St. Thomas Aquinas

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



March 26th, 2023 I Fifth Sunday of Lent

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.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

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.F.

CHURCH HOURS

The church is open Mondays to Fridays from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm, Saturdays from 8:00am to 6:00 pm and Sundays 8:00 am to 7:00 pm.

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear parishioners of STA Parish,

What episodes or passages of the Gospel drama of today (John 11.1-45) touched you the most? For me, there are a couple of them: "Jesus wept" and "Lazarus, come out!". Oh sorry, there is one more: "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it". Amen.

5th Sunday of Lent March 26, 2023

This weekend is ShareLife Sunday

ShareLife Sunday marks the first collection for our parish's annual campaign. In the words of Cardinal Collins:

"Vulnerable members of our community are relying on you and me to ensure ongoing access to the care they so desperately need. This is why it's crucial we meet our parish campaign goal. Our goal can be met, but only if we each do our part."

Our parish goal this year is **\$25,700.** So far we have received the amount of \$205. Thank you for your financial support. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

Anointing of the Sick/Confession

On <u>Saturday</u>, <u>1st April at 9:30am</u>, we shall be administering the Sacrament of Anointing to the Sick, followed by the Sacrament of Reconciliation till 11:00am. Please take advantage of these opportunities to prepare for Holy Week and Easter. God bless you!

Needs of the Holy Land Special Collection on Good Friday, April 7

The collection for Good Friday is a Pontifical request for the Holy Land in support of Christian communities, the works of the Holy Land and the upkeep of Holy Sites. Let us give generously to respond to the needs of the Church in the land of Jesus.

PLEASE NOTE:

Our parish would not be taking Mass intentions for Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Thank you for your understanding!

EMHC Meeting

We are inviting all our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to kindly join us for a Holy Week prep assembly on <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>29th March</u>, at <u>7pm in the parish hall</u>. Thank you for your time.

Ushers' Meeting

We call on all our Ministers of Hospitality to kindly join as we prepare for the Holy Week festivities on Thursday, 30th March, at 7pm in the parish hall. Thank you for your time.

Youth Ministry for Friday, March 31, 2023 Topic: Game Night

8pm to 9pm in the parish hall after the Stations of the Cross; 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, April 5, 2023
From 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM
Topic: "The Chosen" Season 1, Episode 6:
"Indescribable Compassion"
YouTube Video: Or download "The Chosen" App
Please bring along your Bibles, Catechism,
and notebook.

Office of the Reading & Morning Prayer:

We invite all our parishioners to join us in praying the Psalms of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday (7th April) and Holy Saturday (8th April) mornings from 8am to 9am, in our Church. Be assured it is a fruitful spiritual exercise!

Welcome Archbishop Frank Leo



The pastor and parishioners of St Thomas Aquinas Parish congratulate Archbishop Frank Leo on the occasion of his appointment last Saturday, 25th March, as our new Chief Shepherd. As we welcome you, we also assure you of our prayers and best wishes!

Parishioners are invited to attend a regional Mass of Welcome taking place in the Central Region on *Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 7:00 PM at Blessed Trinity Parish in Toronto.* A reception will follow after Mass in the parish hall. All are welcome. Please continue to keep Archbishop Leo in your prayers as he begins his ministry as our shepherd.



MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

March 25th to April 1st 2023

SATURDAY, March 25th

9:00 am + Sebastiano Milando, + Ana Piecha, Healing upon Mary Wahba, Ruth Parra, Emma Sophia Greco Diaz & Ingrid Espinoza

5:00 pm + Guadalupe Estonina / Birthday blessings upon Ann Tuzi for her 65th birthday, health blessings for Emilia Hogen, Maria Montagnese, DJ Drogo & Vincenzino Tuzi / + Pietro Bucchacchio & + Angelo Nanni SUNDAY, March 26th

9:00 am + Marcelo San Mateo / Thanksgiving for passing the NCLEX-RN exam for Kreanne Tabuso 10:30 am + Salvatore Adelina, Gianni Ramanyszyn, Carmene D'Ambrosio, Mario Guagiardi, Silvia Ramanyszyn

12:00 pm + Gaétano Pergola

2:00 pm Descanso del alma de + Ana Sylvia Argueta, + Herminio Ortega / Bendiciones en el cumpleaños de Rene Alejandro Méza Cedillos, Alicia Isabela Meza / Por la sanacion de Blanca Palacio, Ruth Parra **6:00 pm** + Maria Filomena Travassos, + Manuel Cafua,

+ Joao Cafua, & + Ambrozina Travassos MONDAY, March 27th

9:00 am + Maria Madalena Ngu & all souls in purgatory / + Michal & + Michalina Pawluk /

Birthday blessings upon Luba Pawluk

TUESDAY, March 28

9:00 am + Emilia Amorim / Repose of the souls of + Eufemio Laranjo & + Cesaria Tubog / Peter Andersen & + Vincent Tuong

WEDNESDAY, March 29th

9:00 am + Agripina Gemora / + Vincent Nguyen & + Maria Dinh

THURSDAY, March 30th

9:00 am + Vincent Nguyen & + Maria Dinh

FRIDAY, March 31

9:00 am + Vincent Nguyen & + Maria Dinh/Repose of the soul of +Julio Ariel Maya on his fifth year death anniversary/ +Myriam Faluotico / Birthday blessings upon Alma Gloria Cornejo

7:00 pm Thanksgiving to St. Joseph / Healing of Emma Sophia Greco, Mary Wahba SATURDAY, April 1st

9:00 am Circle of Prayers / + Berta Preciosa Alves Domingues / First year death anniversary of + Teresa de Jesus Cornejo / Second year death anniversary of + Jorge Calle / + Angel Francisco Martinez

5:00pm + Heidi Park Lafford, + Darlin Conrad, + Florencio Perez, + Sebastiano Milando

We are accepting Mass Intentions through the office during the week

PREPARATION FOR EASTER CELEBRATION

Sacrament of Reconciliation for Schools

- Tuesday March 28th 10:00am D'Arcy McGee
- Wednesday March 29th 10:00am St Thomas Aguinas

Parish Reconciliation

- Every Friday during Lent (except Good Friday) 6:30pm to 6:50pm
- Friday, 31 March, 6:00pm to 6:50pm

Palm Sunday Celebration

- Saturday, April 1 5:00 pm English
- Sunday, April 2 9:00am English | 10:30am Italian | 12:00pm English |
- 2:00 pm Spanish | 6:00pm English

EASTER TRIDUUM



HOLY THURSDAY

April 6, 2023 - 7:00 pm- Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Supper & Washing of the feet (Trilingual) ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT Until 12:00am (midnight)



GOOD FRIDAY

April 7. 2023 - 3:00 pm - Celebration of the Lord's Passion (English) 5:00 pm - Stations of the Cross at STA School Yard (Trilingual) 7:00 pm -Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Trilingual)



EASTER VIGIL / EASTER SUNDAY

April 8, 2023 - Easter Vigil - 8:00pm April 9, 2023 - Resurrection of the Lord 9:00 am English

10:30 am Italian 12:00 pm English 2:00 pm Spanish 6:00 pm English

ALL ABOUT FAITH

Palm Sunday Beginning with the end we understand His greatness



On Palm Sunday we begin with the end. We read our way backwards. It is not possible for any Christian to think of Jesus Christ divorced from how His earthly life ended. Even the earliest Christian writings were composed from a post-Resurrection perspective. The "real" Jesus of history did not have miracles placed on Him like ornaments on a Christmas tree. His miracles were not later adornments hung on His human frame to lend Him credibility. The "real" Jesus is not the simple carpenter lurking in the shadows behind the Christ of Faith created by later generations. There are scant biblical references to Jesus' occupation as a carpenter, or to His simple and humble existence in a provincial town. There is a massive amount of biblical evidence, on the contrary, that Jesus suffered, died, and rose from the dead. And this biblical evidence is buttressed by an abundance of postbiblical testimony and the universal witness of an army of Apostles, saints, and martyrs.

Lord of the Passion, You suffered calumny and humiliation, You bore the Cross and did not complain. Intercede before Your heavenly Father that we may bear whatever crosses we must with fortitude. With Your grace, Lord, we can emulate You. Without Your grace, we are no better than Godless pagans, in search of frivolous signs to lend meaning to life.

- My Catholic Life

"Father, Forgive Them, For They Know Not What They Do"



My Merciful Lord, You did not hesitate to forgive those who gravely sinned against You. They treated You with cruelty beyond comprehension, yet You forgave them with perfect mercy. Give me the grace I need, dear Lord, to forgive those who have sinned against me. Replace anger and hate with love and mercy.

Read Devotion Here

Perceiving the Passion of the Lord



Do you understand the Passion of our Lord? Do you perceive His sufferings in your soul? This may, at first, seem undesirable. But perceiving the sufferings and Passion of our Lord is a great grace. As we perceive His suffering we must then encounter it and embrace it as our own. We must live His sufferings. In doing so, we begin to discover that His suffering is nothing other than divine love and Mercy. And we find that the love in His soul which endured all sufferings enables us to endure all things in love. Love endures everything and conquers everything. Let this holy and purified love consume you so that you can endure, in love, whatever you encounter in life.

Lord, Your Cross is the perfect example of sacrificial love. It's the purest and highest form of love ever known. Help me to understand this love and to accept it into my heart. And as I accept Your perfect Sacrifice of Love, help me to live that love in all that I do and in all that I am. Jesus, I trust in You.

Read More



A Faith that Saves

Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.

Mark 10:52

3 Minute Retreat

English

Español

LIVING YOUR FAITH

Palm Sunday



Animated Bible Story

Children's Video

The Art of Accompaniment in Disability Ministry Who Do You Say That I Am?



This virtual formation event is open to clergy, lay parish staff, volunteer catechists, and those designated to greet or accompany parishioners with disabilities and their families in the name of the parish.

Persons with disabilities and their families seek to belong fully in the life of the Church. God's vision of love calls the Church to move beyond inclusion to belonging! This training is for leaders wanting to learn strategies and resources that will transform faith communities into places of belonging for all physically, liturgically, catechetically, and attitudinally.

Register Here

Reconciliation and Healing



Reconciliation is what God does. We prepare for it by opening ourselves up, by reflecting on the areas of darkness in our lives into which God so deeply desires to shine a light. It might begin with a simple question: Where might God be offering me forgiveness and healing?

Coming to genuine sorrow for our sins is difficult. We might think that anything that makes us feel bad about ourselves is something to be avoided at all costs. If we avoid guilty feelings, we ask God to rouse in us a sense of embarrassment, leading to deep sorrow, about any way that we may not have been faithful, honest, loving, selfless, or generous. We can look at our responsibilities as neighbors, employees, members of a parish or congregation, parents, spouses, sons, or daughters.

Read More

This is the Way Back to God



For this Fifth Week of Lent, Fr. Mark Toups talks about Lazarus, who could not be unbound and reborn until Jesus did it for him; Fr. Mark uses this story to demonstrate how we all can find our way back to God. He encourages you to take advantage of the sacrament of reconciliation this Lent.

Short Video

"We must fast with our whole heart, that is to say, willing, wholeheartedly, universally and entirely."

St. Francis de Sales

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