



## Focus on the Word

### Ascension of the Lord, Year A

**Acts 1.1-11; Ephesians 1.17-23; Matthew 28.16-20**

*Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God, and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving, for the Ascension of Christ your Son is our exaltation, and, where the Head has gone before in glory, the Body is called to follow in hope. Amen.*

## Parish Week † Sunday, 17 May 2026

### Saturday, 16 May

- 8.00 am Mass: † Ceciliamma Santhiapillai (Juliet)  
 5.00 pm Mass: † Ernesto, Lydia & Justino Rodas (family)  
 - *RCIA Special Initiation Rite*  
 7.00 pm Mass: † Ibrahim Murcus

### SUNDAY, 17 MAY / ASCENSION OF THE LORD

#### ■ Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galea

- 9.00 am Mass: † Lydia Marquez (family)  
 10.30 am Mass: Int. Maria Jeremiah (friends)  
 12.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving, Birthday Darina D'Cunha  
 (Sheldon & Mary)  
 1.30 pm Infant Baptism  
 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

### Monday, 18 May / St. John I, pope & martyr

#### ■ Birthday of St. Pope John Paul II (1920)

- 8.00 am Mass: † Caroline Bastiampillai (family)  
 7.00 pm Mass: † Tiu Teng Suy & Ramon Ng Tong (family)

### Tuesday, 19 May

- 8.00 am Mass: † Souls in Purgatory (Carol Morra)

### Wednesday, 20 May / St. Bernardine of Siena, priest

- 8.00 am Mass: † Shrikant Kale (Annie Tauro)

### Thur., 21 May / St. Christopher Magallanes, priest, & Companions, martyrs - St. Eugène De Mazenod

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving Georgie (Reynaldo & family)

### Friday, 22 May / St. Rita of Cascia, religious

- 8.00 am Mass: † Alexander & Rita D'Souza (Eddie & Theresa)

### Saturday, 23 May

- 8.00 am Mass: † Noel Fernando & Monica Camps, Thanksgiving  
 (Naomi & family)  
 12.30 pm funeral: † Caridad De Castro  
 3.00 pm Wedding: Pio Pastolero & Joan Albuquerque  
 5.00 pm Mass: † Maria Santos Brown (Rodas family)

### SUNDAY, 24 MAY / PENTECOST SUNDAY

#### ■ Homilist: Deacon Ramon Villardo

#### ■ 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Maintenance

- 9.00 am Mass: † Gabriel & Francis Andreas (Gracious)  
 10.30 am Mass: † Raphael, Mariam, Deceased Members  
 of Thattil family (Mary & Manuel)  
 12.00 pm Mass: † Clive Francis Fernandez (Mary Joseph)  
 1.30 pm Infant Baptism  
 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

## Pray for the Deceased

The **45 victims** of the heavy  
**snow fall in Japan in February.**



## SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT

### For Young Adults 13 & 14 June

The Divine Retreat Centre is hosting a Spiritual Growth Retreat for Young Adults, 20-40 years of age, on Saturday & Sunday, 13 - 14 June 2026. For details, call: 647 949-4932.

Check out: [divineretreatcentretoronto.org](http://divineretreatcentretoronto.org)

## The Knights of Columbus

### Upcoming events



The Knights of Columbus are a Catholic men's fraternal organization that support the spiritual growth of its members through charity and service. *Upcoming events:*

- |          |                        |
|----------|------------------------|
| May 17   | General Meeting        |
| June 21  | Father's Day Bake Sale |
| July 25  | Car Wash               |
| Sept. 19 | Dinner Dance           |

## COMING UP

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- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| 27 May   | Wedding: Jagannathan & Sebyanagam (10:30 am)   |
| 29 May   | Wedding: Canoneo & Claudio (10:30 am)  |
| 30 May   | ▶ A DAY WITH MARY: Celebrating the warmth of Our Mother's love at Villanova College, Vaughan   |
| 31 May   | TRINITY SUNDAY<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection: <i>ShareLife</i> # 3   |
| 3 June   | ▶ <b>Bishop John Boissonneau: Celebration of 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination</b> (Mass at St. Michael Cathedral, 10.30 am)       |
| 7 June   | CORPUS CHRISTI SUNDAY  |
| 10 June  | ▶ Pope Leo dedicates <i>la Torre de Jesucrist</i> at the Sagrada Familia Basilica in Barcelona, Spain  |
| 12 June  | ▶ FIFA World Cup in Toronto (to 2 July)  |
| 30 June  | <b>Cardinal Francis Leo: birthday</b> (1971)   |
| 1 July   | Canada Day   |
| 3 July   | <b>Fr. Elias Chachati: Anniversary of Ordination</b> (1983)  |
| 6 July   | Feast of <b>St. Maria Goretti</b>  |
| 24 Sept. | ▶ Beatification of <b>Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen</b> (St. Louis, USA), by <b>Cardinal Luis Antonio Gokim Tagle</b> , delegate of <b>Pope Leo XIV</b> |
| 4 Oct.   | Jubilee Year: ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI, 800 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of death  |
| 26 Oct.  | ▶ Toronto Municipal elections  |
| 22 Nov.  | Feast of ST. CECILIA, patroness of Musicians   |

## ShareLife 2026

Ascension Sunday, 17 May

Thank you for supporting our parish's *ShareLife* campaign.

So far, we have raised: \$ 18,630.00  
toward our 2026 goal of: \$ 99,000.00



**Through *ShareLife*, you support human connection**

On the 60<sup>th</sup> *World Day of Social Communication*, we are invited to pause and connect with each other: for the Church, for the world, and for the future we are shaping together. In this moment, one truth remains clear: the Church endures because of the strength and love of parishioners like you.

Your support of *ShareLife* supports human connection across the world, making a difference in the lives of thousands of people in our community and beyond, funding more than 40 agencies which help children and youth, families in crisis, seniors, immigrants, refugees, people with special needs, international missions and vocations.

31 May is our next *ShareLife* Sunday. Please give generously. Thank you for your support for *ShareLife*, and for living the Gospel by providing for those in need.

### *A Special Gift* ALTAR FLOWERS

We thank the family and friends of **Evelyn Mendoza** for their gift of the four beautiful flower arrangements at her funeral Mass on 22 November 2025. May she rest in peace.

### St. Maria Goretti Youth 17 May

The Youth Ministry will have its next planning meeting on 17 May. The same day, they will sing at ST. GEORGE CARE at 3 pm.

### Volunteer Screening

In accordance with the procedures of the Archdiocese of Toronto, our Parish is updating the *Volunteer Screening* records of all volunteers and lay ministers who assist at St. Maria Goretti Church. This is a basic requirement of the Archdiocese, to honour its responsibility to the Province to maintain current and accurate information. Ministry Facilitators are asked to help their members to move this forward. If any volunteer has questions, don't hesitate to call **Glenda**, our Screening Coordinator: 647-614-7493.



### RCIA: Special Initiation, 16 May

Pray for all in our parish R.C.I.A. process, who will celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation in the *Special Initiation Rite* at the 5.00 pm Mass on 16 May 2026.



### Spiritual Thought

*Tutti le grandezze di questo mondo non valgono un buon amico.*  
"All the riches of the world are not as valuable as a good friend."  
*Voltaire*

## Congratulations to the Newly-Ordained

Remember in your prayers the new priests of our Archdiocese, ordained on:  
9 May 2026, at St. Michael Cathedral,  
by **Cardinal Francis Leo**:

**Fr. Matteo Bertozzi**  
**Fr. Moonjun Alphonse Choi**  
**Fr. Matthew Tulio**  
**Fr. Victor Valdes**



*Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve, to labor and not to ask for any reward save that of knowing that we do your will. Amen.*



## Upcoming Weddings

*There is a promise of Marriage between:*

**Pio Pastolero and Joan Albuquerque**  
23 May

**Sujaay Jagannathan and Vinoja Sebanayagam**  
27 May

**Benn Canoneo and Pullynn Claudio**  
29 May

**Balwin and Lorean Arasaratnam**  
*Our Lady of Good Health*

**Aaron Coelho and Marcella Fernandes**  
22 July, Portugal

**Anoshan Alfred and Nisoba Pushpapalan**  
4 July, *Our Lady of the Airways*

**Juleus Pushparajah and Theynusha Navaratnam**  
24 August, *Holy Cross, Georgetown*

**Vaniya Vavuniya**  
*St. Joseph, Sri Lanka*

**Johan Yogaretnam and Denusha Perinpanathan**  
6 December

**Justin Stiller and Nicole Munoz**  
1 April 2027



Celebrating a First Communion in Rockville Centre, Long Island.





*Above: The Parish Knights.*

*Below: Members of the Holy Trinity prayer group.*





On May 9, 2026, Cardinal Frank Leo ordained four new priests for the Archdiocese of Toronto at Saint Michael Cathedral Basilica. The new priests are; Victor Manuel Valdés, Matthew Steven Tuanquin Tulio, Moonjun Alphonse Choi, Matteo Bertozzi. Over 1,200 people attended the Ordination Mass.

Victor, who grew up in St. Aidan Parish, assisted at St. Maria Goretti Parish as a Seminarian on weekends from 2017 -2018, with Ryan Nigli. Ryan grew up in St. Ambrose and Our Lady of Sorrows Parishes, Etobicoke.

Fr. Ryan was ordained a Priest in 2024, and serves at St. Justin Martyr Parish, Unionville. Fr. Victor will serve at Blessed Trinity Parish, North York.



Members of the EL SHADDAI prayer group join facilitators at the Friday evening meeting of the RCIA process, 8 May.

[Right] David Valencia, Fr. Edwin and Judel Villardo in community time at St. Augustine Seminary, 29 April.

[Below] Donations drop off in the Vestibule.





*Above: Flores de Mayo*

*Below: Fr. Barretto visits Scarborough*

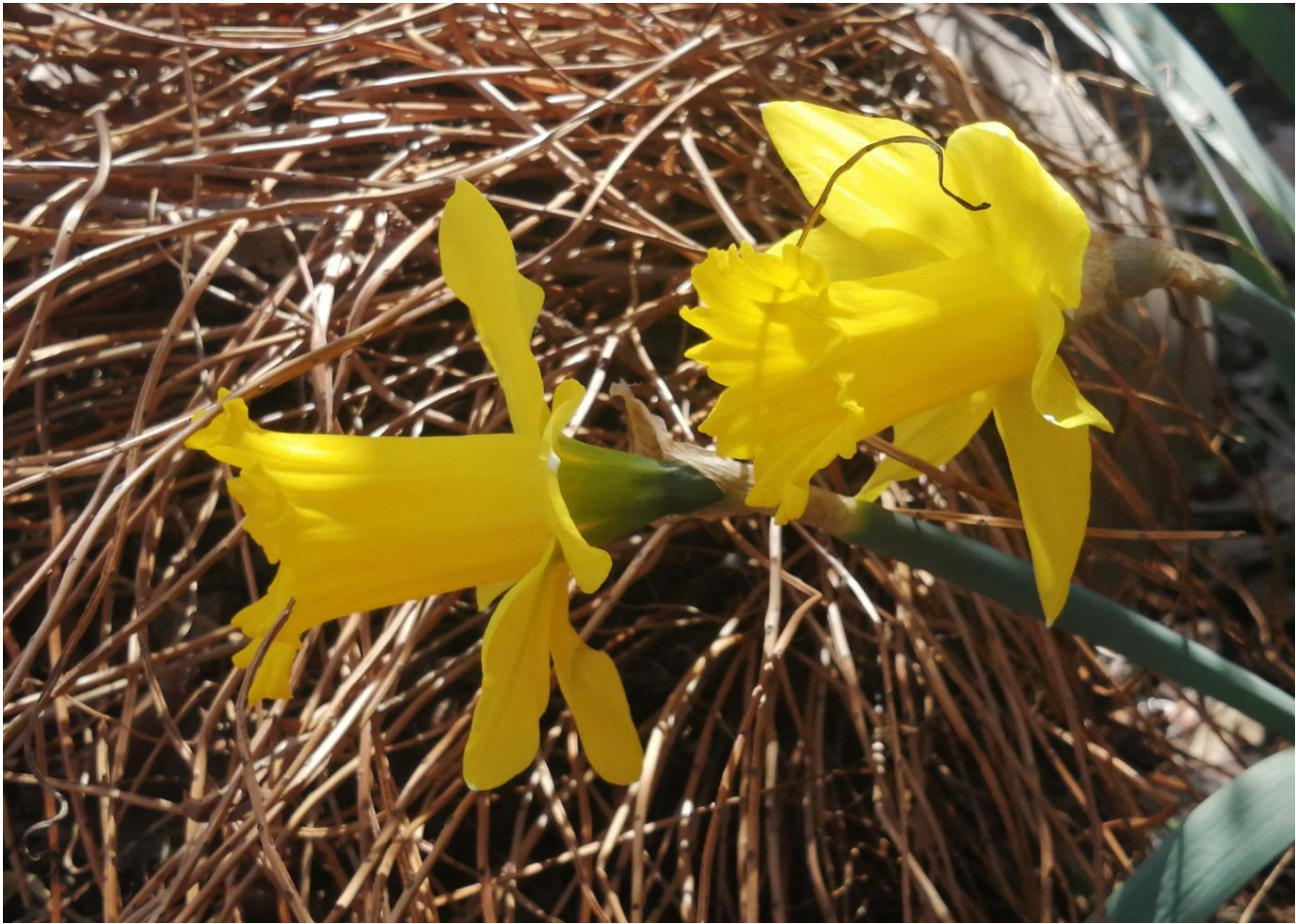




*Above: Joan & Pio receive a blessing to prepare for their Big Day.*

*Below: A blessing in preparation for Baptism.*





*The colours of the seasons. Nature's palette changes daily*



