

# 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
- Building Committee

## 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, March 16

5pm + Lawrance Rodrigues

### Sunday, March 17

9am Parishioners

11am Parishioners

### Tuesday, March 19

8:30am Thanksgiving

### Wednesday, March 20

8:30am + Joseph & Josephina

### Thursday, March 21

8:30am + Herminia Rodrigues

### Friday, March 22

8:30am Parishioners

### Fifth Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Jeremiah 31.31-34++

Psalm: Ps 51.1-2, 10-11, 12-13

Second Reading: Hebrews 5.7-9

Gospel: John 12.20-33

### Sponsoring the Vigil Candle

The Sanctuary candle signifies the Real Presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ. It burns for the greater glory of God. Parishioners are invited to become monthly sponsors of the Vigil Candle. Please contact the parish office if you wish to donate in the name of the candle. Doing so opens up the opportunity for friends and families to pray at the tabernacle knowing the candle burns for their intentions.

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

George Mareczko

March

Nora de Cuyper

April

Estorba Family

April 21-27

### GOSPEL REFLECTION

#### *When I Am Lifted up - I Will Draw All People to Myself*

God is a covenant-maker who draws men and women to himself in a bond of peace and friendship. God established a covenant with his people when he freed them from slavery in Egypt and brought them to his holy mountain at Sinai. "I will be your God, and you will be my people" (Exodus 6:7; Leviticus 26:12). But his people time and again broke covenant with him and did not follow his ways (Jeremiah 31:32) - "each did what was right in his or her own eyes" (Judges 17:26 and 21:25). God, nonetheless, continued to send his prophets to draw his people back.

How did Jesus fulfill his mission as the Anointed (Messiah) King who came to bring victory and freedom for his people? Jesus knew that the only way to decisive victory for God's kingdom on the earth would be through his voluntary suffering and death on the cross. Jesus described his willingness to go to the cross as his "hour of glory" (John 12:23) when he would fulfill his Father's will and accomplish the mission entrusted to him. Jesus saw his death on the cross as triumph over the powers of sin and Satan's forces of darkness. The real enemy that Jesus came to overcome was Satan who tempts humanity to rebel against God and his commands to create their own destiny through sinful pride and disobedience. Jesus took our sins upon himself and nailed them to the cross to set us free from condemnation to death and destruction, and the eternal consequence of separation from God.

Jesus used strong language to describe the kind of self-denial he had in mind for his disciples. "He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life" (John 12:25). What did Jesus mean when he said that a follower of Christ must hate himself or herself? The expression to hate something often meant to prefer less. Jesus says that nothing should get in the way of our preferring him and the will of our heavenly Father above all else. Paul the Apostle reminds us that "what is sown in the earth is subject to decay, what rises is incorruptible" (1 Corinthians 15:42). Do we believe in the power and victory of Christ's saving cross and resurrection? And are we ready to reject whatever is contrary to God's commands and to trust him for the strength and joy to embrace his will for our life?

MARCH 17, 2024

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## **PARISH NEWS**

### **Tenebrae**

Come to a beautiful Tenebrae service on Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

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## **TRIDUUM**

### **HOLY THURSDAY**

**Mass of the Lord's Supper**

**March 28, 2024, at 7pm**

Followed by Adoration

### **GOOD FRIDAY**

**March 29, 2024**

**Stations of the Cross - 9am**

**Celebration of the Lord's Passion - 3pm**

### **HOLY SATURDAY**

**Easter Vigil – Resurrection of the Lord**

**March 30, 2024 – 7pm**

Blessing of the Food – 10am

### **EASTER SUNDAY**

**Resurrection of the Lord**

**March 31, 2024, at 9am and 11am**

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### **Divine Mercy Sunday**

**Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 3pm**

Adoration and the Chaplet in Song  
followed by refreshments

### **Garden of Lilies**

Parishioners are welcome to bring a lily plant in honour of the faithful departed to be placed in our Garden of Lilies that will adorn our altar for Easter. Plants may be dropped off on Tuesday to Friday, March 26-29, between 9am and 1pm. Labels will be provided to put the names of your loved ones on your lilies.

### **Reconciliation/Confession**

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. During the Easter season, Father will also be hearing confessions on Saturdays as usual. We will not be devoting a special day for Reconciliation.

### **Coffee Sunday – March 24<sup>th</sup>**

Coffee Sunday will be held on March 24<sup>th</sup> after the 11am Mass, hosted by the Catholic Women's League. Come and meet your fellow parishioners!

### **Did You Know?**

After the Finance Council presentation after Masses last weekend, someone asked about whether the diocesan assessment is charged on Building fund donations. For a period of time, the Archdiocese's *practice* was to exclude Building Fund donations from the calculation of the diocesan assessment. In October 2019, Cardinal Collins informed pastors that, effective January 1, 2020, the Archdiocese would revert to the calculation based on the formal *policy* set in 1993, which is to charge diocesan assessment on Building Fund donations.

### **ShareLife – March 16-17**

The ShareLife campaign in support of all the Catholic Social agencies of our Archdiocese is kicking off on March 16-17. At all Masses on that weekend, we will be hosting a ShareLife speaker. Parishioners will be asked to make their offering using the green envelopes available in the church foyer. God has blessed us with so much; let's share our blessings with those who have less.

### **Serra Club Meeting**

There will be a Serra Club of Downtown Toronto Meeting on March 20, 2024, in the St. Basil's Parish Hall (50 St. Joseph St.) following the 12:10 Mass.

### **Rectory Air Conditioning**

The air conditioning system in the rectory needs repair. The cost will be about \$10,000. A kind donor has already contributed 50% of the cost of this project. Are there any other parishioners wishing to help too? You can talk to Fr. Mani after any Mass.

### **Food Bank**

Bloor West Food Bank is now a registered charity! This means that they will issue tax receipts for donations over \$20. It is so rewarding to see what this group of dedicated volunteers has accomplished since moving their operations to our church basement in 2020. **Bloor West Food Bank is an independent organization. It is not operated by St. Pius X Parish - we only share a part of our space with them.** If you wish to make donations or offer your help in any way, please contact: Karen Allmen-Chow at [infofoodbank.LF@gmail.com](mailto:infofoodbank.LF@gmail.com).

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