**MEET YOUR NEW PASTOR** - Find this item at the back page of the Bulletin.

**PASTORAL PLAN**, *Transforming our Lives; Building our Church, 2023-2028* - A new Pastoral Plan will be launched today the feast of Pentecost. The Plan is the result of the conversations among religious, gatherings of the Deaneries and at the Diocese, parish meetings, committee work, lay organization discussions, a synodal process at area Catholic schools, and extensive online surveys over the past two years - all guided by the Holy Spirit. Many, many people contributed to this Plan. Let's join together to support its implementation!

**PENTECOST** – "On Pentecost Sunday, when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles, they were granted the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Those gifts helped them to fulfill their mission to preach the Gospel to all nations. For us, too, those gifts—granted when we are infused with sanctifying grace, the life of God in our souls—help us to live a Christian life. The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are: Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, Fear of the Lord. After Christ's Ascension into Heaven, the Apostles knew that He had promised to send His Spirit. Granted the gifts of the Spirit at Pentecost, they were emboldened to speak the Good News to all men. On that first Pentecost Sunday, over 3,000 people were converted and baptized. The example of the Apostles shows that the gifts of the Holy Spirit lead to the fruits of the Holy Spirit—works that we can only perform through the assistance of the Holy Spirit."

**THE BIBLE, GOD'S WORD**, is a Weapon. The devil was ultimately defeated over two thousand years ago at the Cross of Jesus, yet God allows him to actively resist us as believers... all for God's purposes and for our growth and benefit. One of the most powerful weapons we have against the devil is the Word of God. Jesus exemplifies this perfectly in both Matthew 4 and Luke 4, where the devil tempts Him three times... each time failing, as Jesus strategically quotes the scriptures, directly confronting the temptation saying "It is written..." Finally, the devil, having been defeated by the truth of the written Word, leaves Him until a later time. In his epistle to the Ephesians, Paul spoke about putting on the "Armor of God" and uses the metaphor "The Sword of the Spirit" referring to the "Word of God". The scriptures are powerful as an offensive, as well as a defensive weapon, not to be trifled with or handled lightly.