

St. Pius X Parish

2305 Bloor Street West, Toronto ON M6S 1P1

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office@saintpiusx.ca www.saintpiusx.ca



Pastoral Staff

Fr. Massillamani Zacharias

(Fr. Mani), **Pastor**

Michelle Somers, **Parish Secretary**

Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday

9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5 pm

Sunday 9 am and 11 am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday - Friday 8:30 am

Rosary and Divine Mercy Prayer

9 am following Mass at 8:30 am

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

Devotions to our Mother of Perpetual Help

9 am following Mass at 8:30 am Thursday

Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Every first Friday of the month at 9 am following 8:30 am Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday 4 pm to 4:30 pm or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Register online at www.saintpiusx.ca/baptism, or call or email the office for more information

Sacrament of Marriage

1 year advance notice is required

Call or email the office for an appointment

Parish Ministries/Committees/Organizations

- Altar Servers
- Lectors
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Ushers/Greeters
- Musicians
- Sacramental Preparation for First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation
- Collection Counters
- Finance Council
- Building Committee
- Volunteer Screening Committee
- Catholic Women's League

Catholic School

St. Pius X Catholic School

71 Jane Street Tel: 416-393-5237

Holy Communion for SHUT-INS and SICK

If you know of anyone who is sick and would like to have communion brought to them or would like the Sacrament of the Sick, or simply would like to be included in the Prayers of the Faithful, contact us

New Parishioners: Welcome!

We invite you to join our Parish family by registering with the parish office at www.saintpiusx.ca or by contacting the Office

To Join



To Donate



To Volunteer



PLEASE REMEMBER ST. PIUS X PARISH IN YOUR WILL



Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 29

5 pm Mary Anne Dunphy

Sunday, March 30

9 am Parishioners

11 am + Connie Estorba

Tuesday, April 1

8:30 am + Mary Peterson

Wednesday, April 2

8:30 am + Romualdo & Carmen Candelario

+ Marcellino Candelario, Sr.

+ Jadwiga Zaremba

Thursday, April 3

8:30 am + Rudolf Henes

+Jadwiga Zaremba

Mary Anne Dunphy

Friday, April 4

8:30 am + Roy Concessio

+Jadwiga Zaremba

+ Connie Estorba



Fourth Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Joshua 5.9a, 10-12

Psalm: Ps 34.1-2, 3-4, 5-6

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5.17-21

Gospel: Luke 15.1-3, 11-32



Sponsoring the Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary lamp signifies the Real Presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ. It burns for the greater glory of God.

Parishioners are invited to become monthly sponsors of the Sanctuary Lamp. Please contact the parish office if you wish to donate. Doing so becomes an opportunity for friends and families to pray at the Tabernacle knowing the Lamp burns for their intentions.

The Sanctuary Lamp burns in April for the intentions of: Sherilyn Almaria

GOSPEL REFLECTION

“...he was lost and has been found.”

Today's Gospel is that of the well-known Parable of the Lost (Prodigal) Son. In this parable, the young man's behaviour is very callous. Culturally understood, he is in effect saying to the father: "You're as good as dead to me. Give now what I'm due to inherit when you at last are". The parable vividly describes the gradual dehumanization of the young man. Reduced to wanting to eat the pigs' food – what could be worse for a Jew! – "he comes to himself" – a painful moment of self-knowledge. But this is hardly a moment of true conversion. He is calculating: "I can't go back as a son. But at least if I can get back as a servant, I'll be clothed and well fed".

Our familiarity with today's parable risks dulling us to its tremendously powerful message. The focus on the younger son must also be balanced by an examination of the unusual behaviour of the father. The father, the parable hints, has been watching day and night for his son's return. Seeing him afar off, he is overcome with compassion. He runs out to meet the boy and embraces and kisses him tenderly. In the culture of the time, for a middle-aged man of means to run in public, to display extravagant signs of affection to a son who has caused the family disgrace is foolish behaviour to the utmost degree – as the older brother will soon so "reasonably" point out. We say that this father is loving and forgiving. Yet these adjectives only begin to describe the depth of love and mercy that characterize the father. We find no surprise in the anger of the older son. Yet the father appears sad and even confused by the older son's indignation. The father is filled with gratitude and love for the older son's faithfulness. This love is in no way diminished by the father's rejoicing at the return of the younger son. Yet the older son's jealousy reveals his limited understanding of the depth of his father's love. Are we inside with the younger brother joining in the celebration of God's mercy or does anger and resentment keep us stamping our foot with the older son outside? Like so many of Jesus' parables, this one is basically saying, "Come to the feast". The only blockage is what may lie, unconverted, in our hearts.

The Second Reading fits well with this Gospel. According to Paul, the essential action that God brings about for our benefit through Christ is that of reconciliation. It climaxes in what is perhaps Paul's most extreme expression of the Son's union with the sinful, alienated human condition: God made him (Christ) who "knew no sin" (the sinless one) "into sin" that we might become in him the "righteousness of God". Paul could make that daring statement because of his sense of the radical depth of God's action in our regard. In the person of the sinless Son, God's reconciling presence and power entered into the most "ungodly" reaches of the human condition to transform it and bestow upon it the holiness and love of God. (Excerpts from: *Fr. Brendan Byrne, SJ; Loyola Press*)

PARISH NEWS

TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY

Mass of the Lord's Supper

April 17, 2025

Mass - 7 pm

Followed by Adoration

GOOD FRIDAY

April 18, 2025

Stations of the Cross – 9 am

Celebration of the Lord's Passion – 3 pm

HOLY SATURDAY

April 19, 2025

Blessing of the Food – 10 am

Easter Vigil Mass - 7 pm

EASTER SUNDAY

April 20, 2025

Masses – 9 am and 11 am

Garden Of Lilies

We would your help to create our beautiful garden of lilies again this year. Parishioners are welcome to bring a lily plant in honour of their faithful departed to adorn the altar for Easter. Plants may be dropped off from Tuesday to Friday, April 15 to 18 between 9 am and 1 pm. Labels will be provided on which you can write the name of your loved one to attach to your lily pot.

Lenten Reconciliation/Confession

Anyone who wishes to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation may do so by calling the Parish Office to make an appointment with Fr. Mani. We will not be devoting a special day for Reconciliation during the Lenten season.

Journey through Lent video

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) has posted a series of videos featuring Lenten reflections for each Sunday in Lent. They are available at this website: [Journey through Lent 2025 - Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops](http://www.cccb.ca/2025/03/20/journey-through-lent-2025/).

Donation from CWL

We are grateful to the Catholic Women's League for having donated such a generous amount toward Parish needs. Thank you for all the benefits you bestow on our Parish!

Good Friday Procession

St. Francis of Assisi Parish (72 Mansfield Ave) is holding its annual Good Friday Procession on April 18th. The procession includes religious statues, musical bands, and people representing different characters associated with the Passion of Christ. They are looking for volunteers of all ages to participate in the process. To volunteer, visit the parish website at www.stfrancis.ca. Volunteer registration deadline is April 13, 2025. Tel: 416-536-8195.

ShareLife 1st Collection

The first of three special collections toward the ShareLife campaign will take place this weekend, March 29-30. Please give using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at www.sharelife.org/donate.

ShareLife Parish Goal

ShareLife has suggested that our 2025 Parish campaign goal be set at \$47,000. This amount was determined after taking the average of the offertory donations to our Parish for 2022-23. The overall goal of ShareLife throughout the Archdiocese is \$14.5 million. ShareLife is more than a parish collection. It is how we, as Catholics in the Archdiocese of Toronto, bring the hands of Christ to those in need. From children to seniors, and everyone in between, more than 40 ShareLife agencies are there each step of the way. Your donation counts.

Dynamic Women of Faith Conference

The Catholic Mom's Group is holding a conference on Saturday, March 22, 2025, from 9 am to 4 pm at the Old Mill. The event includes a light lunch. The closing Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Robert Kasun. Please see the posters in the foyer for speakers and topics. To register, go to: <http://dwf2025.eventbrite.ca/>.

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