

# St. Pius X Parish

2305 Bloor Street West, Toronto ON M6S 1P1

Tel. 416-767-1859 Fax. 416-767-7715

office@saintpiusx.ca www.saintpiusx.ca



## Pastoral Staff

Fr. Massillamani Zacharias

(Fr. Mani), **Pastor**

Michelle Somers, **Parish Secretary**

## Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday

9:00 am to 1:00 pm

## Weekend Masses

Saturday 5 pm

Sunday 9 am and 11 am

## Weekday Masses

Tuesday - Friday 8:30 am

## Rosary and Divine Mercy Prayer

9 am following Mass at 8:30 am

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

## Devotions to our Mother of

### Perpetual Help

9 am following Mass at 8:30 am

Thursday

## Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Every first Friday of the month at 9 am following  
8:30 am Mass

## Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday 4 pm to 4:30 pm or by appointment

## Sacrament of Baptism

Register online at [www.saintpiusx.ca/baptism](http://www.saintpiusx.ca/baptism), or call  
or email the office for more information

## Sacrament of Marriage

1 year advance notice is required

Call or email the office for an appointment

## Parish Ministries/Organizations

- Altar Servers
- Lectors
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Ushers/Greeters
- Musicians
- Sacramental Preparation for First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation
- Finance Council
- Catholic Women's League

## Catholic School

St. Pius X Catholic School

71 Jane Street Tel: 416-393-5237

## Holy Communion for SHUT-INS and SICK

If you know of anyone who is sick and would like to have communion brought to them or would like the Sacrament of the Sick, or simply would like to be included in the Prayers of the Faithful, contact us

## New Parishioners: Welcome!

We invite you to join our Parish family by registering with the parish office at [www.saintpiusx.ca](http://www.saintpiusx.ca) or by contacting the Office

**PLEASE REMEMBER ST. PIUS X PARISH IN YOUR WILL**



## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, December 2

5pm + Manuela Medeiros & Family

### Sunday, December 3

9am + John & Mary O'Toole  
11am Parishioners

### Tuesday, December 5

8:30am In Thanksgiving

### Wednesday, December 6

8:30am + Steven Riley

### Thursday, December 7

8:30am + Sean Murphy  
Jacqueline Bennett

### Friday, December 8

8:30am Marie-Thérèse Sophoulis

### First Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 63.16b-17; 64.1, 3-8

Psalm: Ps 80.1ab+2, 14-15, 17-18

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1.3-9

Gospel: Mark 13.33-37

### Sponsoring the Vigil Candle:

Parishioners are invited to become weekly or monthly sponsors of the Tabernacle Vigil Candle. You can make it special by spending time in front of the Tabernacle in family prayer and adoration. Please contact the parish office if you wish to donate to the Vigil Candle.

### The Sanctuary Lamp burns for the intentions of:

Marie-Thérèse Sophoulis – December  
Marthese Fenech – January 2024

### GOSPEL REFLECTION

#### *Watch Expectantly Today - Your Master Is Coming!*

When we expect some very important event to happen, we often wait for it with excited anticipation. The Lord Jesus expects us to watch in great anticipation for the most important event of all - his return in glory at the end of this present age! The Old Testament prophets foretold the coming of the Lord when he shall judge between the nations and decide for many peoples (Isaiah 2:5). The Advent season reminds us that we are living in the end times. The end times begin with the first coming of Christ (when the Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us - John 1:14) and it culminates in Christ's second coming on the Day of Judgment and vindication for his people.

While the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is for certain, the time of his appearance is not yet disclosed. The Lord's Day of visitation and judgment will come swiftly and unexpectedly. Jesus warns his listeners to not be caught off guard when that day arrives. It will surely come in God's good time! The Lord invites us to pray for the coming of his kingdom into our present lives and future as well. How does the Lord want us to be watchful and vigilant for his return? The kind of watching the Lord has in mind is not a passive "wait and see what happens" approach to life. The Lord urges us to vigilance and to active prayer that his "kingdom may come" and his "will be done on earth as it is in heaven". We are not only to watch for Christ, but to watch with Christ. The Lord wants us to have our hearts and minds fixed on him and his word. He wants us to be ready for his action and work of grace in our lives and in our world. Those who "wait" for the Lord will not be disappointed. He will surely come with his grace and saving help. Therefore, the season of Advent is a time for rousing our minds and hearts for the Lord's coming. As his servants we watch for his will - continually seeking him. We watch for his word and his power - that he may act now to save and to deliver. And we watch for his visitation - he will surely come again! Servants of the Lord rouse yourselves! Be vigilant, be alert, be "watchmen" for the Lord pointing the way for his coming.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule**

#### ***Christmas Eve – Sunday 24, 2023***

5pm – Special Mass for Parents with Children

8pm – Mass for everyone

#### ***Christmas Day – Monday, December 25, 2023***

9am and 11am

#### ***Holy Family Feast***

Saturday, 5pm

Sunday, 9am and 11am

#### ***The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God Vigil – Sunday, December 31, 2023***

5pm

#### ***The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God – New Year – Monday, January 1, 2024***

9am and 11am

### **Christmas Trees**

As part of the celebration of the Advent and Christmas season, our Parish installs two evergreen trees near the altar. These trees have deep Christian significance. For a fascinating history of the symbolism of Christmas trees, see: <https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/library/christmas-tree-legends-traditions-history-1763>.

Any assistance for the purchase of these trees would be greatly appreciated!

### **Poinsettia Memorial Garden**

We invite all parishioners to bring a poinsettia in memory of their loved ones to be placed in our poinsettia memorial garden for the altar. **We ask that you drop off your poinsettia plants in the parish office starting on Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> to Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9am to 1 pm, and Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> until 5pm.** Labels will be available on which to write the name(s) of your loved ones which you can then affix to your poinsettia. We will place them at the altar for our Christmas celebration.

### **Advent Reconciliation**

Parishioners who wish to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) may do so by calling the Parish Office to make an appointment with Fr. Mani.

### **Plumbing and Heating**

We are happy to tell you that the repairs and updates to the old plumbing and broken boiler have been completed. Your contributions were invaluable to the completion of these projects. Thank you so much!

### **Renewal of Ministries**

We invite parishioners and their families to participate in the life of their faith by joining one of the parish ministries. We would like to welcome more people in the following ministries: Altar Server, Eucharistic Minister, Music Ministry, Lector Ministry, and Usher Ministry. Get involved, meet great people! Sign up on our website at: [www.saintpiusx.ca](http://www.saintpiusx.ca) under the tab “Get Involved”.

### **2024 Offertory Envelopes**

Offertory envelopes for 2024 will be available for pickup in the church foyer the week of December 9th. If you do not currently have envelopes but would like a box, please contact the parish office.

### **Religious Vocation**

Advent calls us to be vigilant in anticipation of Christ's return. Could God's “particular task” for you be a call to a Church vocation? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact **Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997** [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org) [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca) .

### **Archdiocesan Consultation Underway**

Archbishop Francis Leo is inviting the Catholic community to share thoughts and ideas regarding future pastoral planning in the Archdiocese of Toronto. To learn more, read the letter of invitation and complete the short survey by December 15, 2023: [www.archtoronto.org/consultation](http://www.archtoronto.org/consultation).

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