

St. Thomas Aquinas

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



November 12th, 2023 | Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

SUNDAY MASSES

ENGLISH: Saturday—5:00 pm | Sunday—9:00am | 12:00 pm | 6:00 pm
ITALIAN: Sunday—10:30 am
ESPAÑOL: Sunday—2:00 pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday to Saturday 9:00am | First Fridays - 7:00 pm

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 4:00pm or by appt

BAPTISMS—BAUTIZOS

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



PASTOR Fr. Patrick Ezimora C.C.E.

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

OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Friday

9:30 am - 12:00pm | 12:30 pm - 4:00 pm

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

DEVOTIONS—DEVOCIONES

Holy Rosary: 8:30am on Wednesdays

Eucharistic Adoration: 9:30am - 11am

on Fridays and 7:30 pm on First Fridays

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.

FOOD BANK: Tuesdays at 12:00 pm

November 2023 MASS INTENTIONS

For the whole month of November, we have no specific Mass intentions. All the Masses will be offered for our faithful relatives and friends who died since the past year.

Parishioners are welcome to write down the names of their dearly beloved dead in the "All Souls" folder or envelopes by the altar. They may also make an offering in the "All Souls" box by the left corner of the sanctuary.



Follow the latest parish updates: [@staparishto](#)

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 parishioners of STA Parish,

On this 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, our Lord explains the mystery of the kingdom of heaven with the parable of the ten bridesmaids (Matthew 25.1-13). I wonder which part of the story captured your attention. For me, it is the "flasks of oil" and the "no" of the wise bridesmaids. The extra oil seems to be the virtue of **hope** because "we are **saved by our hope**" (Romans 8:24) and it is hope that keeps the fire of love alive. Moreover, wisdom requires us to **not compromise on certain matters**, such as religious and moral values. We must have courage to say "no" when God and our faith in Him are at stake. "My soul thirst for you, O Lord, my God" (Psalm 63). Amen.

Youth Group: Friday Evenings

Youth Ministry for Friday, November 17, 2023

Topic: Fun + Games

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!

REQUIEM MASS

Our Parish will be celebrating a Requiem Mass for all the faithful departed who had their funeral Mass at our parish during the past 12 months. This Requiem Mass will take place on **Wednesday, November 22, 2023 at 7:00 PM**. We cordially invite all the families of our parish, especially all those whose relatives passed away during the course of this year to join us for this special Mass.

SAVE THE DATE

Our Parish will be having Christmas Concert on **Saturday, December 9th, 2023**. More information to follow! Please save the date and join our parish community in this wonderful celebration. We hope to see you there!

Thank you for your generosity!

November 5, 2023

\$6,502



Community Potluck, Karaoke & Raffles!

On **Saturday, Nov. 18 at 6:30pm**, you are warmly invited to join us for a social night with good food, music and raffle sales. If you are interested in sharing a meal, please let us know in advance. Thank you!

Shepherd's Trust Second Collection on Nov. 18/19 weekend!

There will be a second collection on Nov. 18/19 weekend to help ensure that elderly and disabled priests are provided with sufficient financial resources to lead a dignified life after many years of ministry. Your generous gift will help our priests to maintain a modest but active and independent lifestyle in their retirement years. Thank you for your kind support.

Mass Intentions in November

Please note that for the whole month of November, we have no specific Mass intentions. All the Masses will be offered for our departed loved ones who died since the past year. All souls envelopes and folders are available on the tables in front of the Church. Please write the names of your deceased and insert your offerings in the All Souls donation box. Thank you!

Congrats!

To our newly commissioned altar servers!

Our St. Thomas Aquinas Parish family extends warmest felicitations to all our altar servers who were commissioned this weekend to serve God and our community. Always remember to "fall in love with altar serving", because "nearer to the altar, nearer to God"!

STA Parish October 2023 Church Income & Expenditures

*Overall Church Receipts: \$89,918.37
Overall Church Payments: \$45,858.27

*Requested a release from the Archdiocese of \$40,000.00 from Church Investments in the month of October.

ESTA SEMANA EN ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

Del escritorio del Pastor

Queridos feligreses de la Parroquia STA,

En este 32º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario, nuestro Señor explica el misterio del reino de los cielos con la parábola de las diez damas de honor (Mateo 25,1-13). Me pregunto qué parte del relato ha captado tu atención. Para mí, son los "frascos de aceite" y el "no" de las sabias damas de honor. El aceite extra parece ser la virtud de la esperanza porque "nos salva nuestra esperanza" (Romanos 8.24) y es la esperanza la que mantiene vivo el fuego del amor. Además, la sabiduría nos exige no transigir en ciertos asuntos, como los valores religiosos y morales. Debemos tener valor para decir "no" cuando Dios y nuestra fe en Él están en juego. "Mi alma tiene sed de ti, Señor, Dios mío" (Salmo 63). Amén.

Grupo de jóvenes: Viernes por la tarde

Pastoral Juvenil para el viernes 17 de noviembre de 2023

Tema: Diversión y juegos

De 7pm a 8:30pm en el salón parroquial; se ofrecerán refrescos. Si usted está interesado, por favor regístrese y recoja un volante. Necesitamos patrocinadores para cada noche juvenil. ¡Gracias de antemano!

MISA DE REQUIEM

Nuestra Parroquia celebrará una Misa de Réquiem por todos los fieles difuntos que tuvieron su misa funeral en nuestra parroquia durante los últimos 12 meses. Esta Misa de Réquiem tendrá lugar **el miércoles 22 de noviembre de 2023 a las 19:00 horas**. Invitamos cordialmente a todas las familias de nuestra parroquia, especialmente a todas aquellas cuyos familiares fallecieron en el transcurso de este año, a que nos acompañen en esta Misa especial.

GUARDAR LA FECHA

Nuestra Parroquia tendrá Concierto de Navidad el sábado 9 de diciembre de 2023. Más información en breve. Por favor, reserve la fecha y únase a nuestra comunidad parroquial en esta maravillosa celebración. ¡Esperamos verlos allí!

Gracias por su generosidad!

5 de noviembre de 2023

\$6,502



¡Potluck Comunitario, Karaoke y Rifas!

El sábado 18 de noviembre a las 6:30pm, está cordialmente invitado a unirse a nosotros para una noche social con buena comida, música y venta de rifas. Si usted está interesado en compartir una comida, por favor háganoslo saber con antelación. Muchas gracias.

Segunda colecta de Shepherd's Trust el fin de semana del 18/19 de noviembre

Habrá una segunda colecta el fin de semana del **18/19 de noviembre** para ayudar a garantizar que los sacerdotes ancianos y discapacitados dispongan de recursos económicos suficientes para llevar una vida digna después de muchos años de ministerio. Su generoso donativo ayudará a nuestros sacerdotes a mantener un estilo de vida modesto pero activo e independiente en sus años de jubilación. Gracias por su amable apoyo.

Intenciones de Misa en noviembre

Les informamos que para todo el mes de noviembre, no tenemos intenciones específicas de Misa. Todas las Misas serán ofrecidas por nuestros seres queridos difuntos que fallecieron desde el año pasado. Los sobres y carpetas para las almas están disponibles en las mesas frente a la Iglesia. Por favor escriba los nombres de sus difuntos e introduzca sus ofrendas en la caja de donaciones de Todas las Almas. Muchas gracias.

¡Enhorabuena!

¡A nuestros monaguillos recién comisionados!

Nuestra familia de la Parroquia de Santo Tomás de Aquino extiende sus más cálidas felicitaciones a todos nuestros monaguillos que fueron comisionados este fin de semana para servir a Dios y a nuestra comunidad. Recuerden siempre "enamorarse del servicio del altar", porque "¡más cerca del altar, más cerca de Dios!

STA Parroquia October 2023 Ingresos y Gastos de la Iglesia

*Ingresos totales de la Iglesia: \$89,918.37

Pagos totales de la Iglesia: \$45,858.27

*Se pidió a la archidiócesis \$40,000.00 de las inversiones de la Iglesia en el mes de Octubre.

ALL ABOUT FAITH

November 16: Saint Gertrude the Great—Memorial



Saint Gertrude the Great is the only female saint to be given the title “the Great,” which Pope Benedict XIV bestowed on her in the mid-eighteenth century as a way of highlighting her extraordinary contribution to mystical theology. Nothing is known about Gertrude’s early childhood or family origin, other than that she was born in Eisleben, Thuringia, in the Holy Roman Empire, modern-day Germany. At the age of five, she was entrusted to the Monastery of Saint Mary in the neighboring town of Helfta, which was later moved to Hackeborn property. Why she entered the convent at such a young age is not known. Most likely, either her parents offered their daughter to God in this then-customary way, or Gertrude might have been an orphan.

Saint Gertrude was never formally canonized, and her writings were nearly lost until they were discovered centuries after her death. In the seventeenth century, she was honored by the Church and received an “equivalent” canonization. In the eighteenth century she was placed on the Universal Roman Calendar, and her prayers and revelations began to be more widely known. It might be that God especially wanted to use her to reveal His inner life to the Church today, many centuries after her death. Consider learning more about this mystic and her writings so that God can infuse you with some of the same insights and grace He gave to her.

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the Universal Church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen. Saint Gertrude the Great and Saint Matilda, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You. — My Catholic Life

Fundraising Dinner Gala: A Celestial Night



November 17, 2023 at 6:00 PM—Venu Event Space (Riviera) 2800 Hwy 7, Vaughan ON

Radio Maria Canada invites you to a Fundraising Dinner with the newly installed head of the Archdiocese of Toronto His Grace Archbishop Francis Leo as our Guest of Honor. Thank you in advance for participating in the upcoming “Celestial Night”

[Find Out More](#)

Do the saints need our veneration?



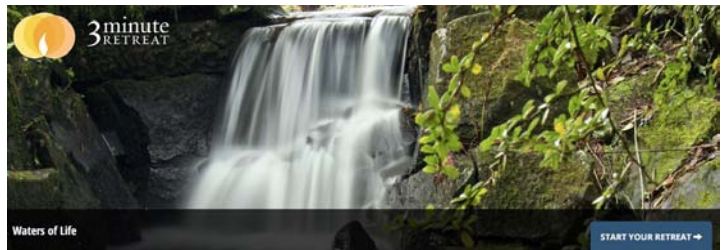
The saints don't gain anything from our veneration, as they already enjoy the eternal bliss of Heaven.

Sometimes being labeled a saint can seem like a privileged status that is beneficial to the people that are canonized. However, saints don't gain anything from our veneration, as they already possess the eternal bliss of Heaven.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux offers a beautiful reflection on this reality in a sermon that is featured in the Office of Readings.

Why should our praise and glorification, or even the celebration of [All Saints] day mean anything to the saints? What do they care about earthly honours when their heavenly Father honors them by fulfilling the faithful promise of the Son? What does our commendation mean to them? The saints have no need of honor from us; neither does our devotion add the slightest thing to what is theirs.

[Read More](#)



3 Minute Retreat

Waters of Life

Matthew 28:19

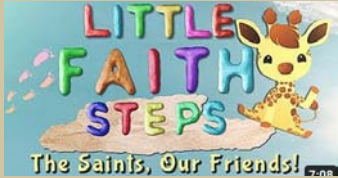
Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the holy Spirit.

[English](#)

[Español](#)

LIVING YOUR FAITH

The Little Faith Steps Show



Animated Story

[Children's Video](#)

Come and See Weekend



**Friday, November 17, 2023 06:30 PM -
Sunday, November 19, 2023 02:00 PM**

St. Augustine's Seminary

The Office of Vocations is hosting a Come & See Weekend Discernment Retreat for single Catholic men 18 years and older, at St. Augustine's Seminary on Friday, November 17 (6:30 p.m.) until Sunday, November 19 (2 p.m.) to cultivate a deeper prayer life and relationship with Jesus Christ; leading to a better discernment of God's call for their lives. There will be time for prayer, reflection and information on the process of becoming one of Christ's disciples as a Catholic priest.

[Register Here](#)

God Loves a Paradox



God loves a paradox. The Trinity is three Persons in One God. The King of the World was born in a stable. "I am with you always," Jesus tells His Apostles right before the Ascension (Matthew 28:20). He tells his disciples "The greatest among you must be your servant" (Matthew 23:11) and "Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it" (Matthew 10:39).

And in a deep ravine in rural New York, this last paradox takes concrete shape. This ravine is deep shades of green, a quiet stream trickling nearby. The only sounds are natural ones. This ravine exudes a holy peace.

The quiet, beautiful, peaceful ravine is, in reality, a messy, ugly, violent way of the Cross. It is, in itself, the paradox of discipleship: "Whoever loses their life for my sake will find it."

[Read More](#)

What is Purgatory?



The Church is filled with wonderful examples of holiness and sainthood, and they can act as guides for us on our way to Heaven. But a lot of the time, we look at these great saints and think, "I could never be like them," when in fact, sanctity is more accessible to us right now than we could ever even imagine. We know we should be striving to be saints, but what does that look like for people like you and me?

[Watch Video](#)

*"One cannot love without suffering or
suffer without loving."
- St. Gertrude the Great*

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