

St. Thomas Aquinas

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



February 2, 2025 | Feast of the Presentation of the 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.

ANOINTING - UNCIÓN

Every first Saturday of the month at 9:00AM. El primer sábado de cada mes a las 9.00 am.

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.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday
9:30 am - 12:00pm |
12:30 pm - 4:00 pm



© Liturgy Tools

*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!*

PASTOR Fr. Patrick Ezimora CCE

ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Fr. Benedict Nwamuo, CCE

RESIDENT PRIEST: Fr. Peter Paul CCE

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: 12PM

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School

636 Glenholme Ave. Toronto | 416 393-5236

D'Arcy McGee Catholic School

20 Bansley Ave. Toronto | 416-393-5318

CATHOLIC FUNERAL HOMES

Bernardo Funeral Home | 416-789-7661

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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,

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple. It is also the World Day of Consecrated Life. The readings of this fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time are Malachi 3.1-4 (1st R), Psalm 24, Hebrews 2.10-11, 13b-18 (2nd R) and Luke 2.22-40 (Gospel). Make sure to read and pray along! In the Jewish tradition, a little over a month after birth, children are brought into the synagogue and presented to Yahweh. Some modern religious traditions call it "Dedication". During the occasion, parents offer special gifts to God who is Author and Sustainer of our life. We also do candle procession into the Mass today because, after his presentation, the Baby Jesus was called "Light to illumine the Nations" by holy Simeon. This title was a clear foreshadowing of what Jesus would later say of himself, "I am the Light of the world". Henceforth, Christians become Little Lights since the Lord says to all his followers, "You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14). May the good Lord purify your heart and mind with his marvelous light. Amen!

Del escritorio del Pastor

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo, Este fin de semana celebramos la fiesta de la Presentación del Señor en el Templo. Es también la Jornada Mundial de la Vida Consagrada. Las lecturas de este cuarto domingo del tiempo ordinario son Malaquías 3,1-4 (I R), Salmo 24, Hebreos 2,10-11, 13b-18 (II R) y Lucas 2,22-40 (Evangelio). No dejes de leer y rezar. En la tradición judía, poco más de un mes después del nacimiento, los niños son llevados a la sinagoga y presentados a Yahvé. Algunas tradiciones religiosas modernas lo llaman «Dedicación». Durante la ocasión, los padres ofrecen regalos especiales a Dios, que es el Autor y Sustentador de nuestra vida. También hoy hacemos la procesión de las velas en la Misa porque, después de su presentación, el Niño Jesús fue llamado «Luz para iluminar a las Naciones» por el santo Simeón. Este título era un claro presagio de lo que Jesús diría más tarde de sí mismo: «Yo soy la Luz del mundo». En adelante, los cristianos se convierten en Pequeñas Luces, ya que el Señor dice a todos sus seguidores: «Vosotros sois la luz del mundo» (Mateo 5, 14). Que el buen Dios purifique tu corazón y tu mente con su luz maravillosa. Amén.

2025 Envelopes

Kindly pick up your 2025 Envelopes if you haven't done so. They are available in the room next to the sacristy behind the sanctuary. We ask that you use these envelopes for the new year. **Please do not use envelopes from previous years.** If you need to make changes with your personal information, please fill out the first three envelopes of 2025. We appreciate your generosity and support. Thank you very much!

Sobres 2025

Recojan sus sobres 2025 si aún no lo han hecho. Están disponibles en la sala junto a la sacristía detrás del santuario. Les pedimos que utilicen estos sobres para el nuevo año. Por favor no usen sobres de años anteriores. Si necesita hacer cambios con su información personal, por favor llene los primeros tres sobres de 2025. Apreciamos su generosidad y apoyo. Muchas gracias.

Thank you for your generosity!
Regular Collection — January 26, 2025
\$ 5,751.50

Pre-Authorized Giving

If you wish your Weekly Offertory donation to be withdrawn automatically from your bank account, you may contact the office or fill out the reverse of yellow envelope in your new offertory envelopes box, enclose a blank voided cheque and drop it in the collection basket or at the parish office. Thank you for your generosity!

Donación preautorizada

Si desea que su donación del ofertorio semanal se retire automáticamente de su cuenta bancaria, puede ponerse en contacto con la oficina o rellenar el reverso del sobre amarillo en su nueva caja de sobres de ofertorio, adjuntar un cheque en blanco anulado y dejarlo en la cesta de la colecta o en la oficina parroquial. ¡Gracias por su generosidad!

Reminder! Parish Hall Available for Rent!

Just a soft reminder that our newly renovated parish main is available for rent at a discounted rate for all parishioners. Please contact our parish office for details. Thank you.

¡Recordatorio! ¡Salón Parroquial Disponible para Alquiler!

Sólo un recordatorio suave que nuestra parroquia recién renovado principal está disponible para alquilar a un precio de descuento para todos los feligreses. Por favor, póngase en contacto con nuestra oficina parroquial para más detalles. Gracias.

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

February 1st to 8th 2025 MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, February 1st

9:00 am *all souls in purgatory/Thanksgiving for Legion of Mary*

5:00 pm *all souls in purgatory*

SUNDAY, February 2nd — Presentation of the Lord

9:00 am *+Giuseppe & +Pasqualina Moffa*

10:30 am *+Nicola e +Antonietta Nicastro/ +Rosario Ferragina, +Ida Giordano, +Armando Carpino*

12:00 pm *Thanksgiving for Neri Forcadilla*

2:00 pm *+Rafael Artuto Marroquin, +Ana Francisca Pachon de Velez/ Sanacion de Yolanda Gomez/ +Luis Maria Cepida & +Manuel Rubio & +Guillermo Calle / Birthday – Fernanda Calle & Christopher Alvear*

6:00 pm *Parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas*

MONDAY, February 3rd — St. Blaise

9:00 am *+Rev. Phero Tam & +Rev. Giuse Huyen/ +Peter Andersen & +Vincent Tuong/ +Hipolita Medrano, +Sarantos Katsoulis/ Birthday blessings upon Brenda Yesenia Rivas*

TUESDAY, February 4th

9:00 am *+Bro. Anthony & +Bro. John the Cross/ +Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh/ +Ercio & + Idel Alvarez/ Birthday blessings upon Reina Hidalgo Ayala & Blanca*

WEDNESDAY, February 5th — St. Agatha

9:00 am *+Peter Andersen & +Vincent Tuong/ Florencio Perez, +Pasquale Emanuele/ Birthday blessings upon Xavier Adalberto Silva Tam & Gabriel Elias Gallardo*

THURSDAY, February 6th — St. Paul Miki and Companions

9:00 am *+Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh/+Felizardo Aguete/ Thanksgiving for Epifania Rodriguez*

FRIDAY, February 7th

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

SATURDAY, February 8th — St. Josephine Bakhita

9:00 am *+Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh/ +Giusseppe Carinci, +John Daniele, +Zozislawa (Gina) Galazka*
5:00 pm *(available for intentions)*

Jubilee Mass and Appreciation of Cardinal Leo!

Two big events in one celebration! Our Archbishop, Francis Cardinal Leo will launch the Jubilee Year 2025 while also thanking God for his new elevation as Cardinal on Tuesday, 25 February at St Edward the Confessor parish in North York at 7pm. The parish is only about 25 minutes away. We are all encouraged to attend.

¡Misa Jubilar y Apreciación del Cardenal Leo!

¡Dos grandes acontecimientos en una sola celebración! Nuestro arzobispo, el cardenal Francis Leo, inaugurará el Año Jubilar 2025 al tiempo que dará gracias a Dios por su nueva elevación como cardenal el martes 25 de febrero en la parroquia de San Eduardo el Confesor de North York a las 7:00 PM. La parroquia está a sólo 25 minutos de distancia. Animamos a todos a asistir.

Jubilee Indulgence?

"An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church [...] Indulgences may be applied to the living or the dead. (For more, read CCC, no. 1471). Conditions? 1) Do confession; 2) attend Mass; and 3) Offer prayers for the intention of the Holy Father.

¿Indulgencia jubilar?

«La indulgencia es una remisión ante Dios de la pena temporal debida a los pecados cuya culpa ya ha sido perdonada, que el fiel cristiano debidamente dispuesto obtiene bajo ciertas condiciones prescritas por la acción de la Iglesia [...] Las indulgencias pueden aplicarse a los vivos o a los difuntos». (Para más información, léase el CIC, n. 1471). ¿Condiciones? 1) Confesarse; 2) Asistir a Misa; y 3) Ofrecer oraciones por la intención del Santo Padre.

Parish 2025 Jubilee Year Committee!

Given the great spiritual benefits of this Jubilee Year, our parish would like to create a committee of 3 to 5 faith-filled, devoted and selfless individuals who are willing to assist with planning our parish Jubilee visits to the designated Churches in the Archdiocese. The members will handle informing people, organizing the bus, prayer materials, food and other relevant logistics. Please talk to our pastor or call the parish office to indicate your interest and get details. Thank you.

¡Comité Parroquial del Año Jubilar 2025!

Dados los grandes beneficios espirituales de este Año Jubilar, a nuestra parroquia le gustaría crear un comité de 3 a 5 personas llenas de fe, devotas y desinteresadas que estén dispuestas a ayudar con la planificación de las visitas jubilares de nuestra parroquia a las Iglesias designadas en la Arquidiócesis. Los miembros se encargarán de informar a la gente, organizar el autobús, los materiales de oración, la comida y otros aspectos logísticos pertinentes. Por favor hable con nuestro párroco o llame a la oficina parroquial para indicar su interés y obtener detalles. Gracias.

2025 Jubilee Pilgrimage to Italy!

If you are considering joining our parish Jubilee visit to Rome and other pilgrimage sites in Italy, please pick up a flyer at the back of the Church or just call the parish office during the office hours.

¡2025 Peregrinación Jubilar a Italia!

Si usted está considerando unirse a nuestra parroquia Jubileo visita a Roma y otros lugares de peregrinación en Italia, por favor recoja un folleto en la parte posterior de la Iglesia o simplemente llame a la oficina parroquial durante las horas de oficina.

ALL ABOUT FAITH

February 2: Presentation of the Lord—Feast



Reflection: Mary and Joseph were faithful Jews who obeyed the Law of Moses. Jewish Law prescribed that two ritual acts needed to take place for a firstborn son. First, the mother of a newborn son was ritually unclean for seven days, and then she was to “spend thirty-three more days in a state of blood purity” (Leviticus 12:2–8). During these forty days she was not to “touch anything sacred nor enter the sanctuary till the days of her purification are fulfilled.” For this reason, today’s feast has at times been called the “Purification of Mary.” Second, the father of the firstborn son was to “redeem” the child by making an offering to the priest of five shekels so that the priest would then present the child to the Lord (see Numbers 18:16). Recall that the firstborn male of all the Egyptians, animals and children, was killed during the tenth plague, but the firstborn males of the Israelites were spared. Thus, this offering made for the firstborn son in the Temple was a way of ritually redeeming him in commemoration of protection during that plague. Since Jesus was presented in the Temple for this redemption, today’s feast is now referred to as the “Presentation in the Temple.”

Today’s feast is celebrated in our Church forty days after Christmas, marking the day that Mary and Joseph would have brought Jesus into the Temple. Though Mary was pure and free from sin from the moment of her conception, and though the Son of God did not need to be redeemed, Mary and Joseph fulfilled these ritual obligations. At the heart of this celebration is the encounter of Simeon and Anna with the Christ Child in the Temple. It is in that holy encounter that Jesus’ divinity is manifested by a human prophet for the first time.

Prayer: *My saving Lord, Your loving parents offered You to Your Father in the Temple in accordance with the Law You revealed to Moses. In that offering, our souls are purified and we are offered to Your Father with You. I thank You for the gift of salvation and pray that my soul will always radiate Your light as You dwell within me. Jesus, I trust in You. —My Catholic Life*

St. Thomas Aquinas’ advice on how to grow in virtue



The Angelic Doctor shows how every virtue is fulfilled in Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross and why we should look to him for help. Growing in virtue can be difficult, especially if we are trying to be virtuous through our own efforts. Often we will start out on a good note, progressing in virtue in little ways, but then we will fall and wonder where we went wrong.

Virtue on the cross: The Office of Readings provides an excerpt from a conference St. Thomas Aquinas gave on virtue. In it, he explains that if we want to grow in virtue, we need to look to the cross: Whoever wishes to live perfectly should do nothing but disdain what Christ disdained on the cross and desire what he desired, for the cross exemplifies every virtue.

[Read More](#)



3 Minute Retreat Being Mindful

1 Corinthians 10:31
*So whether you eat or drink, or
whatever you do, do everything for the
glory of God.*

[English](#)

[Español](#)

LIVING YOUR FAITH

Anna and Simeon



Animated Story

[Children's Video](#)

Day of Reflection - "How Does God Love Us"

Monday, February 24, 2025 09:00 AM — 03:30 PM
Manresa Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre, Pickering



In the Spiritual Exercises, St. Ignatius described two spiritual truths about God's unconditional love for us. This day of reflection will focus on these two spiritual truths as understood by Fr. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ. Since the ultimate description of God is "Love," the day will enable us to know and experience the way the Trinity's Love is present in each one of us personally, in all of creation, and in the evolving universe. Facilitated by Fr. Bernie Carroll, SJ. The suggested offering is \$65 per person which includes lunch, coffee/tea break and talks.

[Register Here](#)

What Does the Bible Teach About Righteous Anger?



It's easy to be angry in today's world. Between the dishonesty in our politics, the corruption in our Church, and the incendiary effects of social media, many of us find ourselves feeling exasperated and indignant about one thing or other on a weekly or even daily basis.

When living in this kind of toxic climate, we often start neglecting the incisive words of Scripture: "He who is slow to anger has great understanding, but he who has a hasty temper exalts folly" (Prov 14:29). It seems there is something to be said for moderating our anger with wisdom.

[Read More](#)

Answering the Internet's Top Questions About Heaven, Hell, Death & Purgatory



Does dying hurt? Where is heaven—like, geographically? How does God decide who goes to hell? Is purgatory as painful as I've heard? These are the most-asked questions about heaven, hell, death, and judgement—according to the internet—and Fr. Ambrose Criste, O.Praem is here to answer them for you.

[Watch Video](#)

*"In God's will, there is great peace."
— St. Josephine Bakhita*

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