

Easter Message 2021 – by Bishop Daniel Miehm

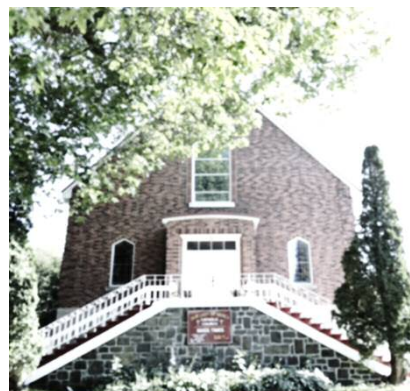
Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Diocese of Peterborough,

As we enter the final days of Lent, we stand on the threshold of the Holiest Week of the Church's year, prepared to celebrate the great events of our Lord's passion, death, and resurrection. It has been an unusual Lent in many ways and a lot of people have remarked that Lent last year never seemed to end before we were back to it in 2021! By that calculation it has perhaps felt like the longest Lent in history. The COVID-19 pandemic and its restrictions have brought much concern, anxiety and suffering to so many people and have certainly impacted the life of our parishes. Between closures, re-opening, capacity limits and safety protocols, it has been very difficult for us to gather in the usual way. Nonetheless, even with fears about a new wave of the virus, the rollout of vaccines promises that the end of this time of tribulation is in sight. I am grateful for all who have been able to return to our churches and look forward to the time when we can all gather again safely. I wish to thank the many people who have worked so hard to enable us to gather under unusual circumstances, including our priests and deacons, parish staff, and many committed volunteers. Across our diocese, legions of people have assisted with cleaning, implementing the required safety protocols, and using media old and new to reach out to parishioners. I also wish to thank the many people who have continued to support their parish financially through these challenging times, and especially during the periods of lockdown. Your generosity has been crucial to the life of the Church and is much appreciated. We must be vigilant for a little while longer in adhering to the various precautions and protocols. It is natural to be growing frustrated with the pandemic restrictions and to long for an end to this. Perhaps, as we begin Holy Week, we could resolve to let go of some of that negativity, joining whatever hardship we have endured to the suffering of Jesus on the cross. This could be a transformational Holy Week and Easter season, if we but ask God for the grace to help us do that. Mark's account of the Lord's resurrection ends on the subdued note that the women disciples fled from the tomb on Easter morning, saying nothing to anyone "for they were afraid." Yet we know that was not the end of the story, for the news of the resurrection was too good not to share. For those first disciples, joy overcame fear. Let that be so for us, in these challenging times: weighed down though we are with many concerns, let us be confident that the risen Lord is with us, and his presence fills us with the joy, hope and courage to face anything that may come. May God bless you this Holy Week and Easter!

Yours in Christ,

+Most. Rev. Daniel Miehm Bishop of Peterborough

OUR PARISH BULLETIN



Our Lady of Mercy Church
Honey Harbour



St. John the Baptist Church
Port Severn

Address:

Our Lady of Mercy Parish
P.O. Box 126
2596 Honey Harbour Rd.
Honey Harbour, On P0E1E0

Fr. Martin Dalida – Parish Priest

Tel. 705 756 2311

Email: office@ladyofmercyhoneyharbour.ca

Website: <https://www.ladyofmercyhoneyharbour.ca/>

Weekend Masses

Sunday 9 A.M. - Port Severn

Sunday 11 A.M. - Honey Harbour

Weekday Masses

(See inside bulletin)

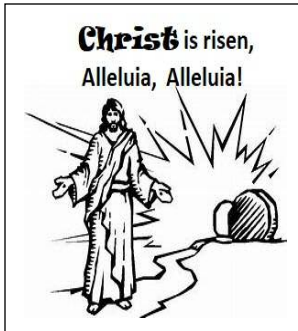
Confession: 20 minutes before weekend Masses

Wedding and Baptism: Call the office


EASTER (Resurrection) SUNDAY

April 4, 2021

Gospel Today: *Mark 14: 1- 47* – “Our Gospel today tells us about the disciples' discovery of the empty tomb. It concludes by telling us that they did not yet understand that Jesus had risen from the dead. Thus, the details provided are not necessarily meant to offer proof of the Resurrection. The details invite us to reflect upon a most amazing gift, that is faith in Jesus and his Resurrection. The Gospel passage concludes, however, that even having seen the empty tomb and the burial cloths, the disciples do not yet understand about the Resurrection. In the passage that follows, Mary of Magdala meets Jesus but mistakes him for the gardener. In the weeks ahead, the Gospel readings from our liturgy will show us how the disciples came to believe in Jesus' Resurrection through his appearances to them. Our Easter faith is based on their witness to both the empty tomb and their continuing relationship with Jesus—in his appearances and in his gift of the Holy Spirit.”



March 28 Sunday Collections

 \$525 - Regular Sunday Offerings
\$175 - Lenten Charity (D & P)

Weekday Masses (Honey Harbour Chapel)

Thurs April 8, 11am Mass - For +Fr. Henry Adoptante
Friday April 9, 11am Mass - For Covid-19 Front Liners

Weekend Masses – 2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)

Sunday April 11, 9am Mass @ Port Severn – + Tom Leduc by Berko Family
11am - Honey Harbour – For People of the parish

Covid-19 Vaccines For Ontario– “COVID-19 Vaccines are safe, effective and the best way to protect you and those around you from serious illnesses like COVID-19. Vaccines work with your immune system so your body will be ready to fight the virus if you are exposed. This can reduce your risk of developing COVID-19 and make your symptoms milder if you do get it. Supply will not arrive all at once, so distribution will happen in stages. The goal is for everyone in Ontario to be able to get a Covid- 19 vaccination if they want one, as soon as enough doses are available. After independent and thorough scientific reviews for safety, efficacy and quality, Health Canada has approved four vaccines for use in Canada: Pfizer-BioNTech – approved on December 9, 2020, Moderna – approved on December 23, 2020, AstraZeneca – approved on February 26, 2021, and Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – approved on March 5, 2021.”

We Are at 15% Capacity Limit Starting Saturday March 3, 2021

Premier Doug Ford announced restrictions throughout Ontario to curtail the transmission of COVID-19. These changes will impact the churches and missions in our Diocese and will take effect as of Saturday morning, April 3, 2021 at 12:01 a.m. As of Saturday, all church throughout the province are restricted to 15% capacity for the next 28 days. Our parish of Our Lady of Mercy and St. John the Baptist will remain open for Sunday Masses observing that limit at 15% capacity during the 28-day lockdown. If you are attending Mass in Port Severn, please call our office tel: 7057562311 or email: office@ladyofmercyhoneyharbour.ca to make sure there's space for you. If you come to Mass in Honey Harbour, no need to call for reservation as the church building has enough space to accommodate everyone.



Dear Parishioners, Christ is risen! He is truly risen! Alleluia! The Easter message of joy echoes through the whole world proclaiming Christ's ultimate victory of light over darkness, grace over sin, and life over death. It is the message upon which we build our lives and to which we anchor our own hope of victory with him. During this solemn Easter season we joyfully give thanks to God for the many blessings bestowed on us as individuals and as a faith community these many years. Because Jesus has died and risen again, conquering sin and death, we believe that with him we too shall live. In this spirit of faith and hope, I wish you and your families a most holy and blessed Easter Season! And thank you all for your continued support (spiritual and financial) to our parish. Special mention to our Covid-19 Volunteers, Church Decoration and Cleaning Group, and to our Lectors. *Fr. Martin*

Pope Francis – “During the coronavirus pandemic, Pope Francis has been offering encouragement to the world. From praying the Our Father with Christians of every denomination, to imparting an extraordinary Urbi et Orbi blessing, he has accompanied each action with powerful words about keeping hope and courage alive. Pope Francis reminds Christians of their identity and that God is never-changing, even during this time. Pope Francis asks people not to give up in this time. He says to remember that God is bigger than any problem that could arise. “If you are weak and fragile on the way, if you fall, do not be afraid! God holds out your hand and says to you: Courage!”

Pope Francis Trims Cardinals' Salaries by 10% to Save

Money - Pope Francis issued a decree on March 24 cutting the salaries of some Vatican employees as a way to contain costs after the institution's budget projected a deficit of \$60 million in 2021. Cardinals paid by the Vatican would have their salaries cut by 10%, other high-ranking officials and employees of the Holy See and Vatican City State will also be reduced by 8%, and some clergy and religious employed by the Vatican will see their salaries lowered by 3%. Reducing some salaries of the Holy See and Vatican City State was necessary “to ensure sustainability and the balance between income and expenditure.” The measures were intended to prevent the need to cut jobs. Pope Francis has often reiterated his commitment to not ending employment, especially for lay employees, at the Vatican. Pope Francis insists that saving money does not have to mean firing employees, he is very sensitive to the situation of families.