

The Glengarry News

St. Mary's Center: Butterfly Release

June 20 2018 BY TARA MACDONALD News Staff

This Sunday join St. Mary's Center in Williamstown for a Butterfly Release in memory of loved ones.

"Everybody has a loved one that they want to remember. Butterflies carry our messages through the air to our loved ones in Heaven," said event organizer Elizabeth Gagnon. Following a mass at St. Mary's Church, Father Louis Groetelaars will bless the butterflies prior to their release.

More than 100 painted ladies will be released during the event. "Painted lady butterflies are very friendly and sociable," said Ms. Gagnon, "so it should be a lot of fun!" Other activities will include free face-painting and arts and crafts activities for the children, a small vendor's market featuring a hand-made crafts and other products as well as live local entertainment. Winners from the butterfly release poster competition, held at Williamstown Public School, will also be presented at the event and posters will be on display for visitors to see.

Would you like to create your own butterfly garden?

The Raisin River Conservation Authority will also be presenting on the improvements planned for their habitat for butterflies and the types of native plant species - such as local species of milkweed - that attract butterflies and help save endangered species.

Donations and money raised will go directly towards the support and maintenance of the Center. "We really need to maintain the Centre properly," said Ms. Gagnon. "A little-known fact about St. Mary's Centre is that in addition to hosting the local library, it is also the emergency preparedness centre for South Glengarry. So, if there is ever a natural disaster, people will come to the Centre."

Butterflies are moving fast!

Reserve your butterfly now! While a limited number of butterflies will be available for purchase at the event, you can also reserve and pay in advance. The cost is \$15 per butterfly. If you would like to purchase a butterfly in memory of a loved one but can't attend the event in person, arrangements can be made to release them on your behalf.

For more information or to reserve your butterfly, call Ms. Gagnon at 613- 360-5692 or Thelma Cholette at 613-347-3728.