

Living the Gospel



"We believe that every human being is unique and priceless. We hold that human life must be respected at every stage of its development from the first mysterious moment of conception to the declining days of advanced age."

— Archbishop Philip Francis Pocock,
A Declaration on Behalf of Life, March 19, 1976

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ShareLife Sunday Collection: March 21/22

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Email: stmarysBA@archtoronto.org Website: www.stmarysba.archtoronto.org

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, March 23 rd	12:10 p.m.	Intentions of Theresa DaSilva and Family
Tuesday, March 24 th	12:10 p.m.	† Rev. Scott Young
Wednesday, March 25 th	7:00 p.m.	† Phero Dieu and Maria Khien
Thursday, March 26 th	12:10 p.m.	† Gerhardt Kohnen
Friday, March 27 th	12:10 p.m.	† Hannah Cutt
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Stations of the Cross led by The Catholic Women's League</i>
Saturday, March 28 th	9:00 a.m.	† Marion Biggers
		† Francine Brouillard
		† Kevin Krelove
		† Marianne Hannan
		† Ian "Scotty" Morrison



Parish Lenten Confessions

Our parish will have multiple priests available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation tomorrow, **Monday, March 23rd beginning at 7:00 p.m.** and on **Friday, March 27th beginning at 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.** We invite you to take this opportunity before Easter to make the journey into the heart of our relationship with God. Take this challenge and hold it in readiness for the rich blessing that is manifest in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Praying for the Sick - If you or a family member is sick please let us know and we shall add their name to our prayer list which is posted in the gathering space of the church. If you have asked for someone to be added to the list please consult the list and let us know if the person has recovered so they may be removed.

Rest in Peace

We remember in prayer those who have died recently including: **Margaret Baker, Leo Gubbels and Maria Hristovski.**



Hospital Visitation - If you or a family member are admitted to RVH please let them know you are Catholic and call the parish office to inform us. If you wish to receive Holy Communion please let the parish office know and one of our pastoral visitors will come to see you.

Celebrating Initiation at Easter



On Saturday, April 4th during the Easter Vigil we will celebrate full initiation with 11 people. You are invited to continue to pray for our elect who will be Baptized, Confirmed and join us at the Lord's

Table to share in Holy Communion. Please pray for **Nikki, Krishn, Jiya, Emma, Elizabeth, Doug, Sam, Jack, Megan, Patricia and Amelia.** On Easter Sunday we will welcome into Full Communion with the Catholic Church **Graydon and Zolan.** They will be Confirmed and join us at the Lord's Table to share in Holy Communion. *Please keep them in your prayers.*

The Easter Season: Celebrating the 50 Days!

During the Easter Season beginning April 9th, we shall gather on Thursday mornings from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. for **Lectio Divina.** Lectio Divina is Latin and means Divine Reading or Holy Reading. **During Lectio Divina our primary focus will be the Gospels of Easter.** For more information please contact Catherine Ecker (cecker@archtoronto.org or 705 728 2985 ext. 115). All are welcome.



ShareLife Celebrates 50 Years ShareLife Sunday is this weekend

Today is ShareLife Sunday and marks 50 years since Archbishop Philip Pocock made a bold and compassionate decision that would shape our community for generations: the founding of ShareLife.



Building on a legacy of charitable giving in the Archdiocese of Toronto that stretches back to 1927, Archbishop Pocock launched ShareLife in 1976—an appeal rooted in the belief that every life matters, at every stage. Today, his vision lives on through more than 40 ShareLife-funded agencies providing unconditional care to people in need—regardless of religion, background, or circumstance and through people like you who make their work happen. We invite you to visit www.sharelife.org/impact and read *The ShareLife Impact Report.* It is a testament to the lives strengthened, the burdens eased, and the hope restored through your generous commitment to ShareLife in 2025.

Our parish goal this year is \$150,000. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate. Thank you!

All Adults 55+ - Ministry with Maturing Adults

All are welcome to attend the various sessions offered for those in the second half of life.

VON SMART (*Seniors Maintaining Active Roles Together*) **Exercise Program** is held on Tuesday mornings. For details regarding registration please call: VON at **705 737 5044 ext. 8108.**



Christian Meditation an ancient form of contemplative prayer is deeply rooted in the Christian tradition. We will meet on **Tuesday March 24th at 10:30 a.m.**

on Zoom. If you would like information on Christian Meditation or to receive the link for the session please contact Catherine Ecker cecker@archtoronto.org or 705 728 2985 ext. 115.

Thank you to everyone who came and enjoyed the St. Patrick's Day show with the **Flailing Shilaleighs.** It was a grand afternoon! From the 50 / 50 draw our St. Vincent de Paul Society received \$440.00. Your support is appreciated.

Preparing for and Celebrating the Easter Triduum

The Easter Triduum is the highpoint of our Church year. The word Triduum means three. For a Catholic there is really nothing more important than gathering with the community to pray throughout these three days. The Easter Triduum is really one liturgy that extends over the three days. We go home in-between to rest, pray and to ponder the mystery of Jesus' life, death and resurrection.

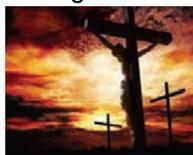


Holy Thursday April 2nd Mass of the Lord's Supper: 8:00 p.m. (there is no noon Mass). You are invited to bring non-perishable food items, gift cards for grocery stores or cash to the celebration of the Mass of the

Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. The bags of food or monetary gifts will be brought forward during the Preparation of the Gifts. Everyone is invited to come ready to have their feet washed.

Adoration will take place after Mass until midnight.

Good Friday, April 3rd Celebration of the Lord's Passion 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. We will gather for the Celebration of the Lord's Passion. We do not celebrate Mass on Good Friday. It is the same liturgy at 12:00 and 3:00 p.m.



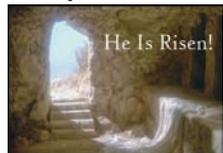
Stations of the Cross - led by our youth at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday April 4th Midday Prayer, Anointing of the Elect and Blessing of Easter Baskets 12:00 p.m. Gather with the parish family to pray Midday Prayer. When many of our European ancestors came to Canada they brought traditions that add to the holiness of Easter. One of the

most popular is bringing a decorated Easter basket to the Church on Holy Saturday. You may put some of the food that will be used at your Easter breakfast as well as special treats such as chocolate, wine, or a special bread or dessert. When you arrive put your Easter basket at the front of the worship space where they will be blessed. All are invited to this brief time of prayer.

Easter Vigil Saturday, April 4th at 8:00 p.m.

St. Augustine called this vigil the "Mother of all Vigils". We hear stories from Scripture, proclaim God's praises and rejoice at the waters of new life. We will celebrate initiation with our 11 elect and then with thanksgiving participate in feasting at the Eucharistic table. There will be a reception after the Easter Vigil. **No confessions and no 9:00 a.m. or 5:00 p.m. Mass.**



Easter Sunday April 5th

We will celebrate Mass at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. 12:00 noon and 4:00 p.m.

At each liturgy we shall renew our baptismal promises.



Classic Movies Holy Week Special Presentation



Join us on Tuesday, **March 31st at 2:00 p.m. in the parish hall** when we will hold a film retrospective of Jesus' image on screen, using films like *Ben Hur* and *The Greatest Story Ever Told*, up to *The Passion of the Christ*. No sign ups, snack included, free will offering. All welcome! For

questions please contact David at dmurdoch@archtoronto.org.

Youth Ministry and Young Adult Ministry

Welcome! We have something for everyone; babies to young adult! Please contact Shannon Barks at stmarysyouthministrybarrie@gmail.com or call Shannon at (705) 229-7426 for further information.

PLAY GROUP: Inviting all Moms, Dads, Grandparents and Caregivers! Join us **Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m.** for playgroup, for babies and toddlers! Crafts, snacks and songs in the Youth Room.



M.E.R.C.Y. (Ministry to Educate Roman Catholic Youth) is for youth grades Kindergarten to Grade 4. M.E.R.C.Y. runs once a month on a Friday night, from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. where we explore our faith in a dynamic way through activities, games, crafts and music. Our next date is **Friday, April 10th**.



EDGE is for youth Grades 5 -8, to come together once a month on a Friday night from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. EDGE is a ministry for youth to encounter Christ in a safe, fun environment, where they will get answers to their questions about faith, and most importantly to experience Jesus in a profound and personal way. Our next date is **Friday, March 27th**.



LIFE TEEN is a ministry for teens interested in diving deeper into their faith, relationship with Jesus, scripture, and each other. We have discussions, panels, and time of prayer to discuss the issues and teachings surrounding our teens today. Included are sports, music, and games to help strengthen the friendships made. Our next date is **Sunday, March 29th after the 4:00 p.m. Mass. Topic is "Hail Mary - Mother Mary is our guiding example."**



YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY: **Spiritus North** is a ministry for Catholic young adults (18-35) that gathers once a month for a time of Praise and Worship, Adoration, Speaker, followed by refreshments and a discussion. Spiritus North's purpose is to create a strong sense of community with young adults, addressing catechetical teaching, social issues and spiritual facets of life through the lens of our Catholic Faith. Our next gathering is **Friday, April 17th at 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Worship and Adoration Night.**

EDGE CAMP 2026 - August 23rd to 27th at Camp White Pine with an EDGE stream for youth going into grades 5-9, and a teen stream for high school youth.

BIBLE CAMP 2026 - Save the date - St. Mary's Bible Camp is from Monday, July 6th to Friday, July 10th from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. daily. Cost is \$75/ per youth.

Celebrating the Liturgy of the Word with Children

TODAY - Sunday, March 22nd during the 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Masses. All children between the ages of 4 and 8 are invited to participate.

JUST SING! - Join us on **Thursday, March 26th at 2:00 p.m.** in St. Joseph's room for a laid back afternoon of song and fellowship as we come together to Just Sing!. All are welcome! No sign up required. Snacks and refreshments! *If you have any questions, please contact David at dmurdoch@archtoronto.org.*

Every Life is Precious - Protect Mental Health and Support Bill C-218. Visit www.HelpNotHarmCanada.ca Contact your federal Member of Parliament, urging them to support Bill C-218. This legislation would amend the Criminal Code to ensure that Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) is not extended to individuals whose sole underlying condition is mental illness. Without this amendment, MAiD will be available for mental illness alone beginning in March 2027. A vote is expected to take place mid-April 2026.

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