

St. Pius X Parish

2305 Bloor Street West, Toronto ON M6S 1P1

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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, October 26

5pm + Amrita Goswami (Stone)

Sunday, October 27

9am Parishioners

11am + Natalio & Maria Verdedero
Armamento

Tuesday, October 29

8:30am Richard Miazek

Wednesday, October 30

8:30am + Amelia & José Udasco

Thursday, October 31

8:30am Maureen O'Toole
Norah De Cuyper

Friday, November 1

8:30am + Estorba & Garrido Families

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Jeremiah 31.7-9

Psalm: Ps 126.1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5, 6

Second Reading: Hebrews 5.1-6

Gospel: Mark 10.46-52

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:

GOSPEL REFLECTION

My teacher, let me see again.

Imagine the humiliation you might experience if your only way to survive each day was to sit on the side of the road and beg. As a blind man at that time, Bartimaeus was not able to work and support himself. Many saw his blindness as a curse from God and the result of his sin or the sins of his parents. He would have been treated as an outcast of society and as a burden to his family and community.

The symbolism in this story is extraordinary and teaches us many things about our Christian journey. First, we must strive to identify with Bartimaeus' humility and weakness. On a spiritual level, we are all blind and, in our fallen natural state, we are spiritual outcasts. This means that we cannot attain Heaven by ourselves. Bartimaeus is a symbol of our fallen natural state. We need to humble ourselves every day and see ourselves as people in dire need who are incapable of saving our own souls.

Bartimaeus is also a symbol of what we must do to be drawn out of the blindness and misery we experience in life. The moment he heard that Jesus was walking by, he cried out for mercy. But he didn't just cry out to our Lord. He did so with perseverance. The people who heard him crying out rebuked him and told him to stop. But their rebukes only led him to be more fervent in his prayer. Also, it appears that Jesus ignored him at first. Why would Jesus do that? It certainly wasn't because Jesus didn't care. It was because our Lord knew that Bartimaeus would persevere and He wanted him to do so. Jesus wanted Bartimaeus' prayer to become more resolute, and it did.

The prayer of Bartimaeus must become the way we pray. It is very easy to become discouraged in life and to lose hope. When that happens, our prayer becomes weak and ineffective. At times, we will experience many other temptations to give up on prayer. The rebukes by the crowd are a symbol of the many temptations we will experience to give up on prayer. When those temptations come, we must double our effort and strengthen our resolve. Jesus' silence at first must also be seen as an invitation to pray with greater faith. If we pray and feel as though God is not listening, we must know that God does hear us and His initial silence is His way of inviting us closer and to a deeper level of faith and prayer.

Bartimaeus' prayer was perfect. "Master, I want to see." Spiritually speaking, we must work to foster the deepest desire to see God, to see our Lord. If we desire the gift of faith, the ability to see spiritual truths and understand them, then our Lord will answer that prayer. Our Lord will also say to us, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." (*Excerpt: My Catholic Life!*)

PARISH NEWS

All Souls' Day

November 2nd – 8:30am Mass

This year, All Souls' Day falls on Saturday, November 2nd. A special Mass will be celebrated at 8:30am for all deceased souls in our families and our parish. We will accept multiple Mass Intentions for that Mass only. Mass will also be celebrated at 5pm as usual.

Memorial Cards

As we did last year, we will be placing memorial cards of your deceased loved ones on a table in front of the altar. Please bring your memorial cards and give them to Fr. Mani after any Mass.

Confirmation Registration

The Registration Form and Schedule of Classes for the preparation of children in Gr. 7 and above is posted on our website. Confirmation registration will close on **December 15^h, 2024**. The Information Meeting and Journey Through the Mass for candidates and parents will take place on March 8, 2025. This meeting is mandatory. **Note: Please check online for the change of dates for Confirmation Rehearsal and the day of the Sacrament of Confirmation.**

Volunteers for Children's Liturgy

We are starting up catechism classes in November! We need volunteers during the 11am Mass on Sundays for children in JK to Grade 1. For now, Grade 2 children will also be welcome until more volunteers participate in this important spiritual education for your children. If you are interested, please talk to Fr. Mani.



Christmas Bazaar – November 16th

The CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR will be held on Saturday, November 16th from 10am to 2pm in the Church Hall. Items for sale include: Baked Goods, New Gifts, Christmas Decorations, Knitted Goods, and Jewellery. There will also be a Silent Auction and Wine Raffle. Donations of homemade baked goods can be dropped off in the Church Hall on Friday, November 15th, between 5pm and 8pm or Saturday, November 16th, before the Bazaar. Please mark if baking contains nuts. All proceeds from the Bazaar will go to various charities. Please come out and

support this event with your family and friends, do some early Christmas shopping, and share in the St. Pius X community spirit over a cup of coffee or tea.

Catholic Charities Survey

Catholic Charities is inviting us to share your invaluable insights to help them understand our parish/community needs and assist them in identifying actions that we can all work on together. In consultation with the bishops of each of our regions, they developed a survey which you can find at the link below. The survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete. You will need to do it all in one sitting. Please complete it by November 1, 2024. Thank you for your thoughtful participation and the gift of your time.

<https://www.research.net/r/CCATUnderstandingNeedsSurvey>. *(Links are more easily accessible through the Bulletin on our website.)*

Joint call for Help and Prayers for Lebanon

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has approved a Joint Call by three Catholic organizations to support this urgent appeal: Development and Peace Caritas Canada, Aid to the Church in Need, and Catholic Near East Welfare Association. The press release and more details can be viewed at: <https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/urgent-appeal-for-support-in-lebanon-joint-call-for-help-and-prayers/>.

Month of the Holy Rosary and of the Missions

October is the month of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary and also of World Missions. Archbishop Francis Leo has issued a Message for October: <https://www.archtoronto.org/en/outreach/news/archdiocesan/archbishop-leos-message-for-october-month-of-the-holy-rosary-and-of-the-missions/>. In it, he urges us to read Pope St. John Paul II's 2002 Apostolic Letter, "The Rosary of the Virgin Mary".

Vocations

The blind beggar Bartimaeus would not listen to the many people scolding him to be quiet, but shouted all the louder in prayer "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Only then did Jesus call him over and answer his need. Bartimaeus becomes a powerful example of how persistent we must be in prayer when we are asking God to show us His Will for our lives. And then, ask Him for the grace to accept it. If you feel God is offering you the grace of a Church vocation, call **Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997,** or vocations@archtoronto.org/www.vocationstoronto.ca.

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