

# St. Thomas Aquinas

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 | 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

## SUNDAY MASSES

**Saturday** 5:00pm English

**Sunday** 9:00am English  
10:30am Italiano  
12:00pm English  
2:00pm Español  
6:00pm English

## WEEKDAY MASSES

**Monday to Saturday** 9:00am

## CONFESSIONS

**Saturdays** 4:00pm or by  
Appointment

## BAPTISMS - BAUTIZOS

**Three months** in advance, please  
call the office.

Llamar a la oficina con **tres**  
**meses** de anticipación.

## WEDDINGS - BODAS

Please contact the office **one year** in  
advance. Llamar a la oficina con **un**  
**año** de anticipación.

## CATECHISM & RCIA

For the Sacraments of Initiation  
(Baptism, First Communion &  
Confirmation), please contact the  
office and press **ext. 0**

## SICK CALLS

Please call the office for visits or  
Communion visitations to the sick.

## DEVOTIONS / DEVOCIONES

- **Holy Rosary:** Wednesdays &  
Saturdays at 8:30am
- **Eucharistic Adoration:** Fridays  
from 9:30 am to 11am.

## OFFICE HOURS

**Monday to Friday** from 9:30am to  
4:00pm The office is closed from  
12:00noon to 12:30pm



*You are the  
light of  
the world*

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

*St. Thomas Aquinas* | 636 Glenholme Ave. Toronto | 416-393-5236

*D'Arcy McGee* | 20 Bansley Ave. Toronto | 416-393-5318

## CATHOLIC FUNERAL HOMES

Bernardo Funeral Home | 416-789-7661

Vescio Funeral Home | 416-656-3332

**PASTOR** Fr. Patrick Ezimora C.C.E.

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR** Fr. Peter Paul C.C.E.

640 Glenholme Avenue, Toronto, ON. M6E 3G9 | Tel: 416-782-8943 | Fax: 416-781-8444

stthomasaquinasto@archtoronto.org www.stthomasaquinas.archtoronto.org

# THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

"You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14); so,  
let your light shine!

The Salt-Light metaphor of today's Gospel (Matthew 5:13-16) has always fascinated me. Growing up, I loved the splendor of light and would nap soundly under its brightness. My experience with salt was not as direct, even though it played a huge role in making my mum the best cook in the world, just like yours! By expressing our core Christian identity in those terms, I believe our Lord is reminding us of what we should already know: 1) we are the flavor of humanity; 2) our life gives meaning to the lives of many people. As a matter of fact, the Founder of my Religious Order chose for his priestly motto: "I am living for others". Wow! Could you imagine a more scandalous life-project for this day and age? Yet, that is who you and I are, "so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). May this week find you busy being the who that you have become in Christ Jesus. Amen!



## Blessed Sacrament's Candle and Flowers

By the kind generosity of  
An anonymous donor  
Thank you and God bless you.  
*Grazie. Gracias. Salamat po. Asante.*

## 2023 Donation Envelopes

**2023 Envelope boxes** are still available at the back of the Church and in the Parish Office. Just pick up any envelope number and **fill out your full information, it will be your number for this year 2023.**

## New Office E-mail Address!

[stthomasaquinasto@archtoronto.org](mailto:stthomasaquinasto@archtoronto.org)

## Pilgrimage to St. Joseph's Oratory

Pilgrimage to St. Joseph's Oratory and tour of the Ice Hotel in Montreal on **March 18/19, 2023**. Cost is \$245. For more information, contact Edith at 416-420-5185.

## Marriage Sunday - February 11/12

We invite and encourage couples who wish to renew their marriage vows within the Mass to register at our parish office not later than Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>.

## Youth Ministry for Friday, Feb 10th

### Topic: Faith Formation

7pm to 8:30pm in the parish hall; refreshments will be provided. If you are interested, please register and pick up a flyer. We need sponsors for each youth night. Thank you in advance!

## Bible Study for Wednesday, Feb 08<sup>th</sup>

From 7:00pm to 8:30pm

**Topic: "The Chosen" Season 1, Episode 2: Shabbat**

**YouTube Video:** <https://youtu.be/gdvZ9QoJQfk>

Or download "The Chosen" App

Please bring along your Bibles, Catechism, and notebook.

**First Friday of every month**, evening Adoration of reparation/praise & worship **at 6:00pm**, followed by Mass at 7:00pm and youth ministry at 7:30pm.

While we appreciate the generous donations of many parishioners during our Christmas food drive for the needy, please note that we still have lots of uncooked food stuff available for pick up.

Please give us a call or write an email.

**Visit & Follow us on Facebook by searching:**

[St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Toronto](https://www.facebook.com/StThomasAquinasParishToronto)

(or click on link)

**Visit & Follow us on Instagram by searching:**

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## MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

**Feb 4<sup>th</sup> to Feb 11<sup>th</sup> 2023**

### SATURDAY, Feb 4<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** *Thanksgiving for +Lucio Rego & Souls of Purgatory & in Honour of the Sorrows of Jesus / Circle of Prayers / Thanksgiving for the Legion of Mary / For Our Lady's intentions for Sarah and Michael*

**5:00pm** (Available for Mass Intentions)

### SUNDAY, Feb 5<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** + Giuseppe and Pasqualina Moffa

**10:30am** + Frank Perri / + Nicola & Antonietta Nicastro / + Bruno Chioran / + Giordano Ida, Ferragina Rosario + Carpino Armando

**12:00pm** + Hannah & Bill Payne / + Anthony Scarponcini

**2:00pm** *Descanso del alma de + Emanuele Pasquale, + Flor de Maria Perez de González, + Lucy Debayle, por las almas del purgatorio / Bendiciones en el cumpleaños de Gabriel Elias Gallardo*

**6:00pm** *For Our Lady's intentions for Sarah and Michael*

### MONDAY, Feb 6<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** Birthday of Jane Sookhai

### TUESDAY, Feb 7<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** + Barbara Maingot / + Peter Andersen & + Vincent Tuong

### WEDNESDAY, Feb 8<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** Birthday of Lita Oujano / + Gioan Baotixita Dinh & + Maria Ngo

### THURSDAY, Feb 9<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** + Henry & Lorna Thompson / + Vincent Nguyen & + Maria Dinh

### FRIDAY, Feb 10<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** + Gaston Wong & Holy Souls in Purgatory / + Escolastico Calingacion Sr. / + Vincent Nguyen & + Maria Dinh

### SATURDAY, Feb 11<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** (Available for Mass Intentions)

**5:00pm** + Jim McCallum

We are accepting Mass Intentions through the office during the week

## AROUND STA AND THE COMMUNITY

### Donum Vitae: Its Meaning for Nurses

Feb-21-2023 7:00 PM | 89 St. George St. Toronto

Discuss Donum Vitae with Fr. Anish K. Antony, CFIC. Join us at 89 St. George St., Toronto or email us for the Zoom link. On First Fridays, pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet via our website's calendar link. NACN-Canada's goal is to align professional practice with faith through prayer, education, service, and participation in public discourse.

**CONTACT:** NACN-Canada PO Box 19525, Manulife PO, 55 Bloor St. W., Toronto ON M4W 3T9.

**EMAIL:** [nacncanada.boardcontact@gmail.com](mailto:nacncanada.boardcontact@gmail.com)

**WEB:** <https://catholicnurses.ca/>

### Bereavement Ministry Virtual Training

The next bereavement ministry training will be offered online on **Thursdays, February 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.** This training is designed for new and seasoned parish bereavement ministers. It will explore ways to begin a bereavement ministry in your parish or enhance your present bereavement ministry programs. Registrants are required to participate in all online sessions and complete pre-homework to receive full training. There is no cost to attend but registration is required (space is limited). This program is offered by the Office of Formation for Discipleship and Saint Monica Institute.

**REGISTER:** <https://bit.ly/BMT-RegisterFebMar2023>

by February 21, 2023

**DOWNLOAD POSTER:** <https://bit.ly/BMT-PosterFebMar2023>

**CONTACT:** Sally Amaral, [samaral@archtoronto.org](mailto:samaral@archtoronto.org) or 416-934-3400 ext. 518



# ALL ABOUT FAITH

## St. Josephine Bakhita—February 8



In 1869, a daughter was born into a loving and well-respected family in western Sudan. Until the age of six, she and her three brothers and three sisters lived a happy and carefree life. Around the year 1875 when one sister was abducted by Arab slave traders. Two years later, she also became their victim. When her captor asked her name, she couldn't remember so she didn't respond. She might have forgotten her given name due to the trauma she faced. Her captor sarcastically gave her the name "Bakhita," which means "fortunate," claiming that he would bring her good luck. Within the

Catholic faith, Bakhita began to discover the God Whom she had sensed in her heart from childhood. She was baptized, confirmed, and given her First Holy Communion by the Archbishop of Venice (later, Pope Pius X). She was given the baptismal name Josephine Margaret Fortunata, "Fortunata" being the Latin translation of the Arabic name "Bakhita." Thus, at the age of twenty-one, this fortunate young girl was flooded with God's grace, and her formerly abused body and soul began a transformation. Josephine stayed with the sisters, entered their novitiate in 1893, and made her vows in 1896, becoming Sister Josephine Margaret Fortunata. At the end of her life, Sister Josephine suffered again, this time from illness. On her deathbed, she relived the horrors of her captivity but now confronted those horrors with God's grace. Her last words were cries of love for our Blessed Mother. After her death, her effect upon the people of God was evident as she lay in state for three days while countless faithful came to express their love for her. Shortly after her death, cries for her canonization stirred among the faithful. Twelve years later, her cause for canonization was opened, and she was canonized by Saint Pope John Paul II during the great jubilee year of 2000 in Saint Peter's Square. Three years after her canonization, Pope John Paul II made an official visit to Khartoum, Sudan, honoring her on her home soil.

- My Catholic Life



OFFICE OF VOCATIONS  
ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

## Online Winter Women's Discernment Group For women Ages 18-29

From **Tuesday February 28 - March 28, 2023.**

The Office of Vocations is offering a weekly **Online Discernment Group** for **single women aged 18-29.**

They will be journeying with the book "**Pray, Decide, and Don't Worry**" by **Fr. Mike Schmitz.** Books can be purchased through the Office of Vocation for \$10. Meetings will run from 7-9pm

[Register Here](#)



## Celebration of Marriage Mass with Bishop Nguyen

Sunday, February 12 – 2:30 p.m.  
St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica  
65 Bond St., Toronto

As part of Marriage Sunday 2023 celebrations, Bishop Vincent Nguyen will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, especially those celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+) in 2023. All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their vows and milestone anniversary celebrants will be honoured with a special blessing. The Mass is open to all, but due to space restrictions those wishing to attend are asked to register online. Milestone anniversary celebrants will be assured of reserved seating. All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who are unable to attend at the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass here:

<https://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live/>

The broadcast will begin at 2:15 p.m. Please visit [www.archtoronto.org/marriage](http://www.archtoronto.org/marriage) to register and to access resources for parishes and couples



## Sharing the Faith

And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.

- Matthew 28: 20

## 3 Minute Retreat

[English](#)

[Español](#)

## LIVING YOUR FAITH

### The Baptism of Jesus



Animated Children's Bible Stories

[Children's Video](#)

### Pope's February prayer intention: For parishes to be open communities



Pope Francis releases his prayer intention for the month of February, in which he asks parishes to be generous and open communities close to all.

[Read More or Watch Video Here](#)

### Is marriage even possible? Pope Francis addresses all our doubts



The Pope calls us to rediscover the permanent, indissoluble and divine bond of love at the base of any marriage, and to guard against idealizing marriage as if it will be perfect.

[Read More Here](#)

### Pray as You Can, Not As You Can't



The litany of humility is a powerful prayer. You know you should pray it but you don't have the desire to. What should you do?

Today Fr. Mike encourages and challenges us to ask God to give us the grace to pray those prayers that are more difficult to pray. "Take, Lord receive, all my liberties!"

[Short Video](#)

**"Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you."**

*St. Augustine*

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