

Parish Week † Sunday, 11 Feb. 2024

Saturday, 10 Feb. / St. Scholastica, virgin

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Carrol Fernandes (school mate)
5.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Evaristo family)

SUNDAY, 11 FEB. / 6-B

- *Homilist: Deacon Ramon Villardo*
- *World Day of the Sick*
- *Marriage Sunday*
- *Fr. Ernest Munachi Ezeogu, C.S.Sp.: death anniversary (2015)*

- 9.00 am Mass: Int. Siromi Ameresekere (friends)
10.30 am Mass: † Frank & Joan DeVerno (Pamela)
12.00 pm Mass: † Marguerite Chan Chan Wong (family)
1.30 pm Infant Baptisms
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday, 12 Feb.

- 9.00 am Mass: † Joaquim & Ana Gotera (children)
7.00 pm Mass: Int. Margaret Wong (friends)
7.30 pm Confirmation Info Nite A

Tuesday, 13 Feb.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Dominga Cerrudo (Cezar Corbillon)
7.00 pm Mass: † Giuseppe Florio
7.30 pm Confirmation Info Nite B

Wednesday, 14 Feb. / ASH WEDNESDAY

- *Lent begins; Day of Fast and Abstinence*
- *All Ash Wednesday Masses include distribution of blessed ashes*

- 8.00 am Mass: Pro Populo
9.00 am St. Maria Goretti School A.W. Liturgy
1.00 pm ▶ St. Albert School A.W. Liturgy
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Thursday, 15 Feb.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Trevor De Silva (wife)
7.00 pm † Lalita D'Souza (Joseph)

Friday, 16 Feb.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Cyrilda Alagaratnam
(Shirani Hemachandra, Leslie & Rita)
7.00 pm Mass: † Anestine John (Anastasia)
7.30 pm Stations of the Cross (Catholic Women's League)

Saturday, 17 Feb. / Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

- 8.00 am Mass: † Estrellita Papag (Arriola family)
5.00 pm Mass: † Norberto Pasia
(St. Maria Goretti School Staff)
6.30 pm *Family Night Spaghetti Supper*

SUNDAY, 18 FEB. / LENT 1-B

- *Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galea*
- 9.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Fely Mawirat)
10.30 am Mass: † Joseph & Theresa (Mary Joseph)
12.00 pm Mass: † Celerina Potes (family)
2.00 pm ▶ *RCIA Rite of Election*
(St. Isaac Jogues Church, Pickering)
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Focus on the Word

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Leviticus 13.1-46; 1 Corinthians 10.31; Mark 1.40-45

O God, who teach us that you abide in hearts that are just and true, grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace as to become a dwelling pleasing to you. Amen.

Pray for the Deceased

**Eduardo Gotera Sr., Fr. Noel Whelan,
Deacon Brian Du Quesnay**

**Raneilia Richards, the 19-year-old innocent
bystander shot in Mississauga on New Year Eve.**

Lenten Masses

During Lent, there will be an evening Mass at 7.00 pm Monday to Friday, from Ash Wednesday to Holy Thursday.

Stations of the Cross

Each Friday during Lent, the *Stations of the Cross* will be prayed congregationally after the 7.00 pm Mass.

For private use, the parish *Stations* booklet may be obtained at the office for \$2.

The Facilitators for 2024 will be:

- Feb. 16 **Catholic Women's League**
23 **Youth Ministry**
Mar. 1 **Altar Servers**
8 **St. Vincent de Paul**
15 **Greeters & Euch. Ministers**
22 **Knights of Columbus**
29 **Lectors**



Calling all Palms

Bring in your *old blessed palms* by the Sunday before Holy Week (17 March). Kindly place them in the *palm box* in the Vestibule.

COMING UP

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- 4 Mar. Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
10 Mar. Infant Baptism (1.30 pm)
17 Mar. 2nd Collection: *ShareLife*
19 Mar. ▶ St. Albert School Mass (9:30 am);
- St. Maria Goretti School Mass (12:30 pm)

- 24 Mar. **Palm Sunday: Holy Week begins**
28 Mar. **Holy Thursday: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper;**
- Adoration until midnight
29 Mar. **Good Friday: The Passion of Our Lord;**
2nd Collection: *Good Friday*
31 Mar. **Easter Sunday: Resurrection of Our Lord;**
2 Collections: (a) *Offertory*; (b) *Easter*;

- 1 Apr. Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
7 Apr. Infant Baptism (1.30 pm)
14 Apr. St. Albert School 1st Communion Mass (2:30 pm)
16 Apr. ▶ St. Albert School Mass (1:00 pm)
17 Apr. St. Maria Goretti School Mass (9:00 am)



Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and is a day of FASTING AND ABSTINENCE. Ashes will be distributed at all our liturgies that day.

FASTING (one full meal and two smaller meals, no snacking) applies to those 18-60 years. This does not apply to those who are pregnant, sick or elderly.

ABSTINENCE from meat applies to those 13 and older.

During Lent, the **faithful** PREPARE FOR EASTER through:

Prayer Penance and Works of Charity or Mercy.

During the Lenten season, we see some changes to the Liturgy:

The “*Alleluia*” is not sung, and is omitted in prayers.

Musical instruments are used sparingly, only as necessary accompaniment for singing;

Flowers are not placed in the Sanctuary, from the Baptistry to the Tabernacle. Any donations (e.g., from funerals) must be placed in the Blessed Virgin Shrine area.

In the RCIA, **Catechumens** present themselves to the regional **Bishop** at the *Rite of Election*, to prepare to celebrate the Paschal Mystery through the various stages of Christian Initiation.

A Special Gift SANITIZERS

We thank **Marivic Vloria** for her kind gift of a supply of sanitizer dispensers for our Parish. God bless you.

Confirmation Information Meetings

Families with students ready to prepare as Candidates for:

CONFIRMATION

are invited to attend one of two Information Meetings:

Monday or Tuesday - 12 or 13 February

Mass will be celebrated at 7.00 pm, and the *meeting* will follow immediately in the Church.



Catholic Women’s League

Family Night Spaghetti Supper, 17 Feb.

The *Catholic Women’s League of Canada* invites Parishioners to a 1st Class Spaghetti Supper at 6.30 pm on Saturday, 17 February.



RCIA Rite of Election

2 pm, 18 Feb., St. Isaac Jogues Church
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



On Sunday, 18 February, RCIA & RCIC candidates completing the *Catechumenate* period will celebrate the Rite of ELECTION.

The Rite be conducted by **Bishop Vincent Nguyen** at 2.00 pm at St. Isaac Jogues Church, 1148 Finch Avenue, Pickering.

Experiencing Lent

Here is a real 12-Step Program for your Lenten renewal.

At home

- Prayer:** Make sure to pray Grace together at family meals; pray the Rosary daily – offer the Sorrowful Mysteries on Friday. Read Psalms 27 and 146 at Morning and Evening Prayer. Include the *Divine Mercy* devotion in your daily prayer. Meditate on the *Stations of the Cross* daily (booklets at the parish office, \$2). On Sunday, share *Evening Prayer*: gather as a family, or with friends, using the script provided in the *Living with Christ* daily missalette.
- Peace Time:** Note the references to the Sunday Readings (under “Focus on the Word” in the second column), and read them in your Bible at home at a quiet time during the week. Let the Word of God permeate your life and bring you healing and peace.

Prayer and Church Community

- Weekday Eucharist:** Participate in daily Mass as per the schedule in the 1st column in the bulletin.
- Stations of the Cross:** Pray the Stations after daily Mass; join as a family in the weekly parish Stations, every Friday at 7:30 pm, following the 7.00 pm Mass.
- Prayer and Action:** Offer the *St. Vincent de Paul Society* your time & talent to help the poor. In addition to the hour’s wage as the weekly Sunday Offering, sacrifice a day’s wages for our annual *ShareLife Appeal*, to help people to help themselves.

Concern for One Another

- Ghost:** Be helpful to people anonymously, without revealing who you are in order to take credit.
- Threads:** Got any good clothes to spare? Set them aside for the St. Vincent de Paul’s *Bundle Sunday*.
- Lift:** Spend time with someone who is hurting and really needs encouragement. Set aside your own problems for a moment, and pray with that person for God’s peace.

Forgiveness: Self-Concern and Others

- Reconciliation:** Have a good Confession early in Lent; make up with God; open up – every Saturday, 4:00 pm. This is the Sacrament that keeps our hearts from getting clogged by sin; instead of growing cold, warm up!
- Family Forgiving Time:** Take time to reflect upon the past year, and talk about your relationships at home. Pray to God for help in discerning areas that need renewal, forgiveness and healing and then take action.

Fasting and Almsgiving

- Shrink:** Remember that both *Ash Wednesday* and *Good Friday* are days of Fast and Abstinence. In Lent, observe abstinence every Friday. This is a spiritual exercise. Choose a time in your period of fasting when you can concentrate, and pray for a spirit of solidarity between our own poverty, and that of the poor in our city and in the developing nations.
- Grow:** Ask God for help to get into spiritual self-renewal. Select appropriate acts of self-denial during Lent, and follow through! Cut out smoking; cap the alcohol; bypass favourite foods; limit your time on the internet; and skip the mindless TV. Instead, pick programs on Catholic stations that highlight life’s positive values. Give “The Screen” a rest & clear your head 1 day a week.



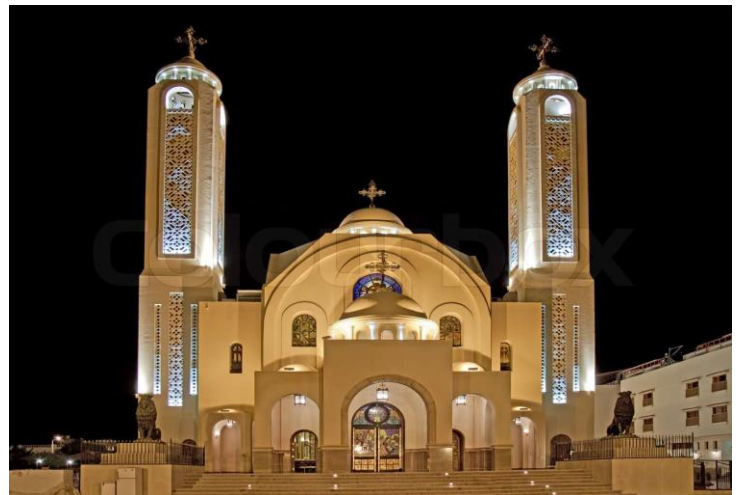
The Coptic Martyrs, 15 February

In February 2015, the Islamic State (IS) released a report showing photos of 21 Egyptian Christian construction workers that they had kidnapped in the city of Sirte, Libya. The men came from different villages in Egypt, 13 of them from Al-Our, in the Nile Valley south of Cairo. The 21 workers were murdered on 15 February 2015.

On 19 April 2015, IS released another video in which they murdered about 30 Ethiopian Christians.

The victims were formally declared saints and martyrs by Pope Tawadros II of Alexandria. In 2023, Pope Francis announced that the 21 Coptic martyrs would also be commemorated by the Catholic Church, in what was described as a major ecumenical decision. The martyrs are commemorated on 15 February.

After the beheadings, the Coptic Church released the martyrs' names, but there were only 20 names. In the video, the 21st victim was a Black African, in contrast to the others, who were Egyptian Copts. The 21st victim was Matthew Ayariga, from Ghana. Sources reported that he said "I am a Christian and I am like them." He was not originally a Christian, but he saw the immense faith of the others, and when the terrorists asked him if he rejected Jesus so he could live, he said, "Their God is my God," knowing that he would be killed. On 29 September 2020, Ayariga's remains were received in Egypt by the new Church in Al Our, the *Church of the Martyrs of Faith and Homeland*, a shrine built in honor of the martyrs. The family members of the other martyrs "expressed their joy at the return of the remains of the martyr Matthew Ayariga, saying "Our joy is complete."



Herve Thuram and Fiona Francis celebrate their birthdays with their families, 29 Jan.

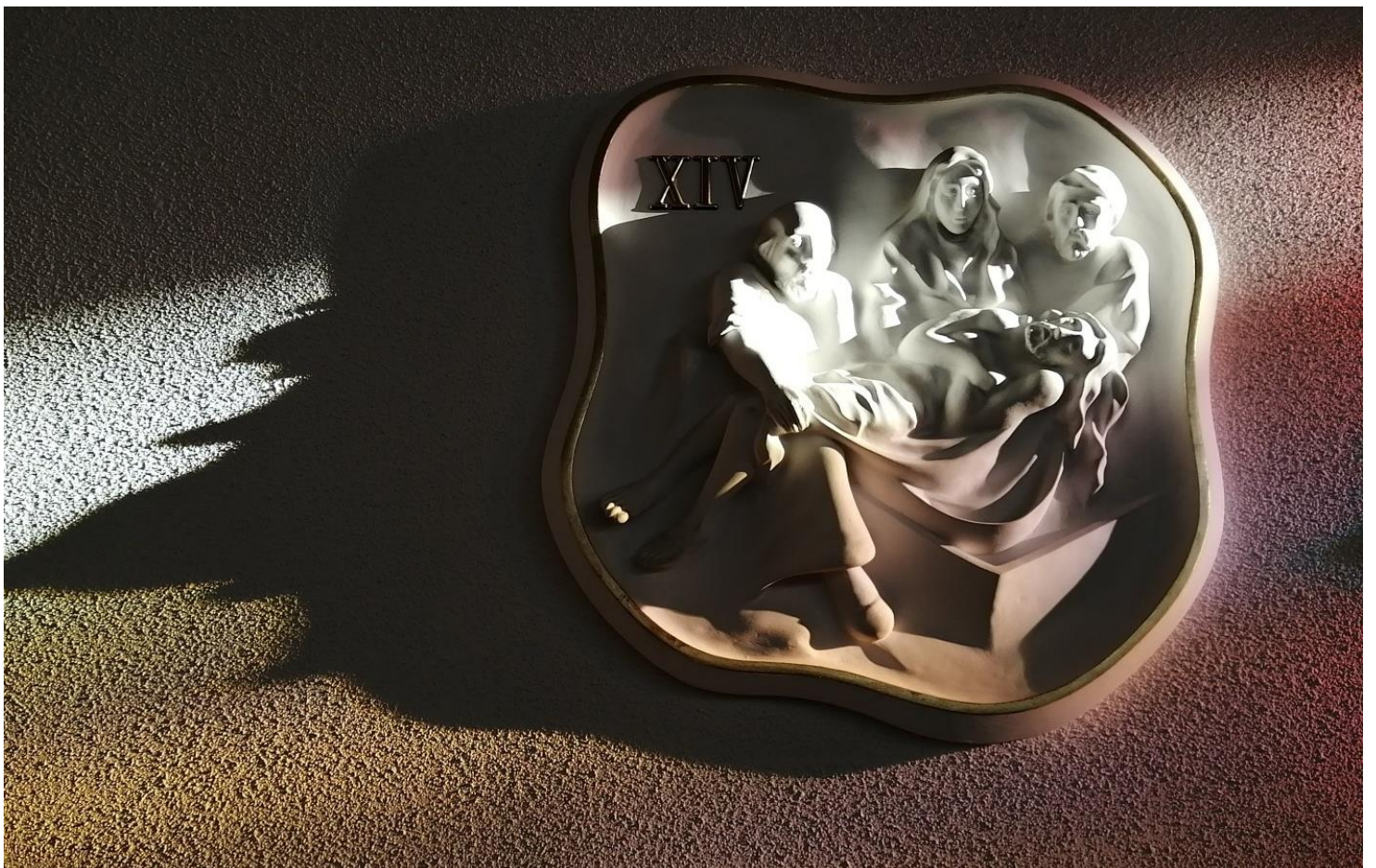


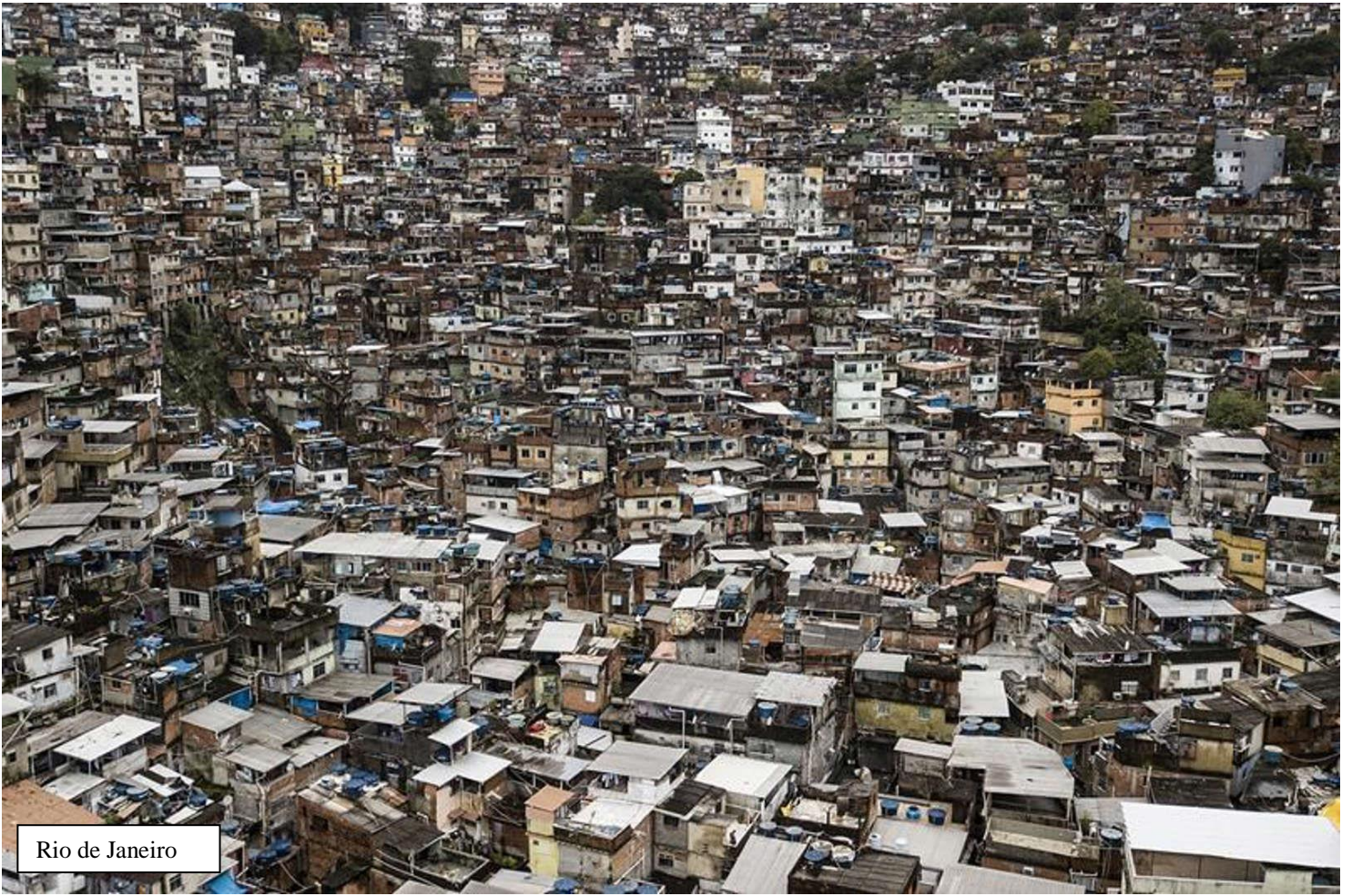
The family of Arulvihani Curedars at his Memorial Prayers, 29 Jan.





Lectors, 20 January.





Rio de Janeiro



Scarborough



