

# St. Thomas Aquinas

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 | Ascension of Our Lord

## 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

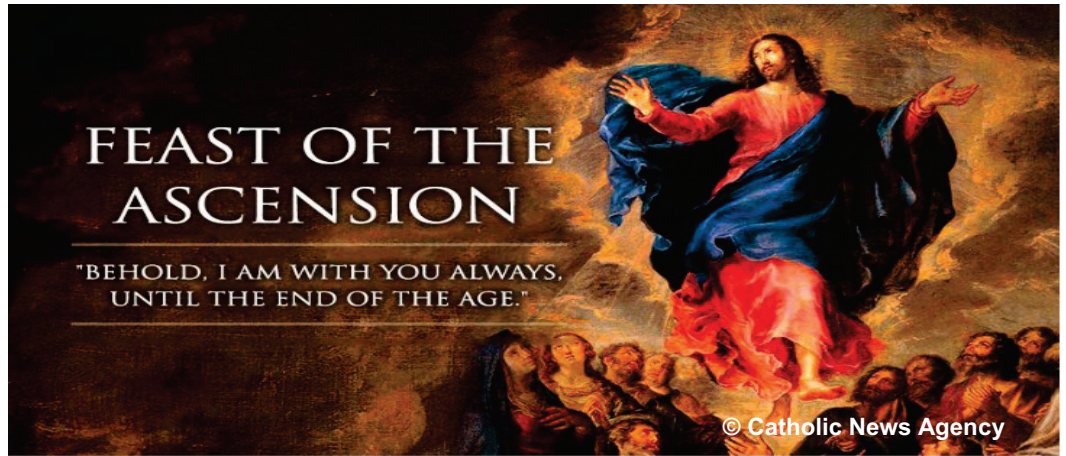
Please contact the office **one year** in advance.  
Llamar a la oficina con **un año** de anticipación.

## 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.



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**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 & Saturdays at 12:00 pm

## May 11<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> 2024 MASS INTENTIONS

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

**9:00 am** +Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh/ In Honour and Thanksgiving to Mother Mary and Birthday Blessing for Joseph Nicola

**11:00 am** Sacrament of Confirmation

**5:00 pm** +Maria Ligia Alzate/ +Francesco and Maria Stranges

### SUNDAY, May 12<sup>th</sup>

**9:00 am** In Honour and Thanksgiving to Mother Mary and Birthday Blessing for Joseph Nicola/ +Ely Buico/ +Saturnina Tolibas & +Wilfredo Soledad

**10:30 am** +Olivia Costa and+ Elizabeth Piccolo/ +Antonio Caringi/ +Pietro e Maria Toter/ +Pasquale e +Mario Nudo/ +Rita & +Rosina Lavalle & +Laura Cirillo/ +Franca Lombardi/ Elisabetta Agostino

**12:00 pm** +Bienvenido,+ Ignacio & +Petra Petilla/ +Maria Clotilde Barros & +Adelina Reis Gomes/ +Daniel Barreto & +Ana Carates, +Maria Costa & families

**2:00 pm** +Ana Orsini & +Claudio Marco La Rosa/ +Rosita Paredes/Ernesto Rios/ Lyda Castaño

**6:00 pm** (available for intentions)

### MONDAY, May 13<sup>th</sup> — Our Lady of Fatima

**9:00 am** +Peter Andersen & +Vincent Tuong/ + Clelia Sevilla, +Pedro Pablo Sevilla / +Stanislav Manets/ Birthday Blessings upon German Marquez

### TUESDAY, May 14<sup>th</sup> — St. Matthias

**9:00 am** +Domenico, +Elisa, +Giuseppe e +Lucia/ +Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh/ +Marina Carlota Moz, +Sergio Osvaldo Arevalo, Sr./ Birthday Blessings upon Valeria Plante, Sergio Osvaldo Arevalo, Jr & Mr. Vi Duc Do

### WEDNESDAY, May 15<sup>th</sup>

**9:00 am** +Adalberto Gomez/ Birthday blessings upon Kiara Mowat Monge & Abigail Gomez

### THURSDAY, May 16<sup>th</sup>

**9:00 am** +Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh

### FRIDAY, May 17<sup>th</sup>

**9:00 am** +Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh

### SATURDAY, May 18<sup>th</sup> — St. John I

**9:00 am** +Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh

**5:00 pm** (available for intentions)



Follow the latest parish updates: [@staparishto](https://www.facebook.com/stthomasparish)

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

# THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear parishioners of STA Parish,

Today, we celebrate the solemnity of our Lord's Ascension into heaven. Wait! Is that not where he came from? Indeed! Jesus came down from heaven and he returned to heaven. And, you know what? We all came from heaven too! But our return to heaven will be our own personal choice. By charging his apostles with the mission to "go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation", our Lord is telling us the only way available to return home to the Father. During this week, may you feel Christ's power inside you as you do great things for the good of other people. Amen. Happy Mother's Day to all mums!

## ShareLife and World Communications Day

On this World Communications Day, your support of ShareLife is improving the lives of our brothers and sisters in the Deaf and hard of hearing community.

"If you ever wonder what impact you are making – you are sending Deaf kids to an accessible American Sign Language (ASL) camp in the summer; you are connecting Deaf kids with Deaf mentors; you are inspiring Deaf kids to achieve their dreams; you are teaching family members ASL so they can communicate with their Deaf children. When you give, it goes a long way." – Kelly Mackenzie, Silent Voice

Thus far we have raised \$17,463.85 toward our goal of \$32,000. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate).

**Thank you for your generosity!**

*Regular Collection—May 5, 2024*

*\$5224.55*

## Youth Group: Friday Evenings

### Youth Ministry for Friday, May 17, 2024

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

# CONGRATULATIONS!

Congrats to our newly confirmed! Yesterday Saturday, May 11th, 2024, 56 students were sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Wow... this means that their life has changed forever. They are now able to share their wisdom, knowledge, understanding, counsel, fortitude, piety and fear of the Lord with the family, friends, neighbors and everyone they meet. Amazing! May the Lord continue to renew his gifts in your lives. Amen.

## MAY - Marian Month!

During this month of devotion to Mother Mary, our Archbishop Francis Leo has strongly encouraged us as parish community, Christian homes and schools, "to get to know Our Lady in a deeper, personal way". As your pastor, I join my voice to warmly invite you to consider making time to pray the Rosary as a family. During this month, you could also come to Church 30 minutes earlier so that you can join the parish communal prayer of the holy Rosary. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God!

## Fr. Peter away for Archdiocesan Priests' Retreat

Our Associate Pastor, Fr. Peter will be away from Monday, 13th May to Thursday 16th May for the annual priests' retreat in Nottawasaga. Please keep him in your prayers as seeks to be recreated in soul and spirit. Thank you.



# Happy Mother's Day

We, children, extend our warmest congratulations to all mothers of our St. Thomas Aquinas parish. Mothers are the best gifts of God to every human being. May the Mother of God, our Mother Mary and the Mother Church intercede always for you, mothers before God our Father and His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen. May the soul of the deceased mothers rest in peace. Amen.

**Catholic Women's League Meeting:** The CWL of our parish will be having their initial meeting this Saturday, 18th May at 9:30am. Women ages 18 and above are welcome to join these courageous women of faith who gather regularly to deepen their commitment to God and Canada through well-organized faith programs and service to their community. The meeting begins with the 9am holy Mass. Light refreshments will be provided.

# ESTA SEMANA EN ST. TOMÁS AQUINO

## Del escritorio del Pastor

Queridos feligreses de la Parroquia STA,  
Hoy celebramos la solemnidad de la Ascensión del Señor a los cielos. ¡Esperad! ¿No es de allí de donde vino? Pues sí. Jesús bajó del cielo y volvió al cielo. Y, ¿sabéis qué? Todos nosotros también venimos del cielo. Pero nuestro regreso al cielo será nuestra elección personal. Al encargar a sus apóstoles la misión de "ir por todo el mundo y proclamar la buena nueva a toda la creación", nuestro Señor nos está indicando el único camino disponible para volver a casa, al Padre. Durante esta semana, que sientas el poder de Cristo dentro de ti mientras haces grandes cosas por el bien de los demás. Amén. ¡Feliz Día de la Madre a todas las mamás!

## ShareLife y el Día Mundial de las Comunicaciones Sociales

En este Día Mundial de las Comunicaciones Sociales, su contribución a ShareLife ayuda a mejorar las vidas de nuestros hermanos y hermanas de la comunidad de personas sordas o con problemas de audición.

"Si alguna vez se pregunta qué impacto usted causa: usted envía a niños sordos a un campamento americano accesible de lenguaje de señas (ASL) en el verano; usted está conectando a niños sordos con mentores sordos; usted está inspirando a niños sordos a alcanzar sus sueños; usted está enseñando ASL a miembros de la familia para que puedan comunicarse con sus hijos sordos. Cuando aportas, ayudas mucho".  
– Kelly Mackenzie, Voz Silenciosa

Hasta ahora, hemos recaudado \$17, 463.85 hacia nuestra meta de \$32,000. Por favor, done en su parroquia usando un sobre ShareLife; en línea a través de nuestro sitio web parroquial, o en [sharelife.org/donate](https://sharelife.org/donate).

**Gracias por su generosidad**  
*Colecta ordinaria-5 de mayo de 2024*  
\$5224.55

## Grupo de jóvenes: Viernes por la tarde

**Ministerio de la Juventud para el viernes 17 de mayo de 2024**  
7pm a 8:30 pm en el salón parroquial; refrescos serán proporcionados después. Si usted está interesado, por favor regístrese y recoja un volante. Necesitamos patrocinadores para cada noche juvenil. ¡Gracias de antemano!

# FELICITACIONES

¡Felicidades a nuestros nuevos confirmados! Ayer sábado, 11 de mayo de 2024, 56 estudiantes fueron sellados con los dones del Espíritu Santo. Esto significa que sus vidas han cambiado para siempre. Ahora son capaces de compartir su sabiduría, conocimiento, entendimiento, consejo, fortaleza, piedad y temor del Señor con la familia, amigos, vecinos y todos los que conocen. ¡Asombroso! Que el Señor siga renovando sus dones en sus vidas. Amén.

## MAYO - ¡Mes mariano!

Durante este mes de devoción a la Madre María, nuestro Arzobispo Francis Leo nos ha animado fuertemente como comunidad parroquial, hogares cristianos y escuelas, "a conocer a Nuestra Señora de una manera más profunda y personal". Como vuestro párroco, uno mi voz para invitaros cordialmente a que consideréis la posibilidad de dedicar un tiempo a rezar el Rosario en familia. Durante este mes, también podéis venir a la Iglesia 30 minutos antes para uniros al rezo comunitario del Santo Rosario en la parroquia. Ruega por nosotros, Santa Madre de Dios.

**El P. Peter asistirá al retiro sacerdotal arquidiocesano**  
Nuestro párroco asociado, el P. Peter, se ausentará del lunes 13 de mayo al jueves 16 de mayo para asistir al retiro anual de sacerdotes en Nottawasaga. Por favor, manténganlo en sus oraciones mientras busca ser recreado en alma y espíritu. Muchas gracias.



## Feliz Día de la Madre

Nosotros, los niños, damos nuestra más cordial enhorabuena a todas las madres de nuestra parroquia de Santo Tomás de Aquino. Las madres son el mejor regalo de Dios a todo ser humano. Que la Madre de Dios, nuestra Madre María y la Madre Iglesia intercedan siempre por vosotras, madres, ante Dios nuestro Padre y su Hijo, nuestro Señor Jesucristo, en la unidad del Espíritu Santo. Amén. Que el alma de las madres difuntas descanse en paz. Amén.

**Reunión de la Catholic Women's League:** La CWL de nuestra parroquia tendrá su reunión inicial este sábado 18 de mayo a las 9:30am. Las mujeres mayores de 18 años son bienvenidas a unirse a estas valientes mujeres de fe que se reúnen regularmente para profundizar su compromiso con Dios y Canadá a través de programas de fe bien organizados y el servicio a su comunidad. La reunión comienza con la Santa Misa de las 9am. Se ofrecerá un refrigerio ligero.

# ALL ABOUT FAITH

## May 14—St. Matthias the Apostle, Feast



**Reflection:** Very little is known about Saint Matthias, whom we honor today. He was most likely living in Galilee at the time that Jesus began His public ministry because he fits the description as “...one of the men who accompanied us the whole time the Lord Jesus came and went among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day on which he was taken up from us...” (Acts 1:21–22). He certainly was among Jesus’ first followers.

Saint Clement of Alexandria, quotes Saint Matthias as follows: “It behooves us to combat the flesh, and make use of it, without pampering it by unlawful gratifications. As to the soul, we must develop her power by faith and knowledge.” This quote reveals the deep spiritual knowledge Saint Matthias had regarding the importance of the mortification of the flesh and the spiritual necessity of faith. There is little doubt that the three years he spent as a disciple of Jesus prepared him for his ministry as a bishop. And there is little doubt that his ministry as a bishop brought about the conversion and sanctification of many.

*Prayer: Saint Matthias, you heard Jesus calling you to follow Him from the very beginning of His public ministry. You responded with generosity, fulfilling the humble role of a disciple and missionary. When you were chosen as one of the Twelve and ordained a bishop, you fulfilled your shepherding duty of spreading the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Please pray for me, that I will listen to the voice of God and respond to His call generously all the days of my life. Saint Matthias, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.*  
— *My Catholic Life*

### The Source

Thursday, May 16, 2024 07:00 PM -09:00 PM



You are invited to The Source Holy Hour with music by the Sisters of Life at St. Peter's Church in Toronto (Bathurst and Bloor).

[Check Out Event](#)

## The Days You're Living: A Letter from God



St. Francis de Sales was a spiritual giant who famously advocated for lay men and women to become holy in an era when holiness was thought to be reserved for those in religious life.

But he didn't just speak out about lay sanctity: He actively promoted it through his writing, speaking, and mentorship of lay people he knew.

One great example of his good advice is from a letter he wrote to a married laywoman. In it, he lays out sound spiritual advice that could benefit any Christian. These words are from a 2021 anthology, *Wisdom from the Lives and Letters of St Francis de Sales and Jane de Chantal*. It's a gem of a book. You won't find another that makes these great saints' writings clearer and easier to understand.

[Read More](#)



### 3 Minute Retreat The Good Shepherd

*John 10:11*

*I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.*

[English](#)

[Español](#)

# LIVING YOUR FAITH

## The Ascension



[Animated Story](#)

[Children's Video](#)

**Women Ignatian Silent Retreat: The cross as an act of God's grace - in Christ, God brought hope, salvation and life to the world.**

Friday, May 24, 2024 07:00 PM -  
Sunday, May 26, 2024 01:00 PM  
Manresa Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre



During three days of retreat, we will focus on some scripture passages to contemplate the cross of Christ as the ultimate act of hope, salvation and life for those who are overwhelmed by many issues today such as depression, fear, violence, etc. This silent weekend retreat begins on Friday evening and runs to Sunday with lunch. The suggested offering is \$250 per person which includes two night's accommodation with meals, spiritual direction and retreat program.

[Register Here](#)

## A Prayer to Grow in Selfless Love



Jesus, my heart is consumed and infatuated with the prospect of loving You. I desire to be worthy of Your love but know that my worthiness does not stem from my duties, obligations, or successes. Remind me that my inherent value was given to me by You when I was created and is found in Your ceaseless, ever-present love for me. Keep my heart fixated on Your intentions for me and away from the rotten vices of pride and perfectionism in my life. Let the fruits of my flawed humanity be transformed by Your grace to exude Your goodness in all I do. Never let me fail to love You with all my heart, but not fall into despair when I cannot fulfill my lofty expectations. Amen.

[Read More](#)

## Who Has the Authority to Interpret Scripture/the Bible?



The Bible is the inspired Word of God. That being said, not everyone interprets scripture the same way, and not every verse is easily understood. So, then, if the text of the Bible really means any one thing... who gets to decide? Fr. Dempsey has the run down on exactly who has the authority to interpret scripture (and how Jesus vested that authority himself).

[Watch Video](#)

*"You must have boundless faith in the divine goodness, for the victory is absolutely certain."*

— St. Padre Pio

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