



Parish Week

Jesus, I trust in You
Jezu ufam Tobie

Divine Mercy
Sunday,
16 April 2023

Saturday, 15 Apr.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Cyrilda Alagaratnam (Shirani Hemachandra)
- 9.00 am Student volunteers
- 10.00 am Confirmation Class, RCIC, Saturday 1st Communion
- 11:30 am Sacramental Preparation:
1st Communion Family Instruction MAKE UP
for families who missed any of the March Instructions
- 4.00 Pm Confession
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Lalita 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

Monday 17 Apr.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Perfecto Salazar (Pat Callahan)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Lydia, Ernesto & Justino Rodas (family)

Tuesday, 18 Apr.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Anton Wagner (Stieger family)

Wednesday, 19 Apr.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Gwen Camacho (CWL)

Thursday, 20 Apr.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Mary Whelan (Paddy Dowling)

Friday, 21 Apr. / St. Anselm, bishop & doctor

- 8.00 am Mass: † Lea, Catre, Josephine Estoque
(Angelita Catajtoy)

Saturday, 22 Apr.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Enrico Serneo (family)
- 5.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Aruna Boila)

SUNDAY, 23 APR. / EASTER 3-A

■ *Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galea*

■ *Mr. Arthur Peters, ShareLife speaker at all Masses:*

- 9.00 am Mass: Int. Carol & Mike Morra
(54th Wedding Anniversary)
- 10.30 am Mass: † Raphael & Mariam Thattil family
(Mary & Manuel)
- 12.00 pm Mass: Int. Biju Abraham (family)
- 2.30 pm St. Albert School 1st Communion Mass
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Focus on the Word

2nd Sunday of Easter, Year A

Acts 2.42-47; 1 Peter 1.3-9; John 20.19-31

God of everlasting mercy, who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast kindle the faith of the people you have made your own, increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all my grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose spirit they have been reborn, by whose blood they have been redeemed. Amen.

Pray for the Deceased

Bishop David O'Connell of Los Angeles,
who was **murdered in February**



COMING UP

52e23

- 30 Apr. 2nd Collection: **Maintenance;**
- *Catholic Education Week;*
- CWL (11:30 am);
- St. Maria Goretti School 1st Communion Mass (2:30 pm)
- 1 May Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
- 3 May St. Maria Goretti School Mass (9:00 am)
- 4 May St. Maria Goretti School Confirmation Mass (7:00 pm)
- 5 May **Cardinal Thomas Collins:** 50th Anniversary
of Ordination to the Priesthood
2nd Collection: *ShareLife;*
- Infant Baptism (1:30 pm)
- 7 May **Bishop Vincent Nguyen:** 25th Anniversary
of Ordination to the Priesthood;
- Wedding: Tadeo & Escalona (11:00 am)
- 9 May Confirmation: St. Albert School & Saturday Class (7:00 pm)
Wedding: Fogelboch & Molinaso (1:00 pm)
2nd Collection: *Pope's Pastoral Works;*
St. Vincent de Paul **Bundle Up Sunday**
2nd Collection: **Maintenance;**
- CWL (11:30 am)
- 11 May ► St. Albert School Mass (1:00 pm)
- 13 May 2nd Collection: *ShareLife*
- 21 May Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
Infant Baptism (1:30 pm)
Memorial Mass: † Camila Maulion
- St. Maria Goretti School Graduation Mass (9:00 am);
St. Maria Goretti Graduation Exercise (5:30 pm)
► St. Albert School Graduation Mass (9:30 am)
Wedding: Borzic & Dizon (1:00 pm)
2nd Collection: **Maintenance**
► St. Albert School Graduation Exercises (5:30 pm)
- 28 May *Mission Co-op Sunday: Fr. Sampath,*
representing the Diocese of Galle, Sri Lanka
- 29 May ► World Youth Day Lisbon, Portugal
- 4 Jun.
- 5 Jun.
- 11 Jun.
- 16 Jun.
- 21 Jun.
- 22 Jun.
- 24 Jun.
- 25 Jun.
- 26 Jun.
- 23 July
- 1-6 August

Website stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org

For more information on Parish activities, including the schedule of upcoming Sacramental celebrations, and preparation details for the 1st Communion and Confirmation Candidates and their families, see pages 3 and following in the website bulletin.

ShareLife 2023

DIVINE MERCY Sunday, 16 April

Our 2023 *ShareLife* Campaign is underway. *ShareLife* is LIVING THE GOSPEL by respecting and caring for life at all stages!



Our second *ShareLife* Collection will be on 7 May.

When you give to *ShareLife*, you help people with developmental disabilities and their family members through an agency called MARY CENTRE. Here's how your contribution makes a difference in the lives of those served by this remarkable Catholic agency:

"Thank you to all who donate to ShareLife. With each donation we receive, we are able to attain our goals of assisting people in their efforts in building a good life, and also providing a safe place for people with a developmental disability to stay so that their families/caregivers and themselves can get some needed respite."

So far, we have been able to raise \$ 7,335.00 toward our goal of \$ 52,000.00. Thank you for your support. Please give through the Parish using a *ShareLife* envelope.

Next Sunday, we have the honour of welcoming to our Parish **Mr. Arthur Peters**, who is the Director of *ShareLife*.

Sacramental Preparation

1st Communion Make Up session
11.30, 15 April



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

Upcoming Celebrations

23 April, 2.30 pm

St. Albert School 1st Communion Mass

30 April, 2.30 pm

St. Maria Goretti School 1st Communion Mass

4 May, 7.00 pm

St. Maria Goretti School Confirmation Mass

11 May, 7.00 pm

**Confirmation Mass for St. Albert School
& Saturday Class**

Sunday Mass Slips

The Candidates are now using their SUNDAY MASS SLIPS. 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.

Archbishop Francis Leo

Welcome Mass: 26 April

Our Parish joyfully welcomes the new Archbishop of Toronto, Francis Leo, who was installed at our Cathedral on 25 March.



To enable the faithful to meet our new Shepherd, welcome Masses have been scheduled in the four Regions. The welcome Mass for the Eastern Region, including Scarborough, will be held:

7.00 pm, Wednesday, 26 April 2023

St. Isaac Jogues Parish, 1148 Finch Ave., Pickering

RCIA, RCIC



Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults & Children

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

The next meetings:

RCIA Adults, 14 and 21 April, at 7.30 pm

RCIC Youth, 10.00 am, 15 April, (the morning of the *Easter Octave Initiation* at the 5 pm Mass) and 22 April.

A Special Gift NEW LECTIONARY

Our Parish thanks **Corine Maulion** for her sponsorship of the new Lectionary for our Sunday Masses, blessed and inducted for use on the 1st Sunday of Advent, 27 November 2022. God bless you.

Upcoming Weddings

There is a promise of Marriage between:

Varuna Quiterio and Drusilla Lobo
2023, St. Paul Basilica

Edwin Kalapan Kumarasamy and Alina Rodrigues
27 May, St. Francis Xavier Parish, Mississauga

**Steve Chrishanthan Patrick Sothiratnam
and Danielle De Rango**
8 July, Mary Mother of God Parish, Oakville

Dhivyan Valentine and Thaksa Subramaniam
26 August, St. Michael Basilica Cathedral

Tyrone Anandarajan and Shalika Sivathanan
20 October, Sacred Heart Church, King City

Shoan Sathiyendran and Priyanka Chandrakumar
4 November, St. Mary Immaculate Parish, Richmond Hill

Easter Flowers

Many thanks to all who sponsored the Easter Flowers in our Sanctuary. The dedications are posted on the Vestibule bulletin board, and in the website bulletin. God bless you!

Patron

Corine Maulion & family

In Honour/Intention

Brizet Ratna Gomes



In Memory of

Joyce & Anton Abraham

All Souls

Espiridion & Dioscora Antigua

Jose Sr. & Valeriana Bangalando

Aloysius Bastiampillai

Deceased Members of the Camacho family

Helena & Rufino Sr. Castro

Lusia Cho

Kavitha Deschamp

Virgilio Dizon

Anastacia & Marcelo Durano

Members of the Espinosa family

Rosie & Francis Fernandes

Deceased Members of Fernandes family

Ramon Sr. & Juanita Gatchalian

Ana & Joaquin Gotera

Liu Tseng Hsiag

Members of the Jimenez family

Joseph & Ann Liao

Matteo Lombardi

Peter Joseph Liu

Holy Souls in Purgatory

Josefina Mabaquiao

Olimpio & Gloria Macabali

Teofisto Jr. & Linida Magdadaro

Liu Fang Chin Mei

Michele Morra

Silveria & Eufrazio Mundo

Members of the Pantano family

For All the Souls in Purgatory

Yacintha Sivakumar

Elaine Singh

Arjune & Nandrani Singh

Members of the Trinidad family

John & Marie Tolentino

Orlando, Jovy & family Tolentino

Eileen Wright



[Above and top right:] Annabel D'Souza receives a Blessing as she prepares to leave Scarborough for the UK, 21 March, to join her new husband, Allen. Paschal Candles lit at Easter, and visits to the Tower Bridge and Dover.

[Right:] Nathan and Danielle receive a Blessing in our Parish, prior to their Wedding at Annunciation on 15 April.

Justine Walch receives her Easter Blessing with her family.

We Remember our Instructions for **CONFIRMATION**

Water: a symbol of new life in Christ



Each time we Christians enter a church, dip our hand in the holy water font, and trace with water the sign of the cross on ourselves, we are recalling our *Baptism*. This simple gesture reminds us that God has created us anew through Baptism. When we cross ourselves, we recall that we are Baptized; this helps us remember that we are disciples of Jesus and members of God's family.

As Baptized disciples, we also prepare and celebrate our *Confirmation*. These two sacraments are so closely linked that preparing for confirmation means first recalling our Baptism. And Baptism and Confirmation prepare us for Eucharist, for celebrating at the Table of the Lord.

Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist

When adults or older children prepare for initiation in the Catholic Church they spend a lot of time, sometimes years, preparing themselves. At the end of this time, the Church celebrates with them the three sacraments of initiation:

Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist.

If we grow up in a Catholic family, we are Baptized as young children, shortly after we are born. As we grow, we learn how to make a Confession, and we receive the Sacrament of *Reconciliation*. Then we prepare to share in *Holy Communion* which is to share in the body and blood of Christ. Then we can study our faith more deeply, and receive the Sacrament of *Confirmation*.

Our Baptism Story

1. My Name

My parents chose a special name for me. My Christian name connects me to all the holy men and women who lived before me, and who were heroes.



2. Where I was Baptized

My family belonged to a Parish, a community of faithful people. They asked the Church to welcome me as a new member, and to make me a brother or sister of Christ by Baptism.

3. Date of Baptism

At conception, every person begins 2 journeys; the journey of the *body*, which ends in death, and the journey of the *soul*. The soul is joined to Christ in Baptism, and this opens the door to eternity.

4. Godparents

Some people stood up for me and agreed to be my Prayer Partner with God, asking him to help my family to raise me as a member of his Church.

5. Special Memories

When I see the pictures of my Baptism, I recall the stories my family told me about my big day.

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Wisdom is the gift of knowing the right choices to make to live a holy life. The gift of Wisdom helps you to avoid the things that could lead you away from God.

Understanding is the gift of comprehension, or the ability to grasp the meaning of the teachings of the Church. The gift of Understanding helps you be tolerant and sympathetic of others. It helps you sense when someone is hurting or in need of compassion.

Counsel, or Right Judgment, is the gift of prudence. The gift of Counsel helps you make choices to live as a faithful follower of Jesus.

Courage, or Fortitude, is the gift that helps you stand up for your faith in Christ. The gift of Courage helps you overcome any obstacles that would keep you from practicing your faith.

Knowledge is the gift of knowing and enlightenment. The gift of Knowledge enables you to choose the right path that will lead you to God. It encourages you to avoid obstacles that would keep you from him.

Reverence, or Piety, is the gift of confidence in God. This gift of reverence inspires you to joyfully want to serve God and others.

Wonder and Awe, or “Fear of the Lord,” is the gift of wonder and respect that encourages you to be in awe of God. The gift of Wonder and Awe moves you to so love God that you do not want to offend him by your words or actions.

The Fruits of the Holy Spirit

These are signs that the Holy Spirit is alive within us and helping us to live the Catholic faith:

Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Generosity, Gentleness, Faithfulness, Modesty, Self-control, Chastity.

The Communion of Saints

Just as the Sacraments are part of our Christian family heritage, so too are people who have lived before us and worked to create the kingdom of God.

At Mass, we say that we believe in the *Communion of Saints*.

This is the assembly of all Christian women and men who have lived and died and are now living in heaven. Think of the Communion of Saints as our *heroes*, or as our cheering section upstairs. We often ask the Saints to pray with and for us so that we may be stronger in our faith.

St. Maria Goretti, St. Albert and **St. Joan of Arc** are three of the best-known members of the Communion of Saints. They love us and ask for God’s help so that we can live as disciples.



CONFIRMATION

The Commissioning: *Go and Make Disciples of all Nations*

BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION and the EUCHARIST
together comprise the **SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION.**



Confirmation completes Christian initiation, and strengthens the Candidates by the gift of the Holy Spirit. They are empowered to serve as witnesses of Christ, to spread and defend the faith by their words and deeds.

The Commissioning of the Disciples (Matthew 28.16-20)

- ¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee,
to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.
- ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.
- ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them,
“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
- ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them
in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
- ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded
you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

My Sponsor

Confirmation Sponsors “Accompany the candidates, present them to the Bishop for anointing, and then help them fulfill their baptismal promises by the influence of the Holy Spirit.” (*Rite of Confirmation*, # 5)

Since a Sponsor has such a significant role to play in the development of Confirmation candidate it is important that this person be one who is a living example of faith, one whose actions reflect the actions of Jesus.

A Sponsor offers prayer and encouragement during the Confirmation preparation process and as their candidate matures in life.

The Arrival of the Holy Spirit

After the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus, the Apostles were left amazed, and they were unsure what to do. Jesus came and spent 40 days with them, and promised that they would receive the Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2.1-4)

- ¹ When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.
- ² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.
- ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.
- ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.



Reconciliation

Receive this Sacrament, and return a completed slip at your next Mass.

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12.1-7)

- ¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed.
- ⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;
- ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord;
- ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.
- ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.



The Life of the Early Church (Acts 2.14a, 36b-38,41-42)

¹⁴ Peter stood with the eleven and addressed the crowd,

³⁶ “Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

The First Converts

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?”

³⁸ Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

The Spirit in the Old Testament

The Hebrew word for “spirit” (*ruah*) can also mean “wind” (Gn.8:1; Num.11:31; 1Kg.18:45) or “breath” (Gn.7:15; Ec.3:19; Jer.10:14). The two images can be combined so that *wind* is the *breath of God* (2 Sam 22:16; Ps 18:15; Is. 40:7).



“Breath” is a common expression in Scripture for the human spirit (Gn.41:8; Exod 6:9; Ezek 3:14). The start of life is divinely willed; and the end of life is the return of our spirit to God, who gave it in the first place (Ec.12:7). The power of God is visible in myriad ways, but it was seen especially in the charismatic leaders of the Israelites, the prophets, and those who fulfilled God’s saving will.

The Spirit in the New Testament

As with the Hebrew *ruah*, the Greek word *pneuma* can likewise mean “wind,” “breath,” or “spirit.” But in the New Testament, we also see explicitly what was hinted at in the Old Testament: that the Spirit is not an impersonal force, but a divine Person, who is God along with the Father and the Son.



St. Peter Basilica, Rome: Holy Spirit window.

Confirmation

Gift of the Holy Spirit

BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION and the EUCHARIST comprise the SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION. Confirmation completes Christian initiation, and strengthens the Candidates by the gift of the Holy Spirit. They are witnesses of Christ, bound to spread and defend the faith by their words and deeds.

Origins of the Sacrament

The Old Testament prophets announced that the Spirit of the Lord would rest on the awaited Messiah for his saving mission. The descent of the Holy Spirit on Jesus at his Baptism in the Jordan by John was the sign that this was the expected one: the Son of God, who would communicate the Spirit to the entire messianic people. On Pentecost, filled with the Holy Spirit, the Apostles began to proclaim the mighty works of God, and Peter declared this outpouring of the Spirit to be a sign of the messianic age.

In the Letter to the Hebrews, the doctrine on Baptism and the Laying on of Hands is listed among the first elements in Christian instruction. The Laying on of Hands is recognized as the original sign of the Sacrament of Confirmation, which perpetuates the grace of Pentecost in the Church.

The Bishop

The original ministers of Confirmation are the Bishops, the successors of the Apostles. They have received the fullness of the Sacrament of Holy Orders. (The Bishop may transfer this mandate to the local Parish Priest.) The Sacred Chrism used for the Anointing was blessed at the Mass of Chrism at the Cathedral during the previous Holy Week.

The Sponsor

The Sponsor is a fully-initiated member of the Church who:

- ❖ Represents the community; ❖ Will support the parents;
- ❖ Testifies that the Candidate will be a witness for Christ.

The original Godparent may perform this duty; or another adult who serves as an example of Christian living.

The Name

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.

Effects of Confirmation

The purpose of the Sacrament is the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit, as it was given to the Apostles on Pentecost:

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind...divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them the ability. (Acts 2.1-4).

The entire Church benefits by Confirmation: it conveys the grace of *Pentecost*, enabling us to live with the fruits of the Holy Spirit:

Charity, Joy, Peace, Patience, Generosity, Goodness, Perseverance, Mildness, Faith, Modesty, Continence, Chastity.

Confirmation has several important effects:

- (1) **It makes us more aware of God;**
- (2) **It releases the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit:** Wisdom, Knowledge, Counsel, Understanding, Courage, Piety and Reverence of the Lord.
- (3) **It unites us more firmly to Christ;**
- (4) **It binds us more perfectly to the Church;**
- (5) **It gives us strength to spread and defend the faith by our words and actions in order to:**
 - ✕ be true witnesses of Christ;
 - ✕ confess the name of Christ boldly;
 - ✕ never be ashamed of the Cross.

Confirmation perfects the grace of Baptism, and imprints a spiritual mark or permanent, indelible character on the Christian's soul. A Candidate for Confirmation who has attained the age of reason must profess the faith; be in the state of grace; desire to receive the Sacrament; and be prepared to assume the role of disciple and witness to Christ, both in the Church and in the world.

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*¹

*Anointing with Sacred Chrism*²

¹ LAYING ON OF HANDS: The Bishop faces the people and introduces the prayer. Then he (and any concelebrating Priests) extend their hands over the Candidates, and ask the Father to send the Holy Spirit upon them.

² ANOINTING WITH CHRISM: Candidates walk to the Sanctuary. The Bishop goes to them individually, takes some Chrism, addresses them by their Confirmation Name, and makes the Sign of the Cross on their foreheads.

Bishop: “ _____ , be sealed with
the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Newly Confirmed: “AMEN.”

Bishop: “Peace be with you.”

Newly Confirmed: “AND WITH YOUR SPIRIT.”

