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On May 1st, Father Justin Pulikunnel led a busload of pilgrims on a day-long tour of the Archdiocese of Kingston's Western Deanery churches. St. Gregory the Great and St. Frances of Rome were two of their stops. This pilgrimage was one of several initiatives in honour of the Archdiocese of Kingston's 200th anniversary. The following is a message of thanks from Father Justin:

"On behalf of our pilgrims, I just wanted to thank you for the wonderful hospitality you showed us on May 1st when we visited your church(es) during our day-long tour of the Western Deanery. It was a most joyful day, and being warmly greeted by your friendly parishioners was the biggest highlight. Thank you for making them and your church available to us. Ya'll were most accommodating (esp. since we were 2.5-3 hrs. late!), and we greatly appreciated how friendly and prepared everyone was for our arrival. Thanks to you, we gained a deeper appreciation of the uniqueness of our parishes and the pride the Faithful take in their own places of worship and storied histories. Please pass on our deepest appreciation to your lay volunteers. We got our 'pilgrim passports' stamped, and are now gearing up for our pilgrimage to the Eastern Deanery on June 24th."

A special thanks to our parishioners who beautified the churches in readiness for the pilgrims, warmly welcomed the pilgrims and provided them with a brief history of our churches.

St. Gregory the Great
Roman Catholic Church

7 Church Street
Picton, ON K0K 2T0
(613) 476-6276
www.st-gregory-picton.ca

St. Frances of Rome Church (Summer Mission)
67 Belleville Street, Wellington ON K0K 3L0
Sunday Mass at 11:30 AM from May 31, 2026 – October 4, 2026

Ascension of the Lord
May 17, 2026

And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Our Mission: We are a Catholic Parish in Prince Edward County committed to proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Our Vision: To foster Christian Stewardship as a "Way of Life" in which individuals more fully live their baptismal call to discipleship through intentional, planned, proportionate giving of time, talent and treasure in response to God's generosity.

Parish Hours

Daily Mass

Monday	No Mass
Tuesday* – Thursday	12:30 PM
Friday**	8:30 AM

* Refer to weekly bulletin for any changes
** Adoration and Exposition follows Friday Masses

Weekend Mass

Saturday	5:00 PM
Sunday	10:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Daily – phone the office

Office Hours

Tuesday – Thursday	10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Parish Contacts

Administrator: **Rev. George Okoye**, SMMM
Office Assistant: **Nancy Covel**

Email: stgregory@archkingston.ca
Phone: (613) 476-6276
e-Transfer Payments: stgregorypayments@gmail.com

A Catholic community of faith in Prince Edward County since 1836

Ascension of the Lord – May 17, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, May 18

Tuesday, May 19

Wednesday, May 20

Thursday, May 21

Friday, May 22

Saturday, May 23
5:00 PM
SI Mary Lambert
Nancy Covel

Sunday, May 24
10:00 AM For the People of Our Parish

NO WEEKDAY MASS.

Father George is on a Priests Retreat.

Prayer Requests

Pray for the sick and homebound of our Parish, especially Bernadette Burgess, Alf Gannon and Owen Gray.

Pray for the repose of the souls of deceased members of St. Gregory the Great Parish.

Sanctuary Lamp is lit for the intentions of the parishioners of St. Gregory the Great parish.

St. Frances of Rome Church, Wellington
We invite you to join us for Mass at our mission Church —
St. Frances of Rome – Sundays at 11:30 AM from
May 31, 2026 – October 4, 2026

Ascension of the Lord – May 17, 2026

The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord commemorates the moment, forty days after the Resurrection, when Jesus was taken up into heaven in the presence of his disciples. It marks the completion of his earthly mission and the beginning of his exalted reign at the right hand of the Father, where he intercedes for us and prepares a place for his Church.

Traditionally, the Ascension has been celebrated on the Thursday of the sixth week of Easter, exactly forty days after Easter Sunday, following the chronology found in Scripture. However, in many regions the solemnity is transferred to the following Sunday. This pastoral adaptation is intended to allow more of the faithful to participate in the celebration of this important mystery of the faith. Regardless of when it is celebrated, it is a holy day of obligation.

Luke 24 and Acts 1 provide the clearest accounts of this event. Scripture tells us that, after appearing to his followers over forty days, Jesus raised his hands and blessed them. Then, *"while he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy"* (Luke 24:50–52).

Have a Safe and Happy Long Weekend!

Pope Leo XIV First Anniversary – May 8, 2026

Pope Leo XIV marked the anniversary of his May 8, 2025 election by making a pilgrimage to celebrate Mass at the Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary in Pompeii, one of Italy's most beloved Marian shrines, placing his pontificate under the protection of the Virgin Mary.

"Exactly one year ago, when I was entrusted with the ministry of the Successor of Peter, it was precisely the day of the Supplication to the Virgin, this beautiful feast of the Supplication to the Virgin of the Holy Rosary of Pompeii," the Pope said in his homily before an estimated 20,000 people gathered in the piazza in front of the basilica.

"I therefore had to come here to place my ministry under the protection of the Blessed Virgin," he said.

Pope Leo XIV reflected on how his choice of the papal name Leo connects him to Pope Leo XIII, who championed devotion to the rosary. "Having chosen the name Leo places me in the footsteps of Leo XIII, who, among his other merits, also developed an extensive Magisterium on the Holy Rosary," the Pope said.

In his homily, Pope Leo XIV reflected at length on the importance of praying the rosary and invited everyone to pray the Rosary for peace, so that God's divine power of love may save the world. "Through [Mary's] intercession," he said, "may there come from the God of peace an overflowing outpouring of mercy, touching hearts, calming resentment and fratricidal hatred, and enlightening those who bear special responsibilities of government."

Music for May: Kingston Choral Society CHAMBER CHOIR

Join the award-winning KCS Chamber Choir for an afternoon of glorious music for piano and voice. Artistic Director Ian Juby leads a 20 voice ensemble through music from centuries ago and today, by some of the greatest choral composers of all time.

Sunday, May 24, 2026
2:00 PM St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church
335 Main Street, Picton
Tickets: $20 available at the door

Parish Email Address Reminder

Please use StGregory@archkingston.ca email address when sending messages to the parish. If you have either of the old sympatico.ca email addresses on file for St. Gregory's Church, please delete them. We experience issues with these email addresses (as do other sympatico.ca email users) and we do not want to miss your email. Thank you.

St. Vincent de Paul Ministry – April Outreach Stats

- Clients Served this Month: 21
- Food Vouchers Given this Month: $3,460.00
- Second Time Around Vouchers Given this Month: $75.00

Your kindness is Christ's love in action.