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Gospel

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St. Thomas Aquinas

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

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THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear parishioners of STA Parish,
The readings of this fourth Sunday of Lent are *Joshua 5.9a, 10-12* (1st R), *Psalms 34, 2 Corinthians 5.17-21* (2nd R) and *Luke 15.1-3, 11-32* (Gospel). Make sure to read and pray along!
What a beautiful story we heard from Jesus himself regarding sin, repentance and forgiveness. I wonder what struck you the most. For me it was the father's reaction to his son's apology! Really, how could a normal dad give the best gift to a wasteful child? Humanly, it is unreasonable; but, not for God. The Father impatiently and continuously seeks us out to forgive and heal us. Let this week be for you and me a most precious opportunity to return to our Father with sorrow for our sins and trust in his mercy. Have a blessed week.

Del escritorio del Pastor

Queridos feligreses de la Parroquia STA,
Las lecturas de este cuarto domingo de Cuaresma son *Josué 5.9a, 10-12* (1^a R), *Salmo 34, 2 Corintios 5.17-21* (2^a R) y *Lucas 15.1-3, 11-32* (Evangelio). Asegúrate de leer y rezar con nosotros.
Qué hermosa historia escuchamos del propio Jesús sobre el pecado, el arrepentimiento y el perdón. Me pregunto qué fue lo que más te impactó. A mí, la reacción del padre ante la disculpa de su hijo. Realmente, ¿cómo podría un padre normal hacer el mejor regalo a un hijo derrochador? Humanamente, no es razonable; pero, no para Dios. El Padre nos busca impaciente y continuamente para perdonarnos y sanarnos. Que esta semana sea para ti y para mí una oportunidad preciosísima de volver a nuestro Padre con dolor por nuestros pecados y confianza en su misericordia. Que tengas una semana llena de bendiciones.

Preparation for Easter Celebration

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS

St Thomas Aquinas : Wednesday April 2 – 9:30am to 12:00pm
D'Arcy McGee: Wednesday April 2 – 12:30pm to 2:30pm

RECONCILIATION (PARISH LENTEN CONFESSION)

Thursday, 10 April 7:00pm to 8:30pm

PALM SUNDAY CELEBRATION

Saturday April 12th: Vigil Mass 5:00pm (English)

Sunday April 13th: Masses

9:00am, 12:00p.m & 6:00pm (English)

10:30am (Italian)

2:00pm (Spanish)

Preparación para la Celebración de la Pascua

SACRAMENTO DE RECONCILIACIÓN EN LAS ESCUELA

St Thomas Aquinas : Miércoles Abril 2 – 9:30am a 12:00pm
D'Arcy McGee: Miércoles Abril 2 – 12:30pm a 2:30pm

RECONCILIACIÓN (CONFESIÓN CUARESIMAL)

Jueves, 10 de Abril 7:00pm a 8:30pm

CELEBRACIÓN DE DOMINGO DE RAMOS

Sábado Abril 12: Misa de Vigilia 5:00pm (Inglés)

Domingo Abril 13: Misas

9:00am, 12:00p.m & 6:00pm (Inglés)

10:30am (Italiano)

2:00pm (Español)

Thank you for your generosity!

March 23, 2025

Regular Collection \$ 4,890.00

Muchas gracias por su generosidad!

23 de marzo, 2025

Colecta Regular \$ 4,890.00

Votive Candles Offering!

To cover increasing costs of Mass supplies, our parish will be moving the votive candles' suggested donations from \$1 to \$2 and from \$3 to \$4. Thank you for your generous offering! May the good Lord answer your prayers!

¡Ofrenda de Velas Votivas!

Para cubrir los costos crecientes de los suministros para la Misa, nuestra parroquia cambiará las donaciones sugeridas para las velas votivas de \$1 a \$2 y de \$3 a \$4. ¡Gracias por su generosa ofrenda! ¡Que el buen Dios responda a sus oraciones!

Jewish Seder & Christian Eucharist!

Once again, our parish is offering everyone an opportunity to experience the rich significance of the Holy Eucharist in the light of the Jewish Seder meal (Passover). After the Rite which will include hard-boiled eggs, charoset, grape and matzo bread, there will be a proper lamb dinner with rice, vegetables, desert and drinks. For tickets, please talk to the ushers or call the parish office at 416-782-8943. Cost is \$45 per person.

Seder judío y Eucaristía Cristiana

Una vez más, nuestra parroquia ofrece a todos la oportunidad de experimentar el rico significado de la Sagrada Eucaristía a la luz de la comida del Seder judío (Pascua judía). Después del rito, que incluirá huevos duros, charoset, uvas y pan de matzo, habrá una cena de cordero con arroz, ensalada, postre y bebidas. Para conseguir entradas, hable con los ushers o llame a la oficina parroquial al 416-782-8943. El precio es de 45 dólares por persona.



First ShareLife 2nd Collection!

This weekend, March 29/30, we shall be taking up a Second Collection after Communion to support the annual charitable initiatives of the Archdiocese of Toronto. Your generous donation reaches countless people who are in real need of help. Our parish goal for this appeal year is \$32,000. Please give intentionally and may God bless you.



Primera ShareLife 2da. Colecta!

Este fin de semana, 29/30 de marzo, haremos una Segunda Colecta después de la Comunión para apoyar las iniciativas caritativas anuales de la Archidiócesis de Toronto. Su generosa donación llega a innumerables personas que realmente necesitan ayuda. El objetivo de nuestra parroquia para este año es de 32.000 dólares. Por favor, den intencionadamente y que Dios les bendiga.

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

March 29th to April 5th 2025 MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, March 29th — Saturday of the Third Week of Lent

9:00 am In Honour of the Blessed Trinity, Holy Family, Blessed Carlo Acutis, All Saints, Holy Angels, and blessings for Thalia and family

5:00 pm In Honour of The Blessed Trinity, The Holy Family, all Saints, Holy Angels and Blessings for Thalia and Family

SUNDAY, March 30rd — Fourth Sunday of Lent

9:00 am +Gloria & Vincent Correa/ In Thanksgiving to the Blessed Trinity, All Saints, Holy Angels and Blesseds and Birthday Blessings for Francesco/ In Thanksgiving to The Blessed Trinity, Holy Family, All Saints Holy Angels, and Blesseds

10:30 am +Rocco Mannella/ +Tomassina & Apollonia Aurilio/ +Carmela & Salvatore Fiata

12:00 pm +Martin Silva/ +Alicia Sandino/ +Stanislawa & Gustek Misko/ Healing of Josefa Orbon

2:00 pm +Catalina Herrera Valles (1st Death Anniversary)

6:00 pm Parishioners of STA

MONDAY, March 31th — Monday of the Fourth week of Lent

9:00 am +Benjamin de la Cruz/ +Julio Ariel Maya/ In Thanksgiving to the Blessed Trinity, Holy Family, All Saints, Holy Angels, The Blesseds and Birthday Blessings for Francesco/ Thanksgiving for the Sacraments of Linh Maria Do/ Birthday blessings on Alma Gloria Cornejo/

TUESDAY, April 1st — Tuesday of the Fourth week of Lent

9:00 am +Jorge Calle/ +Teresa de Jesús Cornejo/ +Angel Francisco Martínez/

WEDNESDAY, April 2nd — Wednesday of the Fourth week of Lent

9:00 am +Joaquin Guzman/ +Chizo Eucheria Exeudu/ Healing of Constanza Mendoza

THURSDAY, April 3rd — Thursday of the Fourth week of Lent

9:00 am +Maria Julia Bonilla/ +Gloria Meza/ Birthday blessings on Alicia Isabel Meza y Alejandra Fuentes.

FRIDAY, April 4th — Friday of the Fourth week of Lent

9:00 am +Ovidio Afanador/ Healing of Vasquez Family/

SATURDAY, April 5th — Saturday of the Fourth week of Lent

9:00 am +All Souls in Purgatory

5:00 pm +



Reminders!!!

Parish Stations of the Cross and Bible Study are still happening on Fridays during Lent. Please see front cover of bulletin for the times.



¡¡¡Recordatorios!!!

El Vía Crucis Parroquial y el Estudio Bíblico continúan los viernes durante la Cuaresma. Por favor, consulte la portada del boletín para los tiempos.

Children's Choir!

Exciting news For kids & teens from grade 4 up, the Children's choir resumes. If you think your child has some music talent and wants to praise God with it, then consider registering them. Registration is on Now. Contact Fr. Patrick or call the parish office at your earliest convenience.

Coro Infantil

Noticias emocionantes Para los niños y adolescentes de grado 4 en adelante, el coro de niños se reanuda. Si crees que tu hijo tiene algún talento musical y quiere alabar a Dios con él, entonces considera inscribirlo. Inscripciones abiertas!. Contacte al Padre Patrick o llame a la oficina Parroquial lo antes posible.

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 jubilaires 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

Meditations for Each Day of Lent

By St. Thomas Aquinas

Fourth Sunday

Christ by His Passion opened to us the gates

We have a confidence in the entering into the holies by the blood of Christ. --Heb. x. 19.



The closing of a gate is an obstacle hindering men's entrance. Now men are hindered from entrance to the heavenly kingdom by sin, for Isaias says, *It shall be called the holy way : the unclean shall not pass over it* (Is. xxxv. 8).

Now the sin that hinders man's entrance into heaven is of two kinds. There is, first of all, the sin of our first parents. By this sin access to the kingdom of heaven was barred to man. We read in Genesis (iii. 24) that after the sin of our first parents God placed before the paradise of pleasure Cherubim and a flaming sword, turning every way, to keep the way of the tree of life. The other kind of hindrance arises from the sins special to each individual, the sins each man commits by his own particular action.

By the Passion of Christ we are freed not only from the sin common to all human nature, and this both as to the sin and as to its appointed penalty, since Christ pays the price on our behalf, but also we are delivered from our personal sins if we are numbered among those who are linked to the Passion by faith, by charity and by the sacraments of the Faith. Thus it is that through the Passion of Christ the gates of heaven are thrown open to us. And hence St. Paul says that *Christ, being come an high priest of the good things to come, by His own blood entered once into the holies, having obtained a redemption that is eternal* (Heb. ix. 11).

And this was foreshadowed in the Old Testament, where we read (Num. xxxv. 25, 28), the man-slayer shall abide there, that is, in the city of refuge, until the death of the high priest, that is anointed with holy oil. And after he is dead, then shall the man-slayer return to his own country.

The holy fathers who (before the coming of Christ wrought works of justice earned their entrance into heaven through faith in the Passion of Christ, as is written, *The saints by faith conquered kingdoms, wrought justice* (Heb. xi. 33). By faith, too, it was that individuals were cleansed from the sins they had individually committed. But faith or goodness, no matter who the person was that possessed it, was not enough to be able to move the hindrance created by the guilty state of the whole human creation. This hindrance was only removed at the price of the blood of Christ. And therefore before the Passion of Christ no one could enter the heavenly kingdom, to obtain that eternal happiness that consists in the full enjoyment of God.

Christ by His Passion merited for us an entrance into heaven, and removed what stood in our way. By His Ascension, however, He, as it were, put mankind in possession of heaven. And therefore it is that He ascended opening the way before them

[Read More](#)



Upcoming Events for March/April:

Catholic Family Services of Toronto invites you to participate in the following support sessions and seminars:

- **Online Drop-In Bereavement Support Session:** March 26, 2025 @ 7:00 pm
- **Online Drop-In Separated/Divorced Support Session:** March 27, 2025 @ 7:00 pm
- **Online Lenten Retreat:** April 1, 2025 @ 7:00 pm
- **In-Person Grief Support Session:** April 3, 2025 @ 10:00 am
- **Mass of Comfort and Light:** April 7, 2025 @ 7:00 pm
- **Annulments 101 Online Seminar:** April 9, 2025 @ 7:00 pm

These sessions are designed to offer support and guidance for those in need. We encourage you to join and invite others who may benefit.

For more information or questions, please contact Arcangelo Limanni at (647) 215-3978 or alimanni@cfstoronto.com. (www.cfstoronto.com)

Thank you for your ongoing collaboration and support!

[Read More](#)



3 Minute Retreat The Eyes of Faith

A Reflection by Jim Deeds

A while back I got a very painful rash in the corner of one of my eyes. My face swelled up, and my eyes were sore. I could not see very well at all. And what I did see, I saw through painful eyes. I found that I felt down and acted grumpy. My pain affected my vision, and my vision affected how I lived my life.

How would it be to look at the world around us through the eyes of faith that Jesus came to tell us about? He told us that God is love and that we are all children of God. How would it be to look at all we meet as if we were encountering a brother or sister?

[English](#)

[Español](#)

LIVING YOUR FAITH

Stations of the Cross - For Kids



Animated Story

[**Children's Video**](#)

Pope concelebrates Mass, continues therapy at Santa Marta



By Vatican News

Pope Francis is continuing with treatment, physical therapy, and concelebrating Mass at his residence of Casa Santa Marta, the Holy See Press Office noted on Tuesday as it provided updates to journalists on the Holy Father's recovery. The Press Office also said the Pope continues some work activities, but is not currently receiving visitors, and that no decisions have been made regarding his

[**Read More**](#)

Joy in Lent? Day of Recollection with Fr. Donald Raila OSB

Holy Rosary Parish, Toronto

Saturday, Apr 5, 2025 7:30am to 4:30pm



In contrast to the emotion of happiness, Christian joy, as a gift and a fruit of the Holy Spirit, is always available and is based on our acceptance of a close relationship with Christ. Since Lent is a season of focus on renewal in Christ, joy should indeed be a characteristic of Lent, as is evidenced by the Rule of St. Benedict.

[**Register Here**](#)

What Really Happens in Eucharistic Adoration



“ Specially for all who are getting ready to receive the sacrament of first communion for the first time. Please see this video” Fr. Mark Schmitz

[**Watch Video**](#)

“Have patience with all things, but first of all with yourself.”

St. Francis of Sales

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