

St. Pius X Parish

2305 Bloor Street West, Toronto ON M6S 1P1

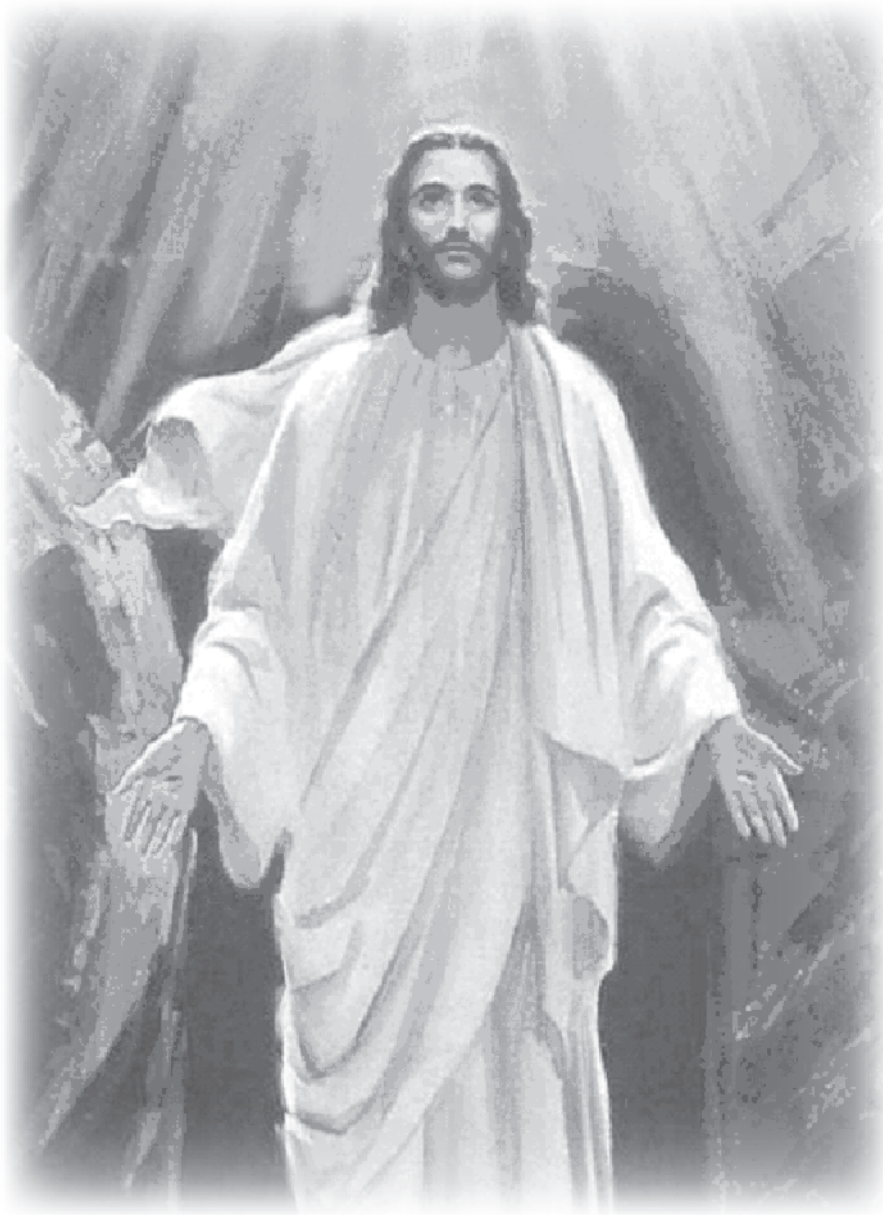
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PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Massillamani Zacharias (Fr. Mani), **Pastor**

Michelle Somers, **Parish Secretary**



Christ is Risen!



Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 30

7pm Parishioners

Sunday, March 31

9am + Ludwika Werner

11am + Amelia & José Udasco

Tuesday, April 2

8:30am + Rhodora Yurick

Wednesday, April 3

8:30am Parishioners

Thursday, April 4

8:30am Parishioners

Friday, April 5

8:30am + Andrew Soltys

EASTER SUNDAY

First Reading: Acts 10.34a, 37-43

Psalm: Ps 118.1-2, 16-17, 22-23

Second Reading: Colossians 3.1-4

Gospel: John 20.1-18++

Sponsoring the Vigil Candle

The Sanctuary candle signifies the Real Presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ. It burns for the greater glory of God. Parishioners are invited to become monthly sponsors of the Vigil Candle. Please contact the parish office if you wish to donate in the name of the candle. Doing so opens up the opportunity for friends and families to pray at the tabernacle knowing the candle burns for their intentions.

The Vigil Candle burns for the intentions of:

George Mareczko

March

Nora de Cuyper

April

Estorba Family

April 21-27

GOSPEL REFLECTION

John Saw the Empty Tomb and Believed

John, along with Peter, was the first apostle to reach the tomb of Jesus on Easter Sunday morning. Like Mary Magdalene and the other disciples, John was not ready to see an empty tomb and to hear the angel's message, why do you seek the living among the dead (Luke 24:5)? What did John see in the tomb that led him to believe in the resurrection of Jesus? It was certainly not a dead body. The dead body of Jesus would have disproven the resurrection and made his death a tragic conclusion to a glorious career as a great teacher and miracle worker. When John saw the empty tomb, he must have recalled Jesus' prophecy that he would rise again after three days. Through the gift of faith John realized that no tomb on earth could contain the Lord and giver of life. John saw and believed (John 20:8).

John had to first deal with the empty tomb before he could meet the risen Lord later that evening along with the other apostles who had locked themselves in the upper room out of fear of the Jewish authorities (John 20:19-23). John testified as an eyewitness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ: What we have seen, heard, and touched we proclaim as the eternal word of life which existed from the beginning (1 John 1:1-4). John bears witness to what has existed from all eternity. This "word of life" is Jesus the word incarnate, but also Jesus as the word announced by the prophets and Jesus the word now preached throughout the Christian church for all ages to come.

One thing is certain, if Jesus had not risen from the dead and appeared to his disciples, we would never have heard of him. Nothing else could have changed sad and despairing men and women into people radiant with joy and courage. The reality of the resurrection is the central fact of the Christian faith. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Lord gives us "eyes of faith" to know him and the power of his resurrection. The greatest joy we can have been to encounter the living Christ and to know him personally as our Lord and Savior. Do we accept the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection with skeptical doubt and disbelief or with trusting faith and joyful wonderment?

PARISH NEWS

Divine Mercy Sunday Sunday, April 7th at 3pm

Adoration and the Chaplet in Song followed by refreshments.

Rectory Air Conditioning

Our sincere gratitude is offered to two very generous parishioners who together have funded the repairs to the air conditioning system in the rectory. Thank you so much!

Did You Know?

After the Finance Council presentation after Masses last weekend, someone asked about whether the diocesan assessment is charged on Building fund donations. For a period of time, the Archdiocese's practice was to exclude Building Fund donations from the calculation of the diocesan assessment. In October 2019, Cardinal Collins informed pastors that, effective January 1, 2020, the Archdiocese would revert to the calculation based on the formal policy set in 1993, which is to charge diocesan assessment on Building Fund donations.

OAPCE Conference 2024

Saturday, April 13, 2024 – 9am to 3pm

The Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education is celebrating its 85th Anniversary at a Conference on April 13, 2024. The event will be held at Monsignor Percy Johnson Catholic High School (2170 Kipling Ave.). His Grace, Archbishop Francis Leo will lead the Holy Mass at St. Benedict's Parish (2194 Kipling Ave.). There will be presentations by Karl Subban, Joe Perri, and Dr. Anne Jamieson, and music by Chris Bray. More information can be found at <https://oapce.org/events/>. Registration is now open.

Vocation

The glorious Feast of the Resurrection of Christ proclaims, forever, that life is greater than death. Jesus commanded us to preach this good news to all peoples in all places at all times. If you feel God is calling you to minister in His Church as a priest, religious or deacon, call **Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations**, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997, or email him at vocations@archtoronto.org, or get information at www.vocationstoronto.ca.

Dominican Friars

Youth Interfaith Video Contest

A video contest is open to students in Grades 9 to 12 to highlight the importance of harmony and peace in modern times. Contestants are encouraged to highlight the need and power of love and compassion, and how they can transform our society. Contest eligibility and submission requirements are at: www.catholicregister.org/videocontest. Submissions are being accepted until April 15, 2024. There are cash prizes. Questions can be answered at 416-934-3400 ext. 527 or interreligious@archtoronto.org.



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