

Living the
Gospel

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Web: stjosephmi.archtoronto.org

Phone: 905-826-2766

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MASS INTENTIONS

SAT 29 |
 4:30 pm For the Health of The Sick
SUN 30 |
 8:00 am † Maria Conception, Pedro Bacud
 & Evelyn & Tomas Robinol
 9:30 am *Pro Popolo*
 11:00 am † Fred Couvreur
 12:30 pm † Geronimo Rosales
 6:00 pm † Nick Perrotta
MON 31 |
 8:30 am † Ellen Haran
TUES 01 |
 8:30 am † George Thrasher
WED 02 | St. Francis of Paola
 8:30 am † Danny Capobianco
THUR 03 |
 8:30 am † Maria Lourdes Camara
 † Beverley Bolster
FRI 04 | St. Isidore
 8:30 am *Multiple Intentions Mass*
 7:30 pm Renato Aguilar
SAT 05 | St. Vincent Ferrer
 9:00 am *Multiple Intentions Mass*

ST. JOSEPH YOUTH MINISTRIES
LifeTeen Grades 9-12 | Edge Grades 6-8
 For more information or to register, email
 Megan, at ym.stjosephmi@gmail.com
 and follow us on Instagram
[@ym.stjosephmi@gmail.com](https://www.instagram.com/ym.stjosephmi)

St. Joseph Lenten Day of Confessions
Tuesday April 8th from 7:00 PM
 With many visiting priests.

FRIDAY MASS & STATIONS OF THE CROSS
During Lent and starting on Friday March
 7th there will be Mass at 7:30 pm followed
 by Stations of the Cross every Friday.

Wednesday VESPERS during Lent
5:30 PM In The Church on
 April 2, 9 & 16. Experience not necessary.
 Prayer guides will be provided.

DO GOOD TO THOSE WHO HATE YOU

We live in an era in which verbal attack is commonplace. Politically, much of western society has become divided to the point of extreme polarization, in which one side views the other as positively evil. One politician running for the most senior office in her country infamously described the supporters of the opposition as “a basket of deplorables”.

Judging by comments posted on Catholic social media it seems that the atmosphere of attack that has taken possession of public discourse has also taken root within the Church. It is, of course, to be expected that when the stakes are high passions will simmer and boil. Perhaps the stakes have never been higher. Issues which for Catholics are crucially important – the sanctity of human life, the divine institution and the meaning of Holy Matrimony, the special sovereignty of the family, and the intrinsic value of each and every human being, including freedom from medical experimentation – are all under ferocious attack from various quarters.

It can be tempting for us to demonize the opposition, especially when the tactics used to undermine the principles that we treasure are duplicitous and unscrupulous. But however hard we battle to defend these principles we must resist the temptation to dehumanize our opponents in this war.

In the Gospel Our Lord instructs us: “love your enemies, do good to those who hate you.” What we have to remember is that each and every human being is created in the image of God. This indelible divine image is universal throughout the whole human race. When God looks at any of us, He sees a potential for great beauty of soul and holiness. If He also finds sin within our hearts, then that is an obstacle to our growth which He, with our cooperation, desires to remove so that we might flourish. We must strive to see our fellows with this same divine vision.

Witnessing the concerted efforts of the earthly powers-that-be to contaminate the innocence of children in schools with pathological ideologies, we might feel inclined to identify the human agents promoting such evil with the diabolical forces which are ultimately their inspiration. Demonization of any human being is however a grave sin against charity and a denial of the Divine Providence. Even a man who has given himself over to wicked depravity is capable with God’s grace (and the help of our prayers) of conversion to the life of grace which elevates the image of God in his soul to a supernatural likeness, at least while he still has breath in his lungs.

The injunction to love our enemies is certainly not a commandment to like them. Liking is based on feeling, and feelings are neither here nor there when it comes to sanctification. Feelings wax and wane, and our control over them is generally limited. Loving is an act of the will, and exercise of this virtue even has the power to affect how we feel towards one another.

So does the Gospel insist that we must never put up a fight? Is it a charter for pacifism? Certainly not. There are times when we must fight for what is true and just. It does, however, correct our perspective. We may not wish our enemies victory; but we must desire their salvation. And in the culture wars that rage around us we are not called to be pacifists, but we are obliged to be pacifiers.

~ FR. PAUL DOBSON

**NOTE: There will be no Children’s Liturgy
 on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday**



MINISTRIES

APRIL COFFEE HOUR - 9:00 am, Wed Apr 02nd

Guest speaker Danielle Farrell from the Peel Alzheimer Society is back with Part 2 of “*Brain Health*”. Everyone is welcome and table donations are always appreciated.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

All-Night Eucharistic Adoration – Friday, April 04, 2025
Holy Mass at 07:30 p.m., followed by the Stations of the Cross then Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament throughout the night and concludes with Benediction at 08.45 a.m. and Holy Mass at 09:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 05.

Lenten Fish Fry – Saturday April 12 - 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm
Hosted by our Knights of Columbus & Catholic Women's League.
All proceeds will go to Campaign Life Coalition and Josie Luetke, their Education and Advocacy Director will be present to update us on current initiatives. Tickets are Adult (\$15) or Child (\$10).
Register: EMAIL the Knights OR CWL (see posters at Both Entrances) OR by scanning the QR code  
OR by purchasing tickets from the Knights or CWL after all Masses this and the next weekend.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE NEXT MEETING:
Soap for Hope ~ *Bring Hope & Dignity to Those in Need* ~
Catholic Women's League is collecting: Soap bars, Liquid soap and Shampoo For Canadian Food for Children (Dr. Simone's Warehouse). Donation box at the front entrance until April 6.
Next Meeting; Sat. April 26, 9:30–11:30 am (*with breakfast*).
A pizza dinner will be provided at rehearsal once a month.

SAVE THE DATE – MARCH FOR LIFE 2025
We will be sending a bus to Ottawa for the annual March for Life. Join us **MAY 8, 2025**. Details to follow.

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP

Prayer meetings every Wednesday in the Hall at 7 p.m.
OUR FORTHCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES – 2025:

LENTEN RETREAT Saturday, April 5 – 8 am- 3 pm.
\$10 includes refreshments and lunch. Registration after Saturday vigil & Sunday Masses March 29/30
Please register early to avoid disappointment

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA Fri April 18 Sat April 26 – Church
FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY Sunday, April 27 – 2.30 p.m. – Church
“GROWTH IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR”
Wednesday, April 23 to May 28 – 6.30 p.m. – Hall
Admission is free but Registration is required.
Forms and drop-in boxes at both entrances of the Church.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

AROUND THE ARCH


QUEEN OF APOSTLES CENTRE RETREATS
LENTEN RETREAT Facilitated by the centre team on Saturday April 05, 2025. Cost \$50.00 and includes lunch. Registration is at 8:30am.

1617 Blythe Road, Mississauga ON L5H 2C3
Contact Jean at 905 278 5229 | email: office@qoa.ca

ACTS RETREATS - 3-day retreats that focuses on
Adoration, Community, Theology and Service.
Women's Retreat: May 22 - 25 | Men's Retreat: June 19 - 22,
For More info and to register visit actcanada.org.

MENTAL HEALTH ANONYMOUS
An Emotional Support Group, with Deacon George that operates along the same lines as an AA meeting from a Catholic perspective. For further info see the website for further details visit the website at mha.global.

HEALING AFTER ABORTION: The Sisters of Life
A “Day of Prayer and Healing” offers the opportunity to experience the love and mercy of God and to respond to His invitation to begin the journey of healing the wound of abortion. Upcoming date is April 5 & 2025.
For more details, locations, and confidential registration, or to simply talk to a Sister, please contact the Sisters of Life at (416) 463-2722 or email us at toronto@sistersoflife.org.

SHARELIFE 2025 - We lift each other up
 Nick's life had an easy start – he came from a good home, where he was raised with a strong work ethic, and he welcomed a son. But living with a mental illness, he struggled more than some. Deep inside, he felt like something was missing, and he devastatingly fell into addiction. With your helping hand, he rose up through the DARE Program at Good Shepherd. “*By the grace of God, I am still alive,*” he proclaims. “*I'd love to be able to give back what was so freely given to me. I am taking roles of service, giving back as much as I can. I was afraid I'd never be able to feel the way I feel. I am very grateful that I have been given this opportunity to be sober.*” Thanks to your support, he is no longer just surviving—he is thriving, with a heart full of hope and a future filled with promise.

This Sunday is our first ShareLife Sunday.
Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

Smile for the week: Answer
What vegetable do plumbers like best? Leeks

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