

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/Committees/Organizations

- Altar Servers
- Lectors
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Ushers/Greeters
- Musicians
- Sacramental Preparation for First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation
- Collection Counters
- Finance Council
- Building Committee
- Volunteer Screening Committee
- 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

To Join



To Volunteer



PLEASE REMEMBER ST. PIUS X PARISH IN YOUR WILL



Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 31

5pm + Lucille Dudley

Sunday, September 1

9am + Alfred Burr

11am Parishioners

Tuesday, September 3

8:30am + Anthony, Mary & Joseph Grimaldi

Wednesday, September 4

8:30am Jesuvina & Joao Ribeiro

Thursday, September 5

8:30am Mildred Udarbe

Veronica Kim

Kim & Mark Lukasik

+ Pauline Stanley

Friday, September 6

8:30am Maja Gedeon

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4.1-2, 6-8

Psalm: Ps 15.2-3a, 3b-4a, 4b-5

Second Reading: James 1.17-18, 21-22, 27

Gospel: Mark 7.1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Sponsoring the Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary lamp 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 Sanctuary Lamp. Please contact the parish office if you wish to donate. Doing so opens the opportunity for friends and families to pray at the tabernacle knowing the Lamp burns for their intentions.

The Sanctuary Lamp burns for the intentions of:

Barbara & Cecylia Wojs -- September

GOSPEL REFLECTION

...but their hearts are far from me...

Jesus would have read with pride and appreciation the praise of the Law set out in the First Reading and understood it to be what the Hebrew word 'Torah', which we inadequately translate 'law', really means: not primarily a legal code but 'a light that shows the way'. Like a torch that lights up a path on a dark night, for Jewish people the Torah is a body of wisdom and enlightenment showing how to live as the covenant people of God. It is important then to understand that Jesus is not critical of the Jewish law as such. What he challenges is the addition to it of further prescriptions and customs that were not part of the original revelation and which in his view could sometimes work against its true purpose.

These traditions were preserved and guarded by the Pharisees. Let us not be too hard on this group. They were historically a lay group who sought to help the Jewish people live out their vocation to be the 'holy people of God' (Lev 20:26) in the mixed society which was the Palestine of Jesus' day. This sense of 'holiness' was reinforced through a host of washings and other rituals of cleanliness which were obligatory after contact with outsiders in the market and other public spheres. The intention, then, was good but, as so often happens with religious tradition, attention can be focused on the external rituals to the neglect of the inner conversion of heart central to all relationship with God.

When Jesus criticizes the Pharisees, he is not really bringing something radically new but standing within a firm prophetic tradition, shown by his quotation of Isaiah 29:13: 'This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me'. For him, everything goes back to the heart. No amount of external ritual is of any use if it obscures or distorts the primary truth that holiness is ultimately about conversion of heart. Holiness belongs essentially to God. Human holiness came from being in contact with God – something that begins in the heart. Jesus, who was supremely in contact with God, went about touching 'unclean' persons like lepers and associating with 'tax collectors and sinners.' He did not 'catch' uncleanness from them, as though it were a contagious disease. Rather, the 'flow' was the other way round: *they* 'caught' holiness and healing from him. Jesus understood true holiness to be essentially inclusive rather than exclusive. It had to do with God's reaching out rather than withdrawing to a sacred inner space. The list of vices towards the end of the reading is a kind of check-list – to which we could probably add a few more examples relevant for our time. By the same token, on the positive side, we could think of virtues that would demonstrate true holiness of heart. (Excerpt from: Brendan Byrne, SJ)

PARISH NEWS

Back to School Prayer for our Children

Dear Lord, as our students begin a new school year, we pray that you keep them in your care. Send your Spirit to open their minds to all that is true and beautiful and good. Help them to see the gifts and talents you have given them and to use them well. Help them to grow in your knowledge and wisdom. Help them to be kind to others and lead others to be kind to them. Give their teachers patience, understanding and courage, and help them teach what is just and true. Send your angels to guide and guard our children and our family of schools and to keep them from all harm. Open their young hearts to your presence and enfold them in your peace and protection. Hold them in the palm of your hand and bring them home safely at day's end. May they face each day with the blessed assurance that no matter what comes their way, with YOU they can do all things! In Jesus' name. Amen.

Outdoor Signage

Our new digital board has been installed. We extend our sincere thanks to the three families who helped to pay some of the cost with their generous donations. We are very grateful to them, as we cannot maintain or update our church building without our parishioners' continued support. Watch for more changes to be made to the outside display.

Summer is Almost Over!

It's time to start thinking about how you can be more involved in the life of your parish community. We will be needing Children's Liturgy Leaders, Altar Servers, Catechists for the First Communion and Confirmation Programs, Choir Members, Church Ushers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and more.

First Communion (Grade 2) and Confirmation (Grade 7) for 2025

Information for the upcoming First Communion and Confirmation Registrations for the 2025 season will be made available sometime in September. Please stay connected with us. Announcements will be made at Mass. We invite you to come celebrate Mass with us on Sundays and be sure to visit our website and online bulletin

for up-to-date information and registration for these sacraments. Further details will also be distributed to St. Pius X Catholic School children with a letter to parents.

Second Collection

There will be a second collection for the Building Fund next weekend, September 7th and 8th.

Chaplaincy Connect

Are you a university or college student? This school year, open your heart to an exciting journey of spiritual growth and community. Join campus ministry to grow deeper in your faith, form lasting friendships and experience university/college life in a more meaningful way. Connect with campus ministry anywhere in Canada and find your Catholic home on campus! Scan the QR code or visit chaplaincyconnect.ca.



The advertisement for Chaplaincy Connect features a photograph of a student from behind, wearing a red backpack and a dark cap, walking towards a building with classical columns. To the right of the photo is the Chaplaincy Connect logo, which consists of a stylized 'C' and 'C' in blue and red. Below the logo is the text 'Looking for a Catholic connection on campus?' and a QR code with the instruction 'Scan QR Code to learn more.'

Jubilee of Youth 2025

The Archdiocese of Toronto is calling all young adults (ages 19 - 39) to join Fr. Paul Magyar and the Office of Catholic Youth team for the pilgrimage of a lifetime! Please fill out the form in the link below to receive updates about an information session and registration.

Date: July 23rd – August 5th, 2025

Location: Rome, Italy

Interest Form:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=-oHzs0inq0mvptqmDyNEmqmVKE-aYh9GmWt1bVpiF9pUMEFUMEFYSURZR0hLQjUyNUtGWIMwOEcxTS4u>

(Please see the Bulletin on our website for ease of access to links.)

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