



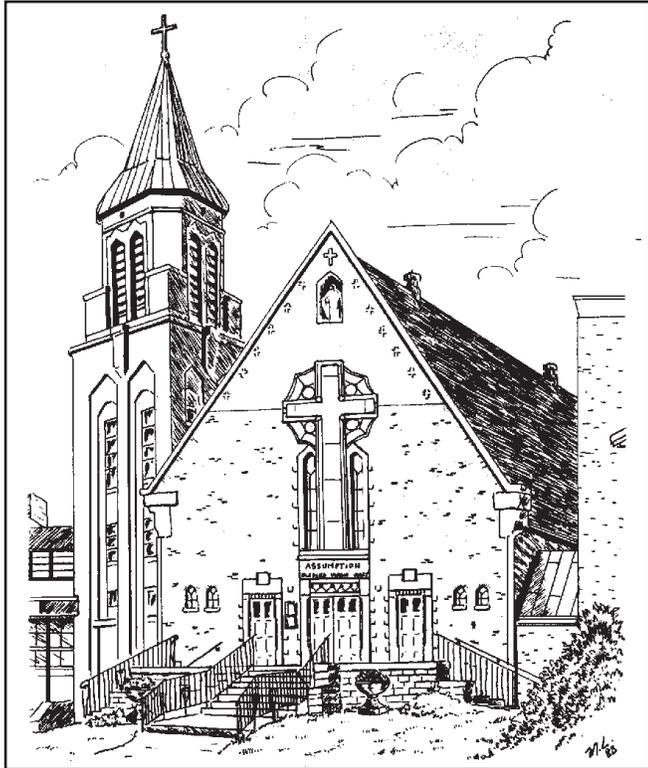
# Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Served by the Franciscan Friars Conventual

320 Olmstead Street, Vanier, Ontario K1L 7K3 • Tel: 613-695-6079

Website: [www.assumptionparishottawa.ca](http://www.assumptionparishottawa.ca)



## OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

*"We endeavour to build for this community a viable Christian Family that all will consider home."*

## MASS SCHEDULES

**Saturdays:** 9 am & 4 pm (Sunday Liturgy)

**Sundays:** 9:30 am, 12:00 pm (Filipino Mass), 7 pm

**Mondays to Fridays:** 8:00 am (except for School Masses, on Feast and Solemnities)

## DEVOTIONS

**Rosary:** 30 Minutes Before Weekday Masses and Every First Saturday of the Month (after the 9:00 am Mass)

**Devotion To Our Lady of Perpetual Help:** Every Wednesday After The 8:00 am Mass

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Every 1st Friday at 8:30 am (after the Morning Mass) and every Friday at 6:00 pm

**Stations of the Cross:** Every Friday During Lent and Good Friday (time to be announced)

## PASTORAL TEAM

**Pastor:** Rev. Fr. Victor Mateo, OFM Conv.

**Pastoral Council Chair:** Nick Murillo

**Finance Council Chair:** Mary Stanton

**Administrative Assistant:** Nora Arriola

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday, 10 am - 12 noon, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
(closed on holidays)

## PASTORAL & SACRAMENTAL CARE

**Baptism:** Please call the Parish Office to make an appointment to register your child for Baptism and to discuss all the requirements. If you belong to another parish, a letter of permission from your pastor is required. If you are not a parishioner of any parish, you must register and attend Mass regularly, and there is a three-month waiting period before your child can be baptized.

**Confessions:** Weekdays, after the 8 am morning Mass (approach the priest); First Fridays - 8:45 am to 9:15 am; First Saturdays - 9:30 am to 10:00 am, 3:30 pm to 4:00 pm (by appointment) Every Sunday - 11:30 am to 12noon

**Marriages:** One of the couples must be a registered member of the parish for at least 6 months and attend Mass here regularly. Please make arrangements at least six months before the wedding date. Marriage Preparation Course required.

**Sacrament of the Sick & Communion for Shut-ins:** Please contact the Parish Office

**Funerals:** Arrangements should be made firstly with the church, and then with the funeral director to insure proper Christian burial Assisted by the Bereavement Ministry

**Youth Ministry:** Every 1st Saturday of the month, 30 to 45 min. session (after the 4 pm Mass) at Carlo Acutis Hall.



## The POPE's REFLECTION on the SOURCE of all VOCATIONS in the Church

*Full text of the homily delivered by Pope on May 20, 2025, at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls in Rome*

The passage of scripture that we have just heard is the opening of a beautiful letter written by St. Paul to the Christians of Rome. Its message revolves around three great themes: GRACE, FAITH AND JUSTIFICATION. As we entrust the beginning of this new pontificate to the intercession of the Apostle of the Gentiles, let us reflect together on that message.

**St. Paul** starts by saying that he **received from God the grace of his vocation** (cf. Rom.1:5). He acknowledges, in other words, that his encounter with Christ and his own ministry were the fruit of God's prior love, which called him to a new life while he was still far from the Gospel and persecuting the church. St. Augustine, who was also a convert, spoke of the same experience in these words: *"How can we choose, unless we have first been chosen? We cannot love, unless someone has loved us first"* (Serm. 34, 2). **At the root of every vocation, God is present, in his mercy and his goodness, as generous as that of a mother (cf. Is 66:11-13) who nourishes her child with her own body for as long as the child is unable to feed itself** (cf. St. Augustine, Enn. in Ps. 130, 9).

In the same passage, Paul also speaks of **"the obedience of faith"** (Rom. 1:5), and here too he shares his own experience. When the Lord appeared to him on the road to Damascus (cf. Acts 9:1-30), he did not take away his freedom, but gave him the opportunity to make a decision, to choose an obedience that would prove costly and entail interior and exterior struggles, which Paul proved willing to face. **Salvation does not come about by magic, but by a mysterious interplay of grace and faith, of God's prevenient love and of our trusting and free acceptance**

As we thank the Lord for the calling that changed Saul's life, let us ask him to enable us to respond in the same way to his grace, and to become, ourselves, witnesses of the love "poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us" (Rom. 5:5). Let us ask the Lord for the grace to cultivate and spread his charity, and to become true neighbors to one another (cf. Francis, homily at second vespers of the solemnity of the conversion of Saint Paul, January 25, 2024). Let us compete in showing the love that, following his encounter with Christ, drove the former persecutor to become "all things to all people" (cf. 1 Cor. 9:19-23), even to the point of martyrdom. In this way, for us as for Paul, the weakness of the flesh will show the power of faith in God that brings justification (cf. Rom. 5:1-5).

For centuries, this basilica has been entrusted to the care of a Benedictine community. How can we fail to mention, then, as we speak of love as the source and driving force of the preaching of the Gospel, the insistent appeals of St. Benedict, in his Rule, to fraternal charity in the monastery and hospitality towards all (Rule, cc. LIII; LXIII).

I would like to conclude, though, by recalling the words that, more than a thousand years later, another Benedict, Pope Benedict XVI, addressed to young people: "Dear friends," he said, **"God loves us**. This is the great truth of our life; it is what makes everything else meaningful." Indeed, **"our life originates as part of a loving plan of God,"** and faith leads us to "open our hearts to this mystery of love and to live as men and women conscious of being loved by God" (Homily at the prayer vigil with young people, Madrid, August 20, 2011).

Here we see, in all its simplicity and uniqueness, the basis of every mission, including my own mission as the Successor of Peter and the heir to Paul's apostolic zeal. May the Lord grant me the grace to respond faithfully to his call.



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