

# St. Thomas Aquinas

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



September 8th, 2024 | Twenty 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.

**RESIDENT PRIEST** 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 - 10am  
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

*Welcome to St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, where unity embraces diversity in the one and same Catholic faith.  
Together, we are the salt of the earth and the light of the world.  
Come, worship with us today!*

## September 7<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> 2024 MASS INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, September 7<sup>th</sup>

**9:00 am** Thanksgiving for the Legion of Mary & all souls in purgatory/ Birthday blessings upon Dinora Cedillos/  
*+Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh*

**5:00 pm** *+Ernest Pittard, +Sean Sullivan & all souls in purgatory*

### SUNDAY, September 8<sup>th</sup>

**9:00 am** (available for intentions)

**10:30 am** *+Pietro e +Maria Toterá, +Pasquale e +Teresa Nudo*

**12:00 pm** *+Zofia & +Stanislaus Misko/ +Maria Clotilde Barros e +Adelino Mouta Reis Gomes*

**2:00 pm** *+Orlando Bastiolas Cuervo*

**6:00 pm** *+Ian Ovarah Munoz & +Gorgonia Munoz*

### MONDAY, September 9<sup>th</sup>—St. Peter Claver

**9:00 am** *+Giacomo & Santa Verni/ +Peter Andersen & +Vincent Tuong/ +Cristina Martinez/ Birthday blessings upon Adrian Alvarez Silva*

### TUESDAY, September 10<sup>th</sup>

**9:00 am** *+Eugene Stephens & deceased members of the Stephens family/ +Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh/ +Maria Teresa Peralta/ Birthday blessings upon Ana Maria de Enrique*

### WEDNESDAY, September 11<sup>th</sup>

**9:00 am** Birthday blessings upon Claudio Manuel Calix

### THURSDAY, September 12<sup>th</sup>—Most Holy Name of Mary

**9:00 am** (available for intentions)

### FRIDAY, September 13<sup>th</sup>

**9:00 am** *+Filomena & +Giussepe Carinci, Rosy Crescenzi/ Birthday blessings upon German G. Aguila*

### SATURDAY, September 14<sup>th</sup>—Exaltation of the Cross

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

**5:00 pm** *+Joao Da Silva/ +Severino Drusian & family*



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,  
“Ephphatha” is the Greek rendition of the Aramaic word for “Be opened”. Mark 7.31-37 narrates the story of how Jesus healed a deaf and dumb person by first placing his fingers into his ears. What he does next is unheard of. He spat and touched the man’s tongue with His saliva; then “looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha”, that is “Be opened.” This beautiful ritual is used during the sacrament of baptism to signify that every Christian should not only hear God’s word but ought also to proclaim it by our actions and words. Happy Sunday everyone and have a great start to the week!

## BIG NEWS! ARCHBISHOP LEO VISITS STA PARISH!

Our new Archbishop, His Grace Francis Leo will be visiting our parish on Sunday, 1st December 2024. He will preside over the solemn trilingual Mass at 12pm, followed by reception in the parish hall. We warmly welcome our chief Pastor as he seeks to get to know this fragment of his flock. More information will follow!

### Thank you for your generosity!

*Regular Collection—September 1, 2024*  
*\$ 5563.00*



**Paperless Sunday Giving!** Please support your parish by easy online donation which keeps track of everything for tax receipt purposes. Thank you for your generosity!

## Youth Group

Events continue Fridays, 7-8:30pm for children 11-18. Meet in the parking lot! Food/drink donations are always welcome. Stay updated with our Instagram account:  
**@sta.youthministry!**

## Parish Hall Maintenance Updates!

Parish Smaller Rooms Reopen Next Week! From Saturday, September 14, our side rooms (Padre Pio & St Anthony's Room) will again be available for use. The main hall, on the other hand, due to some unforeseen renovation factors, will not be ready by the end of September, as previously estimated. Apologies for any inconveniences. We will inform you as soon as we have more updates!

## First Holy Communion Prep. Welcome Mass & Placement

Our FHC kids will officially begin their sacramental preparations with the welcome Mass on Thursday, 12th September at 6:30pm. The following Saturday, 14th September there will be full registration and class placement.

## Confirmation Prep. Welcome Mass & Placement.

Our Confirmation students will officially begin their sacramental preparations with the welcome Mass on Thursday, 19th September at 6:30pm. The following Saturday, 21st September there will be full registration and class placement.



## PILGRIMAGE TO GUADALUPE & THE SHRINES OF MEXICO

Marian Pilgrimage to Mexico from September 21 to 27 featuring: Mexico City - Guadalupe - Tulpetlac - Teotihuacan - Ocotlan - San Miguel del Milagros - Puebla - Cholula - Taco. Under the spiritual direction of Rev. Patrick Ezimora, CCE. Flyers are available at the back of the Church or call our office for more information.

# ESTA SEMANA EN ST. TOMÁS AQUINO

## Desde el Escritorio del Pastor

Queridos feligreses de la Parroquia STA

«Ephphatha» es la traducción griega de la palabra aramea que significa “Sé abierto”. Marcos 7.31-37 narra la historia de cómo Jesús curó a una persona sordomuda poniendo primero sus dedos en sus oídos. Lo que hace a continuación es inaudito. Escupió y tocó la lengua del hombre con su saliva; luego, «mirando al cielo, suspiró y le dijo: “Ephphatha”, es decir, “Ábrete”». Este hermoso ritual se utiliza durante el sacramento del bautismo para significar que todo cristiano no sólo debe escuchar la palabra de Dios, sino que también debe proclamarla con nuestras acciones y palabras. Feliz domingo a todos y buen comienzo de semana.

## ¡GRANDES NOTICIAS! EL ARZOBISPO LEO VISITA LA PARROQUIA DE STA

Nuestro nuevo Arzobispo, Su Gracia Francis Leo visitará nuestra parroquia el domingo 1 de diciembre de 2024. Presidirá la misa solemne trilingüe a las 12pm, seguida de una recepción en el salón parroquial. Damos una calurosa bienvenida a nuestro Pastor principal, que desea conocer este fragmento de su rebaño. Más información próximamente.

### **Gracias por su generosidad**

*Colecta regular — 1 de septiembre de 2024*  
**\$ 5563.00**



¡Domingo sin papel! Por favor, apoye a su parroquia por donación en línea fácil que mantiene un registro de todo para fines de recibo de impuestos. ¡Gracias por su generosidad!

## Grupo de jóvenes

Las actividades continúan los viernes, de 19 - 20.30h, para niños de 11 a 18 años. Nos vemos en el aparcamiento. Las donaciones de comida/bebida son siempre bienvenidas. ¡ IG: [@sta.youthministry](https://www.instagram.com/sta.youthministry)

## Mantenimiento de los Salones Parroquiales

¡Las Salas Menores de la Parroquia Reabrirán la Próxima Semana! A partir del sábado 14 de septiembre, nuestras salas laterales (Padre Pío y Sala de San Antonio) volverán a estar disponibles para su uso. El salón principal, por otro lado, debido a algunos factores imprevistos de renovación, no estará listo para finales de septiembre, como se había estimado anteriormente. Rogamos disculpen las molestias. Le informaremos en cuanto tengamos más novedades.

## Preparación para la Primera Comunión.

### Misa de Bienvenida y Colocación

Nuestros niños de Primera Comunión comenzarán oficialmente su preparación sacramental con la Misa de bienvenida el jueves 12 de septiembre a las 6:30 PM. El sábado siguiente, 14 de septiembre, habrá inscripción completa y colocación en las clases.

## Confirmación Prep.

### Misa de Bienvenida & Colocación.

Nuestros alumnos de Confirmación comenzarán oficialmente su preparación sacramental con la Misa de bienvenida el jueves 19 de septiembre a las 18:30 horas. El sábado siguiente, 21 de septiembre habrá inscripción completa y colocación en las clases.

## PEREGRINACIÓN A GUADALUPE Y LOS SANTUARIOS DE MÉXICO



Peregrinación Mariana a México del 21 al 27 de septiembre que incluye: Ciudad de México - Guadalupe Tulpetlac - Teotihuacan - Ocotlan - San Miguel del Milagros - Puebla - Cholula - Taco. Bajo la dirección espiritual del Rev. Patrick Ezimora, CCE. Los folletos están disponibles en la parte posterior de la Iglesia o llame a nuestra oficina para más información.

# ALL ABOUT FAITH

## September 14: Exaltation of the Holy Cross—Feast



The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, also known as the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross, commemorates three historical events: the discovery of the True Cross in 326, its initial exaltation for public veneration in 335, and the recovery of the Cross from the

Persians in 628. Nowadays, this feast also celebrates the boundless impact of Christ's Cross upon all of creation. The Cross of Christ must permeate each one of us, transforming us and making us new. As we commemorate the triumph of Christ's Cross, call to mind the crosses you bear each day. More often than not, when faced with crosses, we seek a way out, succumb to self-pity, and are often tempted by anger and despair. Instead, try to allow Jesus to enter those crosses, transform them, and use them for His glory, your good, and the good of others. Crosses in life should not be avoided; they must be transformed. Although the suffering may remain, it must become redeemed suffering, thus bearing an abundance of good fruit in ways that only God can accomplish.

**Prayer:** *Most glorious and triumphant Lord, You gave Your life for the salvation of my soul, using the most horrific act of cruelty as the means of Your redeeming grace. I open myself to that grace today and pray that You bestow it in superabundance. I also pray that I will have the courage and wisdom to embrace my crosses every day of my life, uniting them to Your Cross, and trusting that You will use these sacrifices as a means of the further bestowal of Your love on the world. Saving Cross of Christ, have mercy on me. Jesus, I trust in You.*  
—My Catholic Life

**Historic Tour of St. Michael's Cemetery**  
**Saturday, September 14, 2024 11:00 AM - 11:00 AM**  
**1414 Yonge St., Toronto**



Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services – Archdiocese of Toronto invites you to join us as we take a step back in time to the infancy of our City and Archdiocese as we tour historic St. Michael's Catholic Cemetery. Situated on 10 acres at St. Clair and Yonge St., opened in 1855, it

became the final resting place for over 29,000 of the Catholic faithful of Toronto. Rain or Shine.

[Check Out Event](#)

## In praise of haste: A reflection on Psalm 70:1



Haste in the spiritual sense is not mere impatience. It is, instead, a recognition of our absolute dependence on God. When we cry out to God for haste, we acknowledge that His presence and action are not only desirable, but necessary for our salvation. This urgency is simply the soul's longing for God – a longing that cannot be postponed or delayed.

In Scripture, we find haste intertwined with the hope of the Lord's return. The cry "Maranatha," which means "Come, Lord," is a powerful invocation found in the early Christian tradition. It expresses the Church's eager anticipation of Christ's return, the fulfillment of His promises. The New Testament is replete with exhortations to be watchful, to be ready, for "the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not expect" (Luke 12:40)

[Read More](#)



## 3 Minute Retreat Choosing to Listen

*1 Timothy 1:18-19*

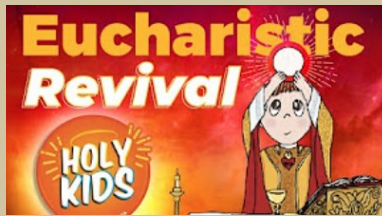
*Through them may you fight a good fight by having faith and a good conscience. Some, by rejecting conscience, have made a shipwreck of their faith.*

[English](#)

[Español](#)

## LIVING YOUR FAITH

### Holy Kids: Eucharistic Revival



[Animated Story](#)

[Children's Video](#)

### Summertime and the Praying is Easy. - Silent Ignatian Retreat for Men and Women

Friday, September 20, 2024 07:00 PM -

Sunday, September 22, 2024 01:30 PM

Manresa Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre, Pickering



1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. As we go camping, hiking, fishing, surfing—we can always encounter God. Prayer and Pleasure are complementary not competitive. It is not a question of When, How and Where—but as a sales slogan says, “Just do it.” Directed by Fr. Michael Coutts, SJ. Retreat begins Friday evening, arrival 7 p.m. and runs until Sunday with lunch. The suggested offering is \$260.00/person

[Check Event Here](#)

### Understanding the Mass as a Love Story



Viewing the Mass through the lens of love transforms the experience from obligation to invitation. God desires a personal relationship with each of us, and the Mass is a profound expression of that desire. The readings, prayers, and ultimately, the Eucharist itself, are all part of the divine love story between God and man. When we understand the Mass with this perspective, it becomes easier to engage with the liturgy. We enter into a narrative of love: God pursues us and invites us into a relationship. Recognizing this can shift our mindset from merely attending Mass to active participation in a sacred relationship. "The desire of God's heart is to have a one-flesh union with me," Beth reflects in the episode. "That's what the Eucharist is," she adds. How beautiful is that?

[Read More](#)

### Does God's Will Change?



Do you feel called to marriage? Maybe you felt a call to become a priest or religious? But what if you are not accepted into the seminary? Or what if your relationship ends abruptly instead of in marriage? Fr. Mark-Mary explores the reality that sometimes God's will and our desires may not align and how to navigate those frustrations when they arise.

[Watch Video](#)

*“It is with the smallest brushes that the artist paints the most exquisitely beautiful pictures.”*

*– St. André Bessette*

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