

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 of disciples at 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 1st Sunday of Lent. Those ready to celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation at the next Easter Vigil, the **Elect**, enter into a more reflective period during the 6 weeks of Lent. They reflect on the meaning of Baptism, on being a disciple of Jesus, and on their personal preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation. Through 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 liturgy 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 family of the Eucharist. 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, 23 August 2026

Saturday, 22 Aug. / Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8.00 am Mass: † Marcelino Gabales (family)
5.00 pm Mass: † Dominic & Anjelica Fernandes (Joseph)

SUNDAY, 23 AUG. / 21-A

- Homilist: Deacon Ramon Villardo
- Summer Fair / Krispy Kreme donuts
- Calendar feast of St. Rose of Lima

9.00 am Mass: † Emeliana Mawirat Death Anniversary (Fely)
10.30 am Mass: † Ernesto, Lydia & Justino Rodas (family)
12.00 pm Mass: † Tiu Teng Suy & Ramon Ng Tong (family)
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday, 24 August / St. Bartholomew, apostle

8.00 am Mass: † Caroline Bastiampillai (family)
7.00 pm Mass: † Edwin Tauro (Annie)

Tuesday, 25 August / St. Louis and St. Joseph Calaasanz, priest

8.00 am Mass: † Caroline Bastiampillai (family)

Wednesday, 26 August

8.00 am Mass: † Rose Tomsic (Corine Maulion)

Thursday, 27 August / St. Monica

8.00 am Mass: † Immanuel Baguio (Ina Manuel)

Friday, 28 August / St. Augustine, bishop & doctor

8.00 am Mass: † Lina Vaccaro Cilento (Maria Di Michele)

Saturday, 29 Aug. / Passion of St. John the Baptist

8.00 am Mass: † Angel Gabales (family)
10.00 am Wedding: Nagendiram & Antongnanaratnam
5.00 pm Mass: † Avelina Beduya (Ypil family)

SUNDAY, 30 AUG. / 22-A

- Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati
 - 2nd Collection: Maintenance
- 9.00 am Mass: † Francis Andreas (Gracious)
10.30 am Mass: † Leonora Leal Figueroa (family)
12.00 pm Mass: † Ibrahim Murcus (Corine Maulion)
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Mass Intentions Requests for 2027

The Mass Intention book for 2027 is now open. The Parish Office will accept requests for intentions after any Sunday Mass and during weekday office hours.



Upcoming Weddings

There is a promise of Marriage between:



Nagendiram and Antonguanaratnam 29 Aug.
Francis Villanueva and Christina Joseph 17 Oct.

END OF SUMMER Dinner Dance

6.00 – 11.00 pm, 19 September

2 Special Dance Spectacles:
SONIA'S TROUPE, FILIPPINO PERFORMERS

Door Prizes, 50/50 Draw, Line Dancing
Tickets: \$35; Over 65 years: \$30; Kids under 12: free.

For tickets, call: Harrison, 416-278-0951



Focus on the Word

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Isaiah 22.15-23; Romans 11.33-36; Matthew 16.13-20

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose, grant your people to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true gladness is found. Amen.

Parish Summer Fair 23 August, 9 am – 2 pm

Our Parish is planning a Fair on Sunday, 23 August, 9 am to 2 pm. **Krispy Kreme** donuts are on sale in the Vestibule: \$15 a dozen.

In the event of inclement weather, the rain date will be: 30 August.

RCIA, RCIC Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and Children

The next group meetings:

RCIA Adults, 4 September at 7.30 pm

RCIC Youth, 5 September at 10.00 am.



ST. JOSEPH CENTRE Thank You from visit of 2 Aug.

St. Joseph Centre is grateful for our support of their ministry as explained on their visit on 2 August. The **Baby Bottles for Life**, with your donations, will be accepted at the Parish office until 30 August. Continue to pray for the Centre and its ministry of saving babies and supporting mothers!

Finance Council 3.30 pm, 22 August

Next Finance Council meeting: 3.30 pm, 22 August. The agenda will include specifications for the installation of the TV monitor.

A Special Gift ALTAR FLOWERS

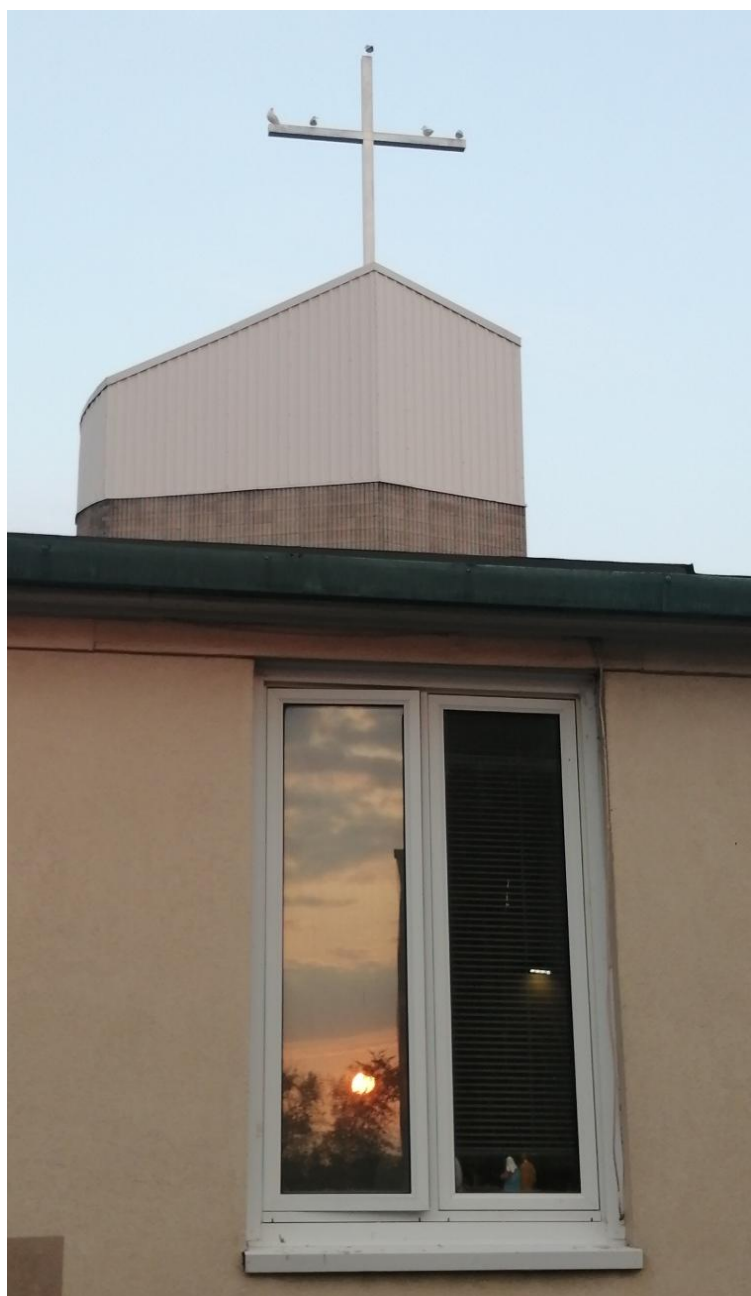
We thank the family of **Gerardo Cassiodoro** for their gift of the beautiful flowers at our Altar from his funeral Mass on 26 March 2026. May he rest in peace.



COMING UP

7021o26

- 7 Sept. Infant Baptism Parent-Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
- 13 Sept. ► Rosary Sunday celebration at the Martyrs' Shrine; Sunday School class resumes after Summer break
- 24 Sept. ► Beatification of **Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen** (St. Louis, USA) by **Cardinal Luis Antonio Gokim Tagle**, delegate of **Pope Leo XIV**
- 25 Sept. ► **Pope Leo** travels to France, visits UNESCO in Paris and the Shrine of *Notre Dame de Lourdes*
- 27 Sept. St. Vincent de Paul BUNDLE UP Sunday
- 29 Sept. **St. Michael** the Archangel
- 4 Oct. Jubilee Year: ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI, 800th Anniversary of death
- 26 Oct. ► Toronto Municipal elections
- 31 Oct. ► Beatification of the **Georgia Martyrs** (Savannah, USA) by **Cardinal Francis Leo**, delegate of **Pope Leo XIV**
- 1 Nov. **All Saints Day**;
Visit of **Bishop Vincent Nguyen**
- 22 Nov. Feast of ST. CECILIA, patroness of Musicians



Top: Fr. Thomas checks out the FIFA sphere at Trinity Square.
Above: Sunrise, 12 August.

Top: Patrick, Lillian and Harrison assist Fr. Edwin at a Liturgy at Jerrett Funeral Home, 29 July.
Above: Fr. Edwin with Kathleen & John Galea.



Top: Sunrise, 12 August.

Above: Cardinal Francis Leo with concelebrants at the annual Mass for the faithful departed at Holy Cross Cemetery, 12 Aug.



Blenheim Palace



