

St. Thomas Aquinas

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



February 23, 2025 | Seventh 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.

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



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

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear parishioners of STA Parish,
The readings of this seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time are *1 Sam 26.2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-25* (1st R), *Psalms 103, 1 Corinthians 15.45-49* (2nd R) and *Luke 6.27-38* (Gospel). Make sure to read and pray along!
Have you ever wondered what it is that makes Christianity exceptional compared to other religions, "good" political values and normal human ethics? Our Lord spells it out in the Gospel of today: "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you" and the list continues. Yes, it is not a sweet pill but try to understand why we are called to swim against the current. Read Luke 6.36!
This week, let us reclaim our extraordinary, although unpopular, Christian Superpower. May God bless you! Amen.

Del escritorio del Pastor

Queridos feligreses de la Parroquia STA
Las lecturas de este séptimo domingo del tiempo ordinario son *1 Sam 26.2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-25* (1^a R), *Salmo 103, 1 Corintios 15.45-49* (2^a R) y *Lucas 6.27-38* (Evangelio). No dejes de leer y rezar.
¿Te has preguntado alguna vez qué es lo que hace que el cristianismo sea excepcional en comparación con otras religiones, con los «buenos» valores políticos y con la ética humana normal? Nuestro Señor lo explica en el Evangelio de hoy: «Amad a vuestros enemigos, haced el bien a los que os odian, bendecid a los que os maldicen, rezad por los que os maltratan» y la lista continúa. Sí, no es una píldora dulce, pero intenta comprender por qué estamos llamados a nadar contra corriente. Lee Lucas 6.36.
Esta semana, ¡reclamemos nuestro extraordinario, aunque impopular, superpoder cristiano, Dios los Bendiga! Amén.

How Well Are You Acquainted with the Bible?

Since last Sunday (February 16), our parishioners have been responding to our Bible Study survey. Your feedback will help guide future Bible study sessions, where we'll dive into the rich connections between scripture and real-world events. Please take a moment to fill it out and return it before leaving Mass. Thank you for your participation!

¿Qué tan bien conoces la Biblia?

Desde el domingo pasado (16 de febrero), nuestros feligreses han estado respondiendo a nuestra encuesta sobre los estudios bíblicos. Sus comentarios ayudarán a guiar las futuras sesiones de estudio de la Biblia, donde nos sumergiremos en las ricas conexiones entre las escrituras y los acontecimientos del mundo real. Por favor, tómese un momento para rellenarla y devolverla antes de salir de misa. Gracias por su participación.

Tax Receipts to be Mailed!

The 2024 tax receipts will come to you by mail with a special word of appreciation and financial account from our Pastor, Fr. Patrick. Thank you so much for your generous contributions.

¡Recibos de Impuestos Serán Enviados por Correo!

Los recibos de impuestos de 2024 le llegarán por correo con una palabra especial de aprecio y cuenta financiera de nuestro Pastor, P. Patrick. Muchas gracias por sus generosas contribuciones.

Parish Lenten Schedule Coming!

As we prepare to begin the holy season of Lent, we shall publish our full schedule by next weekend. Stay tuned!

Calendario de Cuaresma de la Parroquia!

Mientras nos preparamos para comenzar la santa temporada de Cuaresma, publicaremos nuestro horario completo el próximo fin de semana. ¡Estad atentos!

Thank you for your generosity!
Regular Collection — February 16, 2025
\$ Amount will be available next week

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 22nd to March 1st 2025 MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, February 22nd — Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

9:00 am +Peter Andersen & +Vincent / In Thanksgiving to St Bernadette and Birthday blessings for Raffaella and Daphne

5:00 pm +Charles Tuzi/

SUNDAY, February 23rd— Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am +Roberto Dabaay (15th year death anniversary)/
+Loreto & Concetta Marchione/ +Frank Perri/ +Aida Daygon/
+Domingo Lopez, +Ceriaca Lamanilao & + Lormel Ayupan/ In
Thanksgiving to the blessed Trinity, Holy Family, All Saints and
Holy Angels, and B-day Blessings for Raffaella and Daphne/

10:30 am +Ercole Mizzoni

12:00 pm +Mark Gil Ramos/ + Sebastian Corpuz/ + Julieta Avelar & +Alfred Sousa/

2:00 pm +Ana Orsini, +Claudio, +Rina & Luigi La Rosa & All
Souls of Purgatory/ +Vicentina Escalante & +Cesar Linares/
+Linda McLean & +Sebastiano Milando/

6:00 pm Parishioners of STA

MONDAY, February 24th —

9:00 am +Peter Andersen & +Vincent Tuong / +Egle Judith Cova & Maria Rosa Dalsass/ Thanksgiving for Patria G. Vasquez

TUESDAY, February 25^h —

9:00 am +Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh/ +Eliseo Murillo Ruiz & +Carlos Alberto Menjivar/

WEDNESDAY, February 26th —

9:00 am

THURSDAY, February 27th — St. Gregory of Narek

9:00 am +Janina & +Mariam/ Birthday blessings to Lucy Dalsass & Jerry Rusiecki

FRIDAY, February 28st —

9:00 am +Gloria & Vincent Correa/+Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh/ +Fr. Giuse Nguyen/ All Souls in Purgatory/ +Juana Ines Venegas & +Andrea Chavez / Birthday blessings to Jaqueline Marisol Gomez & Sofia Eunice Tejada/

SATURDAY, March 1st —

9:00 am +Florena Mallari/ +Mark Gil Ramos/ B-day blessings to Ania Misko /

5:00 pm +

2nd Collection for Youth Ministry Support!

This weekend (22/23 February), we shall be taking up a Second Collection to support our youth faith formation programs, especially the 3-day Teens Steubenville summer experience. Thank you and may God bless you.

2^a Colecta para Apoyo a la Pastoral Juvenil!

Este fin de semana (22/23 de febrero), haremos una Segunda Colecta para apoyar nuestros programas juveniles de formación en la fe, especialmente la experiencia de verano de 3 días Teens Steubenville. Gracias y que Dios les bendiga.

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.

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 22: Chair of Saint Peter, Apostle—Feast



Reflection: In Saint Peter’s Basilica in Rome, visitors are immediately struck by the large alabaster window on the back wall of the apse that depicts the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove. Below the window is an ancient wooden chair, believed to have been used by Saint Peter. Surrounding the chair are statues of four early Doctors of the Church. Two of them represent the Eastern Church: Saint John Chrysostom and St. Athanasius. Two of them represent the Western Church: Saint Ambrose and Saint Augustine. These great saints represent the universality of the Church, both East and West, as well as the unity of their theological teaching with the authority of the Bishop of Rome. Above the chair are two angels jointly holding the triple crown tiara used by the Bishop of Rome, symbolizing that he is the father of kings, governor of the world, and Vicar of Christ. In their other hands, each angel holds a key, symbolizing the authority of the Bishop of Rome in matters of faith and morals. Today’s feast celebrates not only that chair as a precious relic from the time of Saint Peter, it also celebrates all that this chair represents. This feast was formally celebrated in Rome as early as the fourth century, but honor for the supremacy of Saint Peter and his successors was celebrated from the moment Jesus entrusted Peter with his unique mission.

Prayer: *Saint Peter, you were a weak and sinful man, but God entrusted you with great responsibility, despite your unworthiness. Please pray for me, that despite my unworthiness, I may be open to all that God entrusts to me and that I may use those gifts for His glory and the salvation of souls. Saint Peter and all your successors in Heaven, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You. —My Catholic Life*

What Does the Bible Teach About Forgiveness?



“To err is human, to forgive divine,” wrote the English poet Alexander Pope. While the Christian religion certainly agrees with this assessment, it also takes it a step further: forgiveness is a grace which comes from God, but it’s a grace in which He invites us to share.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* describes forgiveness as “a high point of Christian prayer,” before noting that “only hearts attuned to God’s compassion can receive the gift of prayer” (§2844). Forgiveness is something we are all called to, but we can only practice it with God’s help.

In this article, we’ll examine what the Bible says about forgiveness, and what role it ought to play in our lives.

[Read More](#)



3 Minute Retreat Marked with Salvation

Matthew 6:17 “Anoint your head and wash your face”.

As we enter this prayerful season of Lent, how do we ready ourselves? We are encouraged to ritually prepare our outsides in readiness for our internal transformation. Anoint your head—bless yourself as a child of God on the journey to the Kingdom. Wash your face—ready yourself for this pilgrimage of the soul. Mark yourself with the cross of your salvation and enter into this journey with your head up and your eyes forward.

[English](#)

[Español](#)

LIVING YOUR FAITH

Cursed vs Blessed: Idolatry and the Beatitudes!



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**](#)

Pope has double pneumonia; condition remains 'complex'



By Vatican News

"In a Tuesday evening press release, the Holy See Press Office says that Pope Francis has double pneumonia, but nevertheless "remains in good spirits"

In a message to journalists on Tuesday evening, the Holy See Press Office gave the latest update on the Pope's health since he was hospitalized on Friday to receive treatment for bronchitis.

[**Read More**](#)

How to Know if Someone Truly  Loves You



Are aliens real? Does the existence of aliens disrupt our Catholic faith? Today Fr. Mark-Mary explores the question of extraterrestrial life and also addresses where our focus needs to be as Catholics.

[**Watch Video**](#)

"It is with the smallest brushes that the artist paints the most exquisitely beautiful pictures." – St. André Bessette

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