



# Our Lady of the Lake

April 19

## Who was Our Lady of the Lake?

Mary is 'Our Lady' who has been known by so many titles of honour throughout the centuries: Our Lady of Peace, Our Lady of Grace, Our Lady of Sorrows, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Our Lady of Perpetual Help and many more. There are many litanies (lists of titles) that are uttered in prayer and devotion to describe the many aspects of Mary's prayerful protection. Our Lady of the Lake is a title commonly associated with the Virgin Mary in various cultural and religious contexts, often linked to miraculous events or apparitions near bodies of water. One notable instance is the devotion to Our Lady of the Lake associated with Lake Bled in Slovenia.

The history of Our Lady of the Lake in Lake Bled dates back to the medieval period. According to legend, in the 15th century, a chapel was erected on Bled Island in the middle of Lake Bled, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The chapel housed an icon of the Virgin, and the site became a pilgrimage destination. The significance of Our Lady of the Lake lies in the belief that she intercedes for the safety and well-being of those who travel on the lake and seek her protection. According to tradition, ringing the bell and making a wish while standing in front of the icon of Our Lady of the Lake is believed to bring good luck and fulfillment of one's desires.

In 2001, the YCDSB opened a Secondary school in Keswick, Ontario, named Our Lady of the Lake CA (OLL). The school's name is closely associated with the history of its local parish, after which it is named. Our Lady of the Lake Mission Church originated as a summer retreat for cottagers and weekend visitors. As early as 1937, Mass was conducted in a tent by the neighbouring parish priest. Subsequently, with the support of resident families and summer cottagers, a permanent structure was established in 1942, giving rise to the original little building.

[Our Lady of the Lake CHS Website](#)

[Our Lady of the Lake Mission Parish Website](#)



## Quotes about Our Lady of the Lake

*"In the gentle ripples of the lake, find the reflection of Mary's grace, guiding us through the currents of life."*

*"As the waters of the lake cradle the shores, may Mary's love embrace and protect us in times of trouble."*

*"On this blessed lake, Our Lady whispers in the breeze, reminding us that faith is the anchor for the soul."*

## Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit;

Holy Mary, Mother of God,

Our Lady of the Lake, we turn to you with hearts full of gratitude and trust. As we stand before the tranquil waters, we seek your intercession and protection.

Blessed Mother, you who are a source of comfort and solace, watch over all who navigate the waters of life. As we embark on our journeys, both literal and metaphorical, guide our vessels with your gentle hands. Keep us safe from storms, both seen and unseen and grant us the strength to face the challenges that lie ahead.

Our Lady of the Lake, you who have been venerated for centuries, we come before you with our hopes, fears and aspirations. In your compassion, intercede for us before your Son, Jesus Christ. Obtain for us the grace to navigate the currents of life with faith, hope and love.

As we celebrate your feast day, we offer our prayers and intentions. May the waters of the lake be a symbol of your maternal care, surrounding us with the grace and mercy of your Son. Help us to grow in faith and draw closer to God through your example.

Our Lady of the Lake, hear our petitions, and in your kindness, bestow upon us the blessings we seek. We entrust ourselves to your loving care, confident that with you as our guide, we shall reach the shores of eternal joy.

Amen.

## Patron Saint of:

Boaters and  
Sailors

Pilgrims

Those Seeking  
Protection on Water

Lake Bled,  
Slovenia

Water-related  
Endeavours





**York Catholic District School Board**



**FEAST DAY:**  
**April 19**

**SCHOOL LOCATION:**  
Keswick, ON

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**Our Lady of  
the Lake**

