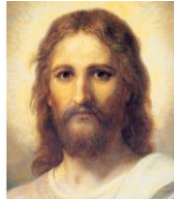


Becoming Catholic



Jesus said, “No one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit.” (John 3.5)

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish, but may have eternal life.” (John 3:16).

Starting the Journey

The Catholic Church is the universal community which honours God by celebrating the salvation that Jesus Christ won for us by his victory over sin & death. Most disciples became members of the Church over time; they were Baptized as infants, grew up in a Catholic home, and received their education in a Catholic school. They were gradually initiated into the life of the Church by receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

Some adults were Baptized in a Christian church which is not Catholic, and became Catholic after making a Solemn *Profession of Faith*, being Confirmed and sharing in the Eucharist with the Catholic Community.

Other adults who were never Baptized have been initiated into the Catholic Church, after a process of formation, prayer and discernment; a process shared by the individual and the community. This initiation is marked by the celebration of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist at the annual Easter Vigil celebration.

The Catholic Church welcomes new members and tries to provide each person with a suitable process for spiritual formation. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process for initiating new members. It is a restoration of the original, phased process of initiation that existed in the early Church. Its goals are to:

- ❑ *Deepen* one’s personal conversion to Jesus Christ;
- ❑ *Honour* God by living the Gospel of Jesus;
- ❑ *Engage* the person in the life of the Faith Community.

The RCIA provides a structure that incorporates the teaching of the Gospel, prayer, spiritual direction, catechesis (handing on the tradition of the Church), and personal contact with the members of the local parish. The RCIA calls all members of the parish to share their faith with the new members. The parishioners are asked to welcome, support and pray for these men and women as they journey toward full membership in the Church.

There are liturgical rites that are celebrated to mark the candidate’s spiritual growth, and to express the support of the parish. The rites are celebrated with the assembly, during Sunday Mass. The initiation process comprises four periods: each period leads to the celebration of a rite.

Period of Inquiry

The period of Inquiry (or *Evangelization* or *Pre-Catechumenate*), is a time of personal investigation, during which the Church tells the great story of God’s love. As the Inquirers explore the Bible, God’s saving Word, they will discover that the heart and centre of this story is the Good News of Jesus Christ. This period leads to a Rite of Welcome to the Catechumenate.

Period of the Catechumenate

This is a period marked by catechesis (instruction). Prayer and celebrations of the Word. Those seeking Baptism are the **Catechumens**; those already Baptized who are seeking reception as Catholics are known simply as **Candidates**. This period allows for the nurturing of their faith and conversion to God, and Leads to a *Rite of Election*.

Period of Enlightenment

The third period of *Purification and Enlightenment*, usually begins on the First Sunday of Lent. Those who are ready to celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation at the next Easter vigil. The **Elect**, enter into a more reflective period coinciding with the six weeks of Lent. They reflect on the meaning of Baptism, on being a disciple of Jesus, and on the spiritual preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation. Through the liturgical rites, the parish helps the **Elect** and the Baptized **Candidates** by praying that they will be strengthened in what is good, and protected from what is sinful and harmful. This period ends with the celebration of the *Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil*.

Initiation

The initiation which occurs at the Easter Vigil, on Holy Saturday night, incorporates:

- ❑ The celebration of the *Sacraments of Initiation* (BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION and EUCHARIST.) for the **Elect**. Who now become the **Neophytes**; and
- ❑ The solemn *Profession of Faith* (along with Confirmation and the Eucharist) for the **Candidates**, who now become the **Newly Received**.

Period of the Mystagogy

This period extends through the Great Fifty Days of the Easter Season which culminate in the celebration of Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church.

During this festive season the **Neophytes** (new members) along with the parish community, grow in deepening their grasp of the mystery of Jesus Christ in his passage from death to resurrected life and making it part of their lives through meditation on the Gospel, sharing in the Eucharist, and doing the works of charity.

Celebrating the Sacraments of Initiation does not mark the *end* of our journey in faith. In fact, our faith journey is *ongoing*, and takes place in the company of the faithful, the Eucharistic community. During this period the **Neophytes** are formally invited to discern the ways in which they can share their gifts within the faith community, particularly by engaging themselves in *parish ministry*. This allows them to continue to grow in a spirit of love and service.

Parish Week † Sunday, 11 August 2024

Saturday, 10 Aug. / St. Lawrence, *deacon & martyr*

- 8.00 am Mass: † Rufino Gomez (family)
- 8.30 am Liturgical Bible Study training
- 11.30 am Wedding: David Cooney & Lorelle Vase
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Mary Weerasinghe (Malini)

SUNDAY, 11 AUG. / 19-B

- Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati
- 2nd Collection: Canadian Missions

- 9.00 am Mass: † Gabriel & Francis Andreas (Mary Thanarajan)
- 10.30 am Mass: † Lydia Marquez (family)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Ana Medrero (family)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday, 12 Aug. / St. Jane Frances de Chantal, *religious*

- 8.00 am Mass: † Filomena Pisciola (Irma)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Lucille Margaret Delaney (Renee Young)

Tues., 13 Aug. / Ss. Pontian, *pope*, & Hippolytus, priest, martyrs

- 8.00 am Mass: † Domingo & Rose Garcia (Emilio Go & family)

Wednesday, 14 Aug. / St. Maximilian Kolbe, *priest & martyr*

- 8.00 am Mass: † Restituto Neiser Deangkinay (Edna & Carmelo)
- 7.00 pm ► Catholic Cemetery Masses

Thursday, 15 Aug. / Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 8.00 am Mass: † Cyril Bastiampillai (family)

Friday, 16 Aug. / St. Stephen of Hungary

- 8.00 am Mass: † Cyrilda Alagaratnam (Shirani Hemachandra, Leslie & Rita)

Saturday, 17 Aug.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Fr. Fred Schmidt (Carol Morra)
- 5.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving Birthday & Anniversary (Anastasia)

SUNDAY, 18 AUG. / 20-B

- Homilist: Deacon Ramon Villardo
- Church Fair- ShareLife

- 9.00 am Mass: † Emiliana Mawirat (Fely)
- 10.30 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving for the Cenizal family (Maria)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Glen Kelly (John & Louise Arsenaault)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Catholic Cemetery Masses

7.00 pm, 14 August

As on the Vestibule posters, the CATHOLIC CEMETERY MASSES this year will be at 7.00 pm on Wednesday, 14 August.

The Catholic Cemeteries most used by our parishioners are:

- ☐ *Christ the King* (near Steeles & Markham)

Celebrant – **Monsignor Vid Vlasic**

- ☐ *Holy Cross* (near Steeles & Yonge)

Celebrant – **His Excellency, Bishop John Corriveau**



Focus on the Word

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

1 Kings 19.4-8; Ephesians 4.30-5.2; John 6.41-51

Almighty ever-living God, whom, taught by the Holy Spirit, we dare to call our Father, bring to perfection in our hearts the spirit of adoption as your sons and daughters, that we may merit to enter into the inheritance which you have promised. Amen.

Parish Bazaar 18 August, 9 am – 2 pm

Our Parish is holding a Bazaar on Sunday, 18 August, beginning after the 9.00 am Mass and continuing to 2.00 pm. **Krispy Kreme** donuts are on sale: \$10 a dozen. Proceeds will support *ShareLife*. **Vendors:** To reserve a table, call: **Lillian**, 647-909-6425. Table rental is \$25. Preorder your donuts in the Vestibule at all Masses this weekend. For further details, call: **Peter**, 647-567-4081.

RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The next meetings:

RCIA Adults: 6 September - 7.30 pm

RCIC Youth: 7 September - 10.00 am.

LITURGICAL BIBLE STUDY training

8.30 – 1100 am, 10 August

The followup to the *Lenten Ministry Renewal Day* (held on 16 March) will be a *Liturgical Bible Study training* on 10 August, from 8.30 – 11 am. For details, contact: **Aleks**, 647-402-2883.

The Holy Bible is our greatest tool of experiencing God in our life as it holds testimonies and manifestations of God's unconditional love for us. The LITURGICAL BIBLE STUDY (LBS) is a tool that will surely lead us to understand the Bible more deeply.

2nd Collection: 11 August, Canadian Missions

On 11 August, the 2nd collection is for the *Canadian Missions Shared Collection*.

CATHOLIC MISSIONS IN CANADA (CMIC) was established in 1908, to provide support to Catholic missionaries (Priests, sisters, brothers & lay people) who dedicate their lives to proclaim the Gospel throughout the poorest regions in Canada.

CMIC and some selected DIOCESES IN NORTHERN CANADA, help sustain and extend the Catholic faith to hard-to-reach mission areas in Canada. See the website bulletin for more details.

COMING UP

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- 25 Aug. 2nd Collection: **Maintenance**
- 2 Sept. Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
- 6 Sept. Wedding: Tang & Peralta (1:00 pm)
- 7 Sept. ► EWTN **Family Celebration Event**, 8 am – 6 pm, Delta Conference Centre, 655 Dixon Road, Etobicoke
- 8 Sept. ► **Rosary Sunday** at Martyrs' Shrine, Midland ON; - Infant Baptism (1.30 pm)
- 8-15 Sep. ► INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS, Quito, Ecuador
- 22 Sept. 2nd Collection: **Needs of the Church in Canada**
- 29 Sept. Feast of **St. Michael the Archangel**; - 2nd Collection: **Maintenance**

Catholic Cemetery Mass

14 August 2024

Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Toronto invites families to participate in this year's 37th Annual Mass for the Faithful Departed at 7 pm on 14 August. **Amy Profenna**, the director of Marketing and Public Relations at Catholic Cemeteries, commented on these Masses that offer the loved ones of passed relatives a dedicated remembrance Mass.

"All of these Masses are held outdoors which is beautiful as it allows the faithful to participate in a service which is close to the resting place of their loved one," she said. "I think it plays a unique role in the resolution of grief because it allows the bereaved to have the emotional gratification of knowing that they are participating in Mass so close to where their loved one is buried.

It is sacred gathering where we come together as people of God, often with heavy hearts, yet with hope in our souls, to remember and honour those who have gone before us."

Across this year's seven locations, more than 10,000 parishioners are expected to attend the solemn Mass, a show of unity and reverence that goes hand-in-hand with the vision of the Church.

Amy continued, "I think of our Catholic cemeteries as very much being part of the Church. Therefore, at these Masses we pray with the Church. These cemeteries become a place for worship, prayer and reflection. So, at the end of life, the Catholic Church provides us this holy ground to rest and await the Resurrection. Those who come are reminded of the faith journey of our loved ones and the importance of a legacy that will continue for generations."

Taking place each year on the Wednesday closest to the Feast of the Assumption, the summer Mass functions much like the traditional service, with elements such as the Prayer of the Faithful more closely tailored to themes of family, bereavement and remembrance.

Any said that Catholic Cemeteries hopes these Masses will mark another year of optimism as those who have died are once again remembered and celebrated.

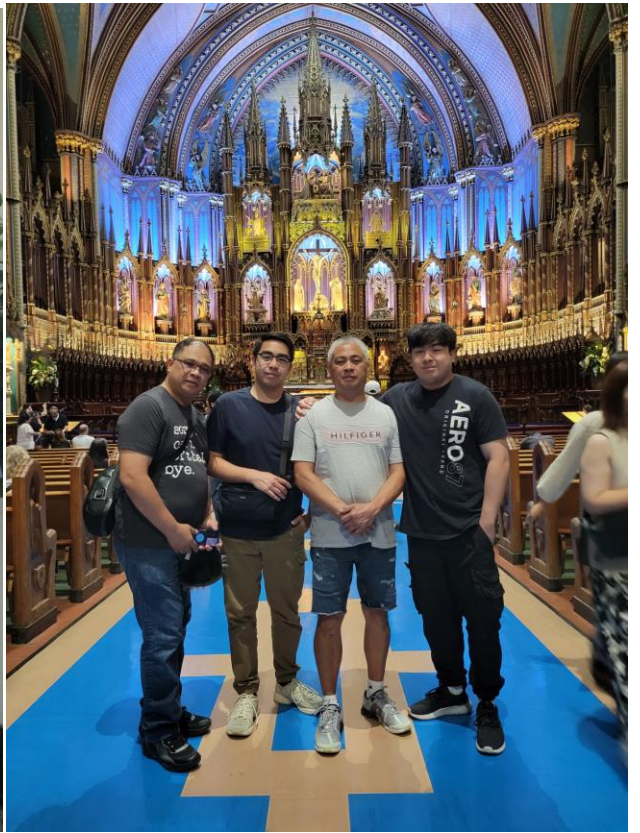
"As Catholics, we believe that Christ's victory over death gives us the assurance that eternal life awaits all who believe in Him. This Mass is an opportunity for those of us facing a loss to find strength in one another, to share our grief and to offer our support to those who need it most."

This year's Masses will be held and celebrated by:

Assumption Cemetery, Mississauga, Bishop Ivan Camilleri
Christ the King Cemetery, Markham, **Msgr. Vid Vlastic**
Holy Cross Cemetery, Thornhill, **Bishop John Corriveau**
Mount Hope Cemetery, Toronto, **Bishop Robert Kasun**
Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Woodbridge, **Msgr. Patrick O'Dea**
Resurrection Cemetery, Whitby, **Bishop Vincent Nguyen**
St. Mary's Cemetery, Barrie, **Bishop John Boissonneau**

In the case of poor weather, services will take place indoors.





Birthday Blessings



Fr. Elias cuts his birthday cake, 5 August.



Jasper: St. Mary Anglican Church, destroyed by fire on 23 July.



Toronto: St. Ann Anglican Church, destroyed by fire on 9 June.



Dianne Dias teaches in South Sudan, August 2024.



Wedding of Princess Diana and Prince Charles, 29 July 1981



Blenheim Palace