

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, November 2

5pm + Di Domenico & Domodossola Families

Sunday, November 3

9am Parishioners
11am Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, November 5

8:30am Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, November 6

8:30am + Roseann Cinelli

Thursday, November 7

8:30am + Ranjo & Udasco Families
+ Joseph Ry
+ Margaret Henning
+ Joseph Henning

Friday, November 8

8:30am + Leo Goemare

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Deuteronomy 6.2-6
Psalm: Ps 18.1-2, 3+6b, 46+50ab
Second Reading: Hebrews 7.23-28
Gospel: Mark 12.28-34

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

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one...

The actual text for today's reading became the 'Shema', the prayer that every devout Jew recites each morning on rising. The opening word, 'Shema', means 'listen'; it also has the sense of 'obey'. 'Love' has the sense of cleaving to God, to the exclusion of all other objects of worship. 'Heart', 'soul' and 'strength' refer not so much to separate capacities but together communicate a loving commitment that engages the totality of a person, one's talents and capacity for action, perhaps even one's possessions.

The corresponding command to 'love your neighbour as yourself' also occurs in the Old Testament, in Lev 19:18. Bringing the two commandments – love of God and love of neighbour – together, as Jesus does in the episode that forms today's Gospel (Mark 12:28-34) seems to have been something distinctive of his teaching and ministry, though Jewish parallels are not lacking from a later period. But Jesus does not reduce both commandments to a single 'greatest' commandment. Though inextricably bound together, they remain 'first' and 'second'. This signals that God is worthy of love and worship in an absolute sense; God is to be loved for Himself alone. Love of God, though necessarily finding expression in love of neighbour, cannot simply be reduced to loving action on behalf of the neighbour.

Scribes are usually hostile figures in the Gospels. The one who approaches Jesus in this scene seems to do so as a genuine inquirer. The question he raises – which commandment of the Torah is the 'first'? – was a standard item of discussion among the rabbis. He is, then, seeking the opinion of this controversial teacher on the matter. It was risky for him to show support of Jesus. Many of the other scribes were quite hostile toward Jesus. Therefore, by openly expressing His agreement with what Jesus taught, he was putting himself at risk of being criticized. But it appears he was not concerned about that. He was a seeker of truth, and Jesus ended up paying him a huge compliment by saying, "You are not far from the kingdom of God."

In our increasingly secular world, there are many truths of God that are being openly questioned and challenged. Are you a seeker of truth? Do you recognize the holy truths of God when you hear them? If so, do you have the courage you need to pursue those truths and articulate them in the presence of others? One who evangelizes does not attack another. They do not criticize and condemn. Instead, they seek to understand the full truth themselves and then openly and with humility share that truth with those who are open to it. *(Excerpt: Brendan Byrne, S.J. & My Catholic Life!)*

PARISH NEWS

Book of Remembrance 2024

For the entire month of November, we will be praying for all our faithful departed. You are invited to write the name(s) of your loved one(s) in our Book of Remembrance near the altar after Mass and place your All Souls offertory envelope in the memorial offertory box.

Memorial Cards for November

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 either give them to Fr. Mani or place them on the purple table in front of the altar after any Mass.

2025 Sunday Missals

Missals for the 2025 liturgical year will soon be available for purchase after all weekend Masses at the entrance of the church. The cost of the missals will be \$5.00 each. Exact change would be appreciated.

Offertory Boxes of Envelopes

Watch for the boxes of envelopes for 2025 in the church foyer before every weekend Mass, coming soon. If you have not yet registered as a parishioner, we ask that you do so online and you will be assigned a box number if you choose. However, we continue to encourage parishioners to sign up for online donations instead of envelopes. This leads to cost and time savings for the Parish.

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.

Second Collection

There will be a Second Collection for the Building Fund next weekend, November 9-10. Thank you for supporting our beautiful church!

RENEW Toronto 2024

The Office of Catholic Youth of the Archdiocese of Toronto invites you to attend the RENEW conference on Saturday, November 23, 2024, at the Canada Event Centre in Whitby, Ontario. Registration closes on November 4th at www.renewtoronto.org.

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/arch-diocesan/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

"To love Him with all the heart and with all the understanding, and with all the strength" and "to love one's neighbour as oneself" are the greatest commandments. If you feel that God is calling you to serve Him as a priest, religious or deacon, 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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