

St. Pius X Parish

2305 Bloor Street West, Toronto ON M6S 1P1

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office@saintpiusx.ca www.saintpiusx.ca



Grow Your Faith With Us

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Massillamani Zacharias

(Fr. Mani), **Pastor**

Michelle Somers, **Parish Secretary**

Anselm Kerkos-De Souza, **Sacramental Preparation Coordinator**

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 Donate



To Volunteer



PLEASE REMEMBER ST. PIUS X PARISH IN YOUR WILL



Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 15

5 pm + Robert Mahon

Sunday, August 16

9 am + Jadwiga & Piotr Zaremba

11 am Parishioners

Tuesday, August 18

8:30 am + Anna Hang

Wednesday, August 19

8:30 am + Peter Tran

Thursday, August 20

8:30 am Parishioners

Friday, August 21

8:30 am Madlene & Richard Cumbo



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 56.1, 6-7

Psalm: Ps 67.1-2, 4-5, 6-7

Second Reading: Romans 11.13-15, 29-32

Gospel: Matthew 15.21-28



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 becomes an opportunity for friends and families to pray at the Tabernacle, knowing the Lamp burns for their intentions.

The Sanctuary Lamp burns in August for the intentions of: Anna Wong

GOSPEL REFLECTION

"Lord, help me."

Most of us are the foreigners, the non-Israelites, about whom today's First Reading prophesies. Coming to worship the God of Israel, we stand in the line of faith epitomized by the Canaanite woman in today's Gospel. Calling to Jesus as Lord and Son of David, this foreigner shows her great faith in God's covenant with Israel.

Jesus' unresponsiveness to this woman may strike us as uncharacteristic or shocking. Yet in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus' ministry is directed primarily to the people of Israel. At only a very few points, such as the one found in today's Gospel, do we find Jesus anticipating the later Christian ministry to the rest of the world. Jesus tests her faith three times. He refuses to answer her cry. Then, He tells her His mission is only to Israelites. Finally, He uses "dog," an epithet used to disparage non-Israelites. Yet she persists, believing that He alone offers salvation.

When Jesus first encountered this woman, He saw into her soul and perceived the depth of her faith. As God, He knew everything about her—her suffering, her love for her daughter, her perseverance. He also knew He would heal the girl, yet He did not do so immediately. Instead, He engaged in what theology refers to as divine pedagogy—a method of instruction by which God teaches slowly, carefully, and with purpose. In this case, Jesus used the moment to teach His disciples—and us—a profound lesson about humility and unwavering faith. He tested her, and she passed the test marvelously.

The location of this encounter is also significant. It took place in the region of Tyre and Sidon, in modern-day Lebanon, a Gentile territory known for its Greek-speaking population and pagan customs. The woman is specifically identified as a Canaanite, evoking the memory of Israel's ancient enemies. And yet, it is precisely this outsider—this woman of seemingly little spiritual privilege—who becomes a model of the faith the chosen people were meant to embody.

God often allows similar experiences in the lives of the faithful. It's easy to assume that if we follow Christ, we will be shielded from difficulty. On the contrary, one of the most powerful ways God forms His saints is by allowing them to undergo trials. These trials, far from being signs of abandonment, are invitations to heroic virtue. They are divine tests. And God never permits more than we can endure by His grace. (*Excerpts: My Catholic Life; Loyola Press; Scott Hahn Reflections.*)

PARISH NEWS

Weekly Prayer

On the third weekend of the month, we remember the sick people who are admitted to hospitals and at home:

Almighty ever living God, healer of the sick, we turn to You in this time of illness. Relieve the worry and sorrow of the sick persons among us with Your gentle love and grant them the grace and strength to accept this burden. We place them under Your care and humbly ask that You restore Your servants to good health again. We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Feast of St. Pius X - Special Mass

August 21 has been designated as The Feast Day of St. Pius X. We will commemorate our patron saint's feast day on Sunday, **August 23**, at a special Mass presided over by Bishop Ivan Camilleri at 11 am, **followed by a reception**. Come and join your fellow parishioners as we celebrate this special occasion! **Note: On August 23, the 9 am Mass is cancelled.**

Schedules for 2026-27 Children's Sacraments

The Preparation Class Schedules for children receiving Confirmation and First Holy Communion are now available on our website. Please review for conflicts with your family calendar. Forms for in-person registration for both sacraments will be available on **September 1 and end on October 9**.

Special Collection

This weekend, August 15-16, there will be a second collection for Canadian Missions. Catholic Missions in Canada and the selected dioceses in Northern Canada will benefit from your generosity to sustain and extend the Catholic faith to isolated, poor and hard-to-reach mission areas in our country. Thank you for your support of this important work!

Summer Music Series – Closing Concert

We are very grateful to the musicians who donated their time and considerable talents to offer us four excellent musical evenings. The quality of programs and performance were of the highest. Thank you to the parishioners who attended – we were all

enraptured! The next and last concert will take place on Friday, **September 25** at 7:30 pm.

ShareLife 50th Anniversary Mass

Join us on Saturday, **August 22**, 2026, as we celebrate 50 years of bringing the hands of Christ to those in need through faith, compassion, and service. Mass at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica will be celebrated by His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo, Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto at 10:30 a.m. This is a free event, but registration is required. **Please RSVP by August 17.** Registration link and event information: www.sharelife.org/50. For any inquiries, please get in touch with us at SLEvent@archtoronto.org. Thank you!

Season of Creation 2026

The annual event of the Season of Creation begins on September 1 (the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) and ends on October 4 on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of ecology. This year's theme is "Living Water" and the symbol is "Immersion in Living Water", inspired by Ezekiel 47: 9 and 12. For more information contact ecumenicalandinterfaith@archtoronto.org or call 647-258-4740. A Novena to St. Francis and an introductory video are available at the following links: <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources/Novena-to-St-Francis>; Video: bit.ly/3RFGLiW

Vocations

"Woman, great is your faith!" It takes faith to hear God's call in our lives and sometimes it may not be what we expect. Is God calling you to life as priest, deacon, sister or brother? Contact Fr. David Twaddle, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-261-7207 or vocations@archtoronto.org.





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