

# 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 16

5pm Parishioners

### Sunday, December 17

9am Parishioners

11am + Mary & Michael Olinyk

### Tuesday, December 19

8:30am Dorothy & Patrick Hayes

### Wednesday, December 20

8:30am + Joseph Rymarz

### Thursday, December 21

8:30am Parishioners

### Friday, December 22

8:30am + Connie Williams

### Third Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 61.1-2a, 10-11

Psalm: Luke 1.47-48, 49-50, 53-54

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24

Gospel: John 1.6-8, 19-28

### Sponsoring the Vigil Candle

Parishioners are invited to become weekly or monthly sponsors of the Tabernacle Vigil Candle. Please contact the parish office if you wish to donate to the Vigil Candle.

### The Vigil Candle burns for the intentions of:

Marie-Thérèse Sophoulis – December

Marthese Fenech – January 2024

### GOSPEL REFLECTION

#### *The Lord Has Clothed Me with the Garments of Salvation and Righteousness*

When John the Baptist announced the imminent coming of God's Anointed One, the Messiah, the religious leaders questioned his authority to speak so boldly in God's name. They asked him bluntly, "Who are you?" and "What do you say about yourself?" They wanted to know if he was really sent by God. Did he claim to be the Messiah or one of the great prophets who was expected to return and announce the Messiah's arrival? John had no doubt and no mistaken identity about his call and mission. In all humility and sincerity, he said he was only a voice bidding people to get ready for the arrival of the greatest Ruler of all, God's anointed King and Messiah.

John the Baptist bridges the Old and New Testaments. He is the last of the Old Testament prophets who points the way to the Messiah. He is the first of the New Testament witnesses and martyrs. He is the herald who prepares the way for Jesus and who announces his mission to the people: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world! John saw from a distance what the Messiah would come to accomplish - our redemption from slavery to sin and our adoption as sons and daughters of God, our heavenly Father. Do we recognize who we are in Christ? The Lord Jesus has come to restore us to friendship with God and he has made us citizens of heaven - his everlasting kingdom of peace and justice.

John was the greatest of the prophets, yet he lived as a humble and faithful servant of God. He pointed others to Jesus, the true Messiah and Savior of the world. The Christian church from the earliest of times has given John many titles which signify his mission: Witness of the Lord, Trumpet of Heaven, Herald of Christ, Voice of the Word, Precursor of Truth, Friend of the Bridegroom, Crown of the Prophets, Forerunner of the Redeemer, Preparer of Salvation, Light of the Martyrs, and Servant of the Word. Let us point others to Jesus Christ by the example and witness of our life.

## **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 26<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **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. 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 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.

### **Security Cameras**

We have installed new security cameras throughout the church property. This will help to ensure the security of all parishioners and staff. We thank the government for their sponsorship of this safety measure.

### **New Building Committee**

Thanks to those who stepped up for this important work, we were able to establish a Parish Building Committee. We look forward to their expertise.

### **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 from this weekend. If you do not currently have envelopes but would like a box, please contact the Parish Office.

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