

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, 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 or by contacting the Office

PLEASE REMEMBER ST. PIUS X PARISH IN YOUR WILL



Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 9

5pm Parishioners

Sunday, December 10

9am Parishioners

11am + Tony & Stephanie Fredo

Tuesday, December 12

8:30am Daily Mass & Rosary Group

Wednesday, December 13

8:30am Parishioners

Thursday, December 14

8:30am + Steven Riley

Friday, December 15

8:30am Parishioners

Second Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 40.1-5, 9-11

Psalm: Ps 85.8ab+9, 10-11, 12-13 (**R.7**)

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3.8-14

Gospel: Mark 1.1-8

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

The Baptism of Repentance and Purification in the Holy Spirit

John the Baptist's life was fueled by one burning passion - to point others to Jesus Christ and to the coming of his kingdom. John broke the prophetic silence of the previous centuries when he began to speak the word of God to the people of Israel. His message was like the message of the Old Testament prophets who chided the people of God for their unfaithfulness and who tried to awaken true repentance in them. Among a people unconcerned with the things of God, it was his work to awaken their interest, unsettle them from their complacency, and arouse in them enough good will to recognize and receive Christ when he came.

Jesus tells us that John the Baptist was more than a prophet (Luke 7:26). John was the voice of the Consoler who is coming (John 1:23; Isaiah 40:1-3). He completed the cycle of prophets begun by Elijah (Matthew 11:13-14). What the prophets had carefully searched for, and angels longed to see, now came to completion as John made the way ready for the coming of the Messiah, God's Anointed Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. With John the Baptist, the Holy Spirit begins the restoration to the human race of the "divine likeness", prefiguring what would be achieved with and in the Lord Jesus. Therefore, John's baptism was for repentance - turning away from sin and taking on a new way of life according to God's word.

Our baptism in Jesus Christ by water and the Spirit results in a new birth and entry into God's kingdom as his beloved sons and daughters (John 3:5). The Lord Jesus comes to baptize each one of us in his Holy Spirit so that we may walk in his truth and holiness and radiate the joy of the Gospel to all we meet. God's word has power to change and transform our lives so that we may be lights that point others to Jesus Christ. Like John the Baptist, we too are called to give testimony to the light and truth of Christ. Let us point others to Jesus Christ in the way we live, speak, and treat others.

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

Please Note: There will be no Masses Tuesday, December 26, 2023, and Tuesday, January 2, 2024. The office will be closed on Tuesday, December 26th and Tuesday, January 2nd.

Second Collection

There will be a second collection at Masses on December 9 and 10 to collect offerings for the **Building Fund**. Please be generous for the continuing upgrade of our 1954 church.

Christmas Decorating

We are looking for help with decorating the church for Christmas. All are welcome! Please contact the Parish Office with your availability.

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 given for the purchase of these trees would be greatly appreciated!

Red Poinsettia Memorial Garden

We invite all parishioners to bring a red 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 19th to Friday, December 22nd from 9am to 1 pm, and Saturday, December 23rd 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.

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 under the tab “Get Involved”.

2024 Offertory Envelopes

Offertory envelopes for 2024 will be available for pickup in the church foyer from this weekend. If you do not currently have envelopes but would like a box, please contact the Parish Office.

Coffee Sunday

It's Coffee Sunday this week on December 10th after the 11am Mass in the Church Hall. Treats for everyone!

ShareLife

Your compassion helps people with disabilities. Mary Centre partners with adults with a developmental disability. This ShareLife-funded agency offers integrated support services. Our parish has currently raised \$47,074 towards our goal of \$53,000. Double the impact from now until year-end with the matching program going on now.

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