



Parish Week

Easter Sunday
9 April 2023

HOLY SATURDAY, 8 Apr.

7.00 pm Easter Vigil Liturgy (Pro Populo)
- RCIA Initiation into Church

EASTER SUNDAY, 9 Apr. / The Resurrection of the Lord

- Homilist: Elias Chachai
- Two Collections: (a) Offertory; (b) Easter
- 9.00 am Mass: † Lydia Marquez (family)
- 10.30 am Mass: † Ernesto, Lydia & Justino Rodas (family)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Josefina Mabaquiao (Emilita Gotera)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday 10 Apr.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Cyril Bastiampillai (family)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Int. Doris Marquez (friends)

Tuesday, 11 Apr.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Simon Boila (Aruna)

Wednesday, 12 Apr.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Segundo Jo (Emilio Go & family)
- 9.30 am St. Maria Goretti School Mass

Thursday, 13 Apr.

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Greta Carlo (friends)
- 1.00 pm ► St. Albert School Mass

Friday, 14 Apr.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Michael Piscola (Irma)

Saturday, 15 Apr.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Cyrilda Alagaratnam (Shirani Hemachandra)
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Lalaita D'Souza (Joseph)

SUNDAY, 16 APR. / EASTER 2-A / DIVINE MERCY

- Homilist: Deacon Ramon Villardo
- 9.00 am Mass: Int. Catholic Women League (Gina)
- 10.30 am Mass: † Brian Mendonca (Annie)
- 12.00 pm Mass: Int. Dominic Dias (Anita)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo



Pope Benedict:

16 April 1927 – 31 December 2022

Let us remember in our prayers **Pope Benedict XVI**, who was born on 16 April. May God grant him eternal rest, and bless his memory and the profound legacy he left the Church.

Focus on the Word

Easter Sunday, Year A

Acts 10.34-43; Colossians 3.1-4; John 20.1-18

O God, who on this day, through your Only Begotten Son, have conquered death and unlocked for us the path to eternity, grant, we pray, that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit, rise up in the light of life. Amen.

Pray for the Deceased

Theresa Cherickal

The **20 victims** of the **suicide bombing** of the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Kabul, Afghanistan** on 11 January



Archbishop Francis Leo

Our Parish joyfully welcomes the new Archbishop of Toronto, **Francis Leo**, who was installed at our Cathedral on 25 March. His Welcome Mass in the Eastern Region, including Scarborough, will be held on:

7.00 pm, Wednesday, 26 April 2023
St. Isaac Jogues Parish, 1148 Finch Ave., Pickering

Holy Week Collections

9 April: Offertory and Easter

On 9 April, the 1st collection is for the *Regular Sunday Offertory*.
The 2nd collection, after Communion, is for the *Easter Sunday* collection for our special Church needs.

COMING UP

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- 23 Apr. **Mr. Arthur Peters**, *ShareLife* speaker at all Masses; - St. Albert School 1st Communion Mass (2:30 pm)
- 30 Apr. 2nd Collection: *Maintenance*; - *Catholic Education Week*; - CWL (11:30 am); - St. Maria Goretti 1st Communion Mass (2:30 pm)
- 1 May Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
- 4 May St. Maria Goretti Confirmation Mass (7:00 pm)
- 5 May **Cardinal Thomas Collins**: 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood
- 7 May 2nd Collection: *ShareLife*; - Infant Baptism (1:30 pm)
- 9 May Wedding: Tadeo & Escalona (11:00 am)
- 11 May St. Albert School Confirmation Mass (7:00 pm)
- 13 May Marriage: Fogelboch & Molianaso (1:00 pm)
- 23 July *Mission Co-op* Sunday: **Fr. Sampath**, representing the Diocese of Galle, Sri Lanka

Website stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org

For more information on Parish activities, see pages 3 and following in the website bulletin.

ShareLife 2023

Easter Sunday, 9 April

Thank you very much for supporting our parish's *ShareLife* campaign. *ShareLife* is LIVING THE GOSPEL by respecting and caring for life at all stages!



So far, we have raised: \$ 7,335.00
toward our 2023 goal of: \$ 52,000.00

ShareLife currently supports over 40 agencies across the archdiocese. While the pandemic put a strain on the services of the agencies, they continued to support the ones who need them the most. This was made possible through your kind and generous donations.

Without your support, the more than 150,000 people who are helped each year would not receive the hope offered through the important work of these agencies.

Please give at our Parish using a *ShareLife* envelope, or online through our parish website, We thank you for giving generously to *ShareLife*.

A blessed Easter to you all!

Sacramental Preparation

1st Communion Make Up session
11.30, 15 April



Families of 1st Communion Candidates who missed attending one of the Instructions in March are invited to a general *Make Up Session* at 11.30 am in the Hall on Saturday, 15 April.

Sunday Mass Slips

The Candidates are now using their SUNDAY MASS SLIPS. They represent their wish to join the action of all parishioners in offering their prayers to God, and opening their hearts to Jesus. After the *Intercessions*, the Candidates bring their completed slips and gather near the Offertory Gift table at the head of the main aisle, and form a line behind the pews. Candidates walk behind the Gift Bearers when they are led by the Servers to the Altar.

The Candidates place their unfolded slips in the basket held by the Priest, bow to the Cross, and then return to their pew.

RCIA, RCIC



Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults & Children

Please remember in your prayers the Adults who will be receiving Sacraments of Initiation at the 7 pm Easter Vigil on 8 April, and the Youth at 5 pm on 15 April.

The next meetings:

RCIA Adults, 14 April, at 7.30 pm

RCIC Youth, 10.00 am, 15 April, which is the morning of the *Easter Octave Initiation* at the 5.00 pm Mass.

Pastor's Easter Message



**Easter People,
Fearless People**

"We are an Easter People; Alleluia is our song."

This declaration was made almost 15 centuries ago by St. Augustine as an expression of Easter joy. But living our joy and enunciating our faith in Jesus' resurrection in our day-to-day existence is a big challenge. Ignacio Ellacuria (one of the Jesuits who were murdered for the faith in El Salvador on 16 November 1989) spoke of the importance of following Jesus by "living as already risen beings."

The resurrection of Jesus in history means that we can continue to hope in a world grown dim with despair. In raising Jesus, God liberated an innocent, unveiled the injustices done against him and crowned his sacrificial death with victory and life. To live as risen beings in history is to share in all that God has done in Jesus for us.

Living as risen beings also means living free from fear. Fear must never be the motive for anything we do or anything we do not do. At various times and in a variety of ways, we fear deprivation, boredom, loneliness, failure and suffering. At the root of all these fears is the fear of death. Without our belief in resurrection death is the utter end of all, it is absolute loss. But through our baptism into the dying and rising of Jesus, death is absolute gain, by which we live as risen beings forever.

Marvelous was the transformation from fear to heroism in those who first experienced the power and reality of the risen Jesus. They learned to readjust their priorities, concentrating not on the passing things of earth, but on the things that are above (Colossians 3.1-4). They could powerfully preach the good news of salvation (Acts 10.34-43). Their experiences with the crucified Messiah and with the empty tomb (Jn. 20:1-9) will provide renewed impetus for our own continued growth in faith. The resurrection inspires our commitment to live as risen beings until Jesus comes again.

Fr. Edwin Galea, *Pastor*

Fr. Elias Chachati, *Associate*

Rev. Mr. Ramon Villardo, *Deacon*

Easter Flowers

Many thanks to all who donated to obtain the Easter Flowers for our Sanctuary this year. Due to printing deadlines, the list of donors will appear in the next bulletin. May God bless you and your families during this Easter Season!



First Holy Communion

Guidelines for 2023

St. Maria Goretti Parish is grateful to be able to celebrate the **Sacrament of 1st Holy Communion** for the Grade 2 students who have been preparing to receive this Sacrament in Easter Season this year. The Parish has four groups of First Communicants: (a) St. Albert School; (b) St. Maria Goretti School; (c) Saturday Class for students in other schools; (d) the RCIC.

After three years of pandemic restrictions, it is good to a sense of normalcy in liturgical celebrations. Please read the following.

(1) INSTRUCTION MATERIAL for 1st Communion is provided through the school curriculum, in the Information pages distributed at the January Family Information Nights, and at both of the *Family Instruction meetings* held in March. Each of the Instruction presentations has simple *Scripture* and *Catechism* references, so that Candidates and their families can review and reflect on the material, and use it for prayer and personal preparation for the day of First Holy Communion.

(2) REVIEW It is important that families review the information for this Sacrament. For their convenience, summaries are provided regularly in the website bulletin. For 1st Communion, check the website bulletins for'

22 January 2023, pages 3-4

26 March 2023, pages 5-6

(3) ATTIRE *How to dress?* The Archdiocese of Toronto does not have one “mandatory” dress code for all First Communion Candidates. We have a variety of customs in our Parish that reflect the international composition of our faith community. The universal expectation is that, for such an important occasion in their

lives, **Candidates** should wear at least “Sunday best,” which is formal or semi-formal attire. In addition, it is recommended that the Candidates incorporate a significant *white component* to their attire (e.g.,



a white dress for girls, a white shirt for boys, etc.) as a reminder of their BAPTISM. Boys may wear a suit, or a formal or semi-formal jacket with complementary trousers. Girls may simply wear a white dress, or at least a white blouse. Parents should be mindful that the children’s clothing should not be heavy. It is also suggested that **Family members** and invited friends dress in a respectful and complementary manner, and avoid clothing with garish or bold patterns (stripes, logos, etc.), and wear simple, neutral colours, so that the Candidates stand out during the Mass, and also in the photos taken afterward. In the future, these photos will tell everyone that the focus of the day was on the Candidates and the Holy Sacrament received from the Altar, which Jesus gives as the Food of Life to nourish us through our pilgrimage through this world to the Father’s Kingdom.

(4) ARRIVAL Catholic School Candidates should arrive at least 40 minutes prior to their 1st Communion Mass to *Sign In* at an Information Table in the Vestibule, and to find seats with their families *as close as possible to the Sanctuary*. Because of their height, they would not have an appropriate view of the Altar if they are seated towards the back.

(5) Most other GUIDELINES FOR THE LITURGY remain as usual. There is *no photography during Mass* (time for posed photos will be available afterward.) At the time when the Candidates receive their Holy Communion, they approach the Altar with their families.



Confirmation

Guidelines for 2023

Our Parish is grateful to be able to celebrate the **Sacrament of Confirmation** for the Grade 7 students who have been preparing to receive this Sacrament in Easter Season this year. The Parish has four groups of Candidates:

(a) St. Albert School; (b) St. Maria Goretti School; (c) the Saturday Class for students in other schools; (d) the RCIC.

(1) INSTRUCTION MATERIAL for Confirmation is provided through the school curriculum, in the Information pages distributed at the February Family Information Nights, and at all three of the *Student Instructions* held in the schools in March. Each of the Instruction presentations has simple *Scripture* and *Catechism* references, so that Candidates and their families can review and reflect on the material, and use it for prayer and personal preparation for the day of their Confirmation.

(2) REVIEW It is important that families review the information for this Sacrament. For their convenience, summaries are provided regularly in the website bulletin. For Confirmation, check the website bulletins for'

2 April 2023, pages 3-4

16 April 2023, pages 5-10

(3) We will resume the use of CONFIRMATION GOWNS, so Candidates will need to cooperate with their teachers, to ensure that their gown, in the correct size, is properly reserved.

(4) ATTIRE *How to dress?* Since we will be resuming the use of the gowns this year, the **Candidates** should simply wear "Sunday best," which is formal or semi-formal attire. They may also incorporate a simple *white component* to their attire (e.g., a white shirt, blouse, dress, etc.) as a reminder of the connection between Confirmation and Baptism. **Family members** and **Sponsors** should avoid clothing with garish

or bold patterns (stripes, logos, etc.), and wear simple, solid neutral colours, so that the Candidates stand out during the Mass. For men: black/grey, navy or khaki tones; for women: black/grey/white, or pastels. In the future, the photos will tell everyone that the focus of the day was on the Candidates and the Sacrament received in front of the Altar, by which the Holy Spirit empowers us to live as faithful disciples of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

(5) There will be REHEARSALS to prepare the Candidates to receive this Sacrament in a focused and prayerful manner; they will also need to pay close attention to the directions given during the Mass.

(6) The CONFIRMATION CARD which each Candidate presents to the Pastor at the time they receive the Sacrament, will need to have the chosen **Confirmation Name** printed in large letters on the front.

The Confirmation Name is the Christian *Baptismal* name, or the name of another *Saint* who will serve as a lifelong patron and prayer partner to the newly-confirmed.

(7) Most other GUIDELINES FOR THE LITURGY remain as usual. There is *no photography during Mass* (time for posed photos will be available afterward.) At the time when the Candidates receive their Confirmation, they approach the Altar with their classmates, and the Sponsors stand behind them.

The Liturgy

Confirmation is ordinarily celebrated within the context of the Holy Mass. Following the Proclamation of the Word of God, the Sacrament is administered in this order:

Presentation of the Candidates

Homily

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Laying On of Hands

Anointing with Sacred Chrism



Station 13: *The Body of Jesus is taken down from the Cross.*



The Sepulchre scene: Holy Thursday evening, to Good Friday, to Holy Saturday morning.



The *Holy Studies Prayer Group* offers the STATIONS OF THE CROSS, 25 March.



Royal Weddings remind us of approaching Summer festivities.



