

# St. Thomas Aquinas

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 | Thirty-third 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](https://www.instagram.com/staparishto)

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# THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The parable of the talents (Matthew 25.14-30) tells us our own story. We all arrived empty-handed in this world, and yet we realize how much we have been **blessed with so many gifts** (which are His by the way!). The Lord expects us to **cultivate** our charisms diligently, use them responsibly, **share** them generously and gratuitously, and be ready to **account** for them when required. Notice that everyone has received at least one special gift; nobody has all the gifts; therefore, each person has been entrusted with at least a special grace, according to our abilities. Just in case you have not yet discovered what your own singular gift is, I encourage you to take a moment today and **ask** your Lord in prayer. Believe me, you will know it for certain. "Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord" (Psalm 128). Amen.

## Youth Group: Friday Evenings

**Youth Ministry for Friday, November 24, 2023**

**Topic: Why Praying for Money is Dumb**

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 our Christmas Concert on Saturday, Dec. 9th, 2023 at 6:30pm in the Church, followed immediately by our Christmas Raffle Draw in the parish hall. Tickets are available in the parish office, for now!

**Thank you for your generosity!**

November 12, 2023

**\$5067.10**

## Great news for our Food Bank

Our parish Food Bank has received \$30k in monetary support from ShareLife Emergency Food Fund through the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a large supplement to the generous patronage of Second Harvest. Please join us in thanking God for His fatherly love and care toward all. The whole fund will help alleviate the food crisis in our neighborhood community through our parish food bank. Feel free to invite all who might benefit to come on Tuesdays at 12 to get a bag of food. We also give out clothing when available. God is good all the time!

## Archdiocesan Consultation Underway – your assistance is requested!

Our archbishop, the Most Rev. Francis Leo, is inviting Catholics throughout the archdiocese to share their key priorities to help inform and guide an updated Pastoral Plan. To participate in the consultation, visit: [www.archtoronto.org/consultation](http://www.archtoronto.org/consultation) to complete a brief survey by December 15, 2023, where you can offer your suggestions and insights. The process should take a few minutes. We ask that you complete the short survey as soon as possible. We look forward to hearing from Catholics throughout the archdiocese. Thank you in advance for sharing your insights, ideas and discernment.

## Appreciation for your Shepherd's Trust donation

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

## Appreciation from the parish Social Committee:

On behalf of our PSC, I sincerely thank you for your parts in making our community potluck & karaoke night memorable. May God bless you abundantly!

## CWL Membership Drive Dec. 2/3rd

On the first Sunday of Advent, December 2nd and 3rd the Regional Chair of the Catholic Women's League of Canada, Mary Jane Domingo, will be speaking to us about the identity and mission of the CWL. Please save the date!

# 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 24 de noviembre de 2023

**Tema: Por qué rezar para conseguir dinero es de tontos**

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.

## Agradecimiento por su donación a Shepherd's Trust

Habrà una segunda colecta el 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 en sus años de jubilación. Gracias por su amable apoyo.

**Gracias por su generosidad!**

12 de noviembre de 2023

**\$5067.10**

## Grandes noticias para nuestro Banco de Alimentos

Nuestro Banco de Alimentos parroquial acaba de recibir \$30k en apoyo monetario del Fondo de Alimentos de Emergencia ShareLife a través de la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl, un gran suplemento al generoso patrocinio de Segunda Cosecha. Por favor, únense a nosotros en dar gracias a Dios por su amor paternal y cuidado hacia todos. Todo el fondo ayudará a aliviar la crisis alimentaria en nuestro barrio a través de nuestro banco de alimentos parroquial. Siéntase libre de invitar a todos los que puedan beneficiarse a venir los martes a las 12 para obtener una bolsa de comida. También repartimos ropa cuando está disponible. ¡Dios es bueno todo el tiempo!

## Consulta arquidiocesana en curso - solicitamos su colaboración

Nuestro arzobispo, el Reverendísimo Francis Leo, está invitando a los católicos de toda la archidiócesis a compartir sus prioridades clave para ayudar a informar y guiar un Plan Pastoral actualizado. Para participar en la consulta, visite [www.archtoronto.org/consultation](http://www.archtoronto.org/consultation) para completar una breve encuesta antes del 15 de diciembre de 2023, donde puede ofrecer sus sugerencias y puntos de vista. El proceso le llevará unos minutos. Le pedimos que complete la breve encuesta lo antes posible. Esperamos tener noticias de los católicos de toda la archidiócesis. Gracias de antemano por compartir sus puntos de vista, ideas y discernimiento.

## 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!

## Campaña de afiliación a la CWL 2/3 de diciembre

El primer domingo de Adviento, 2 y 3 de diciembre, la Presidenta Regional de la Liga de Mujeres Católicas de Canadá, Mary Jane Domingo, nos hablará sobre la identidad y la misión de la CWL. Por favor, ¡reserven la fecha!

## Agradecimiento del Comité Social de la parroquia

En nombre de nuestro PSC, le agradezco sinceramente por sus partes en hacer nuestra comunidad potluck & karaoke noche memorable. ¡Que Dios los bendiga abundantemente!



# ALL ABOUT FAITH

## November 26: Solemnity of Christ the King



All of creation is a footstool for the Lord of the Universe. This last Sunday in Ordinary Time is dedicated to the very highest understanding of the nature, role, and purpose of Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus is multifaceted, the deep hues and contours of his personality revealing themselves to different races and ages in different ways. Even inside of just one single life, a Christian can understand Jesus in more subtle and complex ways

as that Christian matures. Carpenter, Miracle Worker, Son of Mary, Son of God, Prophet, Messiah, Son of David, Good Shepherd, Healer, Preacher, Logos, Lamb of God, etc. Yet all these titles and identities will give way as the world ends, time is fulfilled, and life with God becomes simply life itself. Jesus' identity will culminate in His Kingship. It will not be a transitional but a terminal identity. The dead will come nose to nose with King Jesus, feeling His hot breath on their cheeks, as He judges them at their life's end. And the saved will have King Jesus before them in Heaven forever as He renders homage to God the Father in the power of God the Holy Spirit. The feast of "Christ the King" was first established in 1925, and Pope Saint Paul VI expanded its name to "King of the Universe" in 1969. Jesus is not just a King of Hearts. He is more than a Universal Coach, Teacher, or Consoler of mankind. By "King of the Universe" the Church is communicating Jesus' metaphysical scale, that God encompasses all of reality, not just man's reality. We say in the Nicene Creed that God created all things visible and invisible inhabiting the reality bubble.

*Christ the King, Your sovereignty over all creation is not heavy. You order all reality toward Yourself and govern Your creatures with justice and humility. Help us to be faithful and subservient to what You desire, so that we can live one day in Your heavenly kingdom. — My Catholic Life*

### The Church Speaks: Takeaways from the Synod on Synodality

Tuesday, November 21, 2023 07:00 PM

Sin & Redemption Pub, 136 McCaul St., Toronto



Ignite! Young Adult Ministry presents... an evening on Synodality for Young Adults (18-35). Following Pope Francis' invitation for the whole Church to become a #listeningChurch, an unprecedented gathering of Clergy, Men and Women Religious and Lay Men and Women took place this past October for the Synod on Synodality. Fr. Gerard Ryan SJ, Assistant Professor of Political Theology and Director of Basic Degree Programs at Regis College, will help us unpack the Synod.

[Find Out More](#)

## Silence



One of the dangers many encounter in our modern technological world is that of constant noise. We are easily bombarded with chatter all day long. It could be through the radio, TV, Internet, or the ceaseless conversation of another. Rarely do we find times of great silence. As a result, when silence is offered us, we often look to fill that silence immediately. But is this wise? Is it good to occupy our minds day and night with noise? Though every person will be different, especially depending upon their vocation, every person does need times of regular silence and solitude. Without this it is hard to be recollected and to hear the Voice of God. God speaks in the silence and He desires to communicate to you through this sacred language. Do not run from silence for, if you do, you will be running *from the Voice of God (See Diary #1476).*

*Lord, I desire to seek You in the silence. I choose to listen to Your quiet promptings of love spoken in this way. Give me the wisdom and strength I need to dedicate myself to moments of quiet every day. May these moments bring clarity to my soul and understanding to my life. Jesus, I trust in You.*

[Read More](#)



## 3 Minute Retreat

### The Lord is With You

*Matthew 28:19*

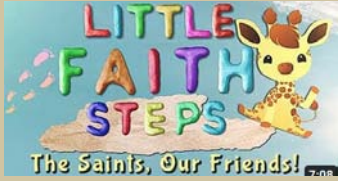
*Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the holy Spirit.*

[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\*\*](#)

## The Art of Accompaniment



November is the month of All Souls, an opportunity to remember and pray for our loved ones who have died. It is also an opportunity to reach out and accompany the bereaved families of our parish communities. Saulina (Sally) Amaral, Diocesan Coordinator, Ministries of Care and Ministry with Maturing Adults of the Office of Formation for Discipleship at the Archdiocese of Toronto, shares her thoughts on the 'Art of Accompaniment.' What is the 'Art of Accompaniment'? Pope Francis in the document, *Evangelii Gaudium*, writes that "the Church will have to initiate everyone – priests, religious and laity – into this "art of accompaniment" which teaches us to remove our sandals before the sacred ground of the other (cf. Ex 3:5)." (Joy of the Gospel, 169).

[\*\*Read More\*\*](#)

## What to Do When Suffering Comes Our Way



Suffering is part of being human. Sickness, difficulties, emotional trauma. We live in a fallen world and it is impossible to avoid suffering in our own lives. Dr. Andrew and Sarah Swafford share wisdom from their new book, "Gift and Grit," on how to navigate suffering; our own and the suffering of others. We are called to enter into the hardship and embrace the cross and God sets forth the blueprint for how to do this well.

[\*\*Watch Video\*\*](#)

*"The best way to prepare for death is to spend every day of life as though it were the last."*

*- St. Philip Neri*

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