



Focus on the Word

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Exodus 22.21-27; 1 Thessalonians 1.5-10 ; Matthew 22.34-40

Almighty ever-living God, increase our faith, hope and charity, and make us love what you command, so that we may merit what you promise. Amen.

Pray for the Deceased



The **4,000** victims of the **double earthquake** that **struck Venezuela** in **June**.

November Masses

During the month of November, the month of the *Holy Souls*, in addition to our regular weekday 8.00 am morning Mass, there will be an evening Mass: Monday to Friday at 7.00 pm.

Book of Remembrance

During November, the month of the *Holy Souls*, we will remember all the faithful departed of our families at our daily Masses. Parishioners may add the names of deceased family members in our November *Book of Remembrance*, in front of the pulpit.

Visit of Bishop Nguyen 30 October – 1 November

Our Parish is honoured to host a visit from our local shepherd, His Excellency **Bishop Vincent Nguyen**, the Auxiliary Bishop of the Eastern Pastoral Region, on the weekend of All Saints Day, 1 November 2026. We pray that God will grant us numerous blessings in this time. See the website bulletin for more details.

2nd Collection: 25 October, *Maintenance*

The 2nd collection this Sunday is for the support of our major parish projects through the *Maintenance Collection*.

Parish Week / Sunday, 25 October 2026

Saturday, 24 Oct. / St. Anthony Mary Claret, *bishop*

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Portia Arriola (family)
- 10.00 am ► Altar Servers Awards Mass (*St. Isaac Jogues Church*)
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Rosario Mutuc (family)
- RCIA Rite of Admission to the Catechumenate

SUNDAY, 25 OCT. / 30-A

- Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galea
- 2nd Collection: *Maintenance*

- 9.00 am Mass: † Gabriel & Francis Andreas
(Maria Subramaniam)
- 10.30 am Mass: † Rayappu Bastiampillai (family)
- 11.30 am Catholic Women's League
- 12.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Cristeta Villanueva)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday, 26 Oct.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Caroline Bastiampillai (Anthony)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Randy Garcia (Vinah)

Tuesday, 27 Oct.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Rosemarie Arriola (family)

Wednesday, 28 Oct. / Ss. Simon & Jude, *apostles*

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Ophelia Gatchalian)

Thursday, 29 Oct.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Cyril Bastiampillai (family)

Friday, 30 Oct.

■ Pastoral Visit Bishop Vincent Nguyen 30 Oct-1 Nov

- 8.00 am Mass: † Edward & Julie Menezes (Gerard & Carol)

Saturday, 31 Oct.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Antonio & Maria Cifaldi (Irma Pisciola)
- 5.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving Birthday
Isabelle Gracias (friends)

SUNDAY, 1 NOV. / ALL SAINTS DAY

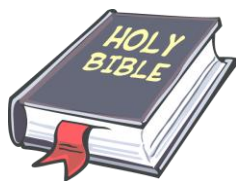
- Homilist: Bishop Vincent Nguven
- 2nd Collection: *ShareLife Endowment*

- 9.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Antony)
- 10.30 am Mass: † Francis Duallan (Corine Maulion)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Souls in Purgatory (Corine Maulion)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

COMING UP

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- 2 Nov. Infant Baptism Parent-Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
- 12 Nov. St. Maria Goretti School Mass (9:30 am);
► St. Albert School Mass (12:30 pm)
- 14 Nov. LECTORS REFLECTION, with Deacon Ramon (2-4 pm)
- 15 Nov. 2nd Collection: *Shepherds' Trust*
- 20 Nov. ► RENEW TORONTO, conference for Young Adult Catholics
- 22 Nov. Feast of St. CECILIA, patroness of Musicians
- 28 Nov. CWL *Advent Day of Reflection* (2-4 pm)
- 29 Nov. 1st Sunday of Advent
2nd Collection: *Maintenance*
- 5 Dec. CWL Advent Dinner (6.30 pm)
- 19 Dec. Advent Family Carol Night (6.15 pm)
- 25 Dec. Christmas: Feast of the **Nativity of Our Lord**
- 2nd Collection: *Christmas*
- 27 Dec. Feast of the **Holy Family**
- 2nd Collection: *Maintenance*



RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Bible Sponsors wanted

Do you cherish the **Bible**? Would you like to help spread the *Good News* to new Catholics? Here's a way for you to let others know how powerful the Bible is!

The *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* invites parishioners to serve as **Bible Sponsors** for the candidates currently in the process of joining the Church.

At the 5 pm Mass on **24 October**,

Inquirers will have the Rite of Admission to the *Catechumenate*, a period of focused study of the faith. At that time, they will be presented with blessed **Bibles**. For a donation of \$30, parishioners may sponsor one Bible, which will be presented to a qualifying Candidate. For further information on how you can help out, see **Fr. Edwin** after Sunday Mass, or call him: 416-261-0076.

The next group meetings:

RCIA Adults: 16, 23 October at 7.30 pm

RCIC Youth: 17 October, 7 November at 10.00 am.

Do you know people who have told you they are thinking of becoming Catholic? Tell them to leave a message for the Pastor at the parish office: 416-261-0076, and let them know when the next meeting for Inquirers will be held. Make sure to invite them to come to Church with you and experience what shared prayer and a spirit-filled community are all about.

Ministry Sunday: 25 October

St. Maria Goretti Parish is holding its Annual *Ministry Sunday*. All parish ministries are welcome to have representatives, displays and information about their activity at tables throughout our Vestibule.

For further information, call: **Eddie D'Souza**, 416-261-9617.

God created each of us with unique gifts, talents, and experiences. Part of our journey towards holiness and ultimately to God is discovering who we are, what gifts we have, and how we can share these gifts with our families & friends, our community, and our world. You are invited to take this opportunity to reflect on the person God created you to be, and the gifts you may have to share.

If you are new to the parish, or if you have been a parishioner for some time and are discerning deeper involvement in our faith community, take the time to look over the ministry displays and speak to the representatives; and ask the Lord if you are being called to share your gifts in a new way.

ShareLife 2026

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

So far, we have raised: \$ 44,936.00
toward our 2026 goal of: \$ 99,000.00

Our next *ShareLife* collection will be on: **1 November**.

Please donate, and help us reach our goal!



Sunday School

10.30 am Mass

New parishioners may be interested to know that St. Maria Goretti Parish hosts a *Sunday School for Kids* 3 to 6 years old during the 10.30 am Mass. It's a great service to the children, and it gives the parents a chance to focus and listen to the Scriptures and homily.

Kids who want to join the Sunday School should be in the Church before Mass. When Mass begins, they will be called to come up in front of the Altar with their teachers for the Priest's blessing. Afterwards, they will be led to their room for the Sunday School.

For details, call: **Anna** or **Maria**, 416-875-0324.



Parish Registration

If you are new to our neighbourhood and would like to be a member of St. Maria Goretti Parish, please complete a *registration form* at the parish office after any Sunday Morning Mass. Then we can issue a Donation number for your Church stewardship, so we can provide an annual Charitable Tax Receipt in accordance with CRA norms. It is important for parishioners to register, so that if a need arises for a Letter of Reference, or for a Sacrament of Initiation to be scheduled, or for a passport to be guaranteed, the necessary documents can be completed immediately.

Altar Servers

Annual Awards Mass

**ST. ISAAC JOGUES
CHURCH, 24 October**

This year's Awards Mass will be at 10.00 am on 24 October in Pickering.

Our 2026 Award candidates:

**Athena Reardon
Jeremy Mechery**



Any Servers who would like to attend this Mass are asked to add their names to the *Awards Mass Sign Up* sheet in the Sacristy. All are welcome; we will work on a car pool to take interested Servers. The *Installation of Novices* will be held at our 5 pm Mass that day.

A Special Gift ALTAR FLOWERS

We thank the family of our dear friend **Dr. Rolando Ruiz** for their gift of the beautiful flowers at our Altar from his funeral on 20 April 2026. May he rest in peace.

Bishop Nguyen

Born in Saigon, Vietnam, in 1966, there was never really a doubt in the mind of the future Archdiocese of Toronto Auxiliary Bishop as to whether he should be a priest. In fact, he first felt the calling as a young boy in Grade 5. His early attraction to the Church came to him honestly, considering the story of his great-great-grandfather, who was the first of his family to convert to Catholicism in the mid-1800s and was persecuted for his beliefs.

"The story of his martyrdom was told in my family every time my parents got together with my aunts and uncles while I was growing up," he recalls. "Many people think he was officially canonized, but he was not. There is a poem circulated among the people (of my home village) about how he was martyred:"

"The poem tells how (my great-great-grandfather) was tied to a post planted by the riverside near the ocean. The executioners waited for the tide to come up, and from time to time, they came over and asked if he wanted to recant (his beliefs) so they could cut him loose. But he persisted and was faithful to the end and he died by drowning:"

Bishop Nguyen faced his own trials growing up when war broke out and Communism overtook his village.

"At the time, we had a minor seminary in the south in Saigon starting in grade 6," he recalls. "So, while I was in grade 5, I talked to the pastor of my parish and prepared to enter the minor seminary the following year. But the communists then took over the south and the minor seminary was closed:"

That setback did not deter his determination or calling, but delayed it. He continued his education before "I escaped out of Vietnam". Once in Canada, he continued his education and his discernment process. He entered Serra House in Toronto in 1992 and enrolled at St. Augustine's Seminary a year later. He earned his Master of Divinity from St. Augustine's in 1998 and was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Toronto the same year. It has been 25 years since that day and he was celebrated as a Jubilarian at St. Augustine's Alumni festivities on November 29, 2023.

A humble man, Bishop Nguyen has served the Church in many capacities through the years. He was appointed Vice-Chancellor of Spiritual Affairs in August 2008 after obtaining a Licentiate in Canon Law from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum) in Rome. A year later, he was appointed Chancellor of Spiritual Affairs and Moderator of the Curia.

On November 6, 2009, Pope Benedict XVI appointed him Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto. As Auxiliary Bishop, he is responsible for the Eastern Region of the Archdiocese, which includes 40 parishes and missions in Scarborough and Durham Region. In addition to those responsibilities, Bishop Nguyen is also the Vicar for Permanent Deacons.

His appointment as Auxiliary Bishop in Toronto made him the first Asian bishop in the Archdiocese. It's a distinction he takes seriously. He sees how the Asian community takes a certain pride in his position, providing a deep community connection. He remains active in his support for Vietnamese seminarians studying in Canada, working closely with the Vietnamese community. When asked by young seminarians for advice, Bishop Nguyen has one word: "Perseverance:"

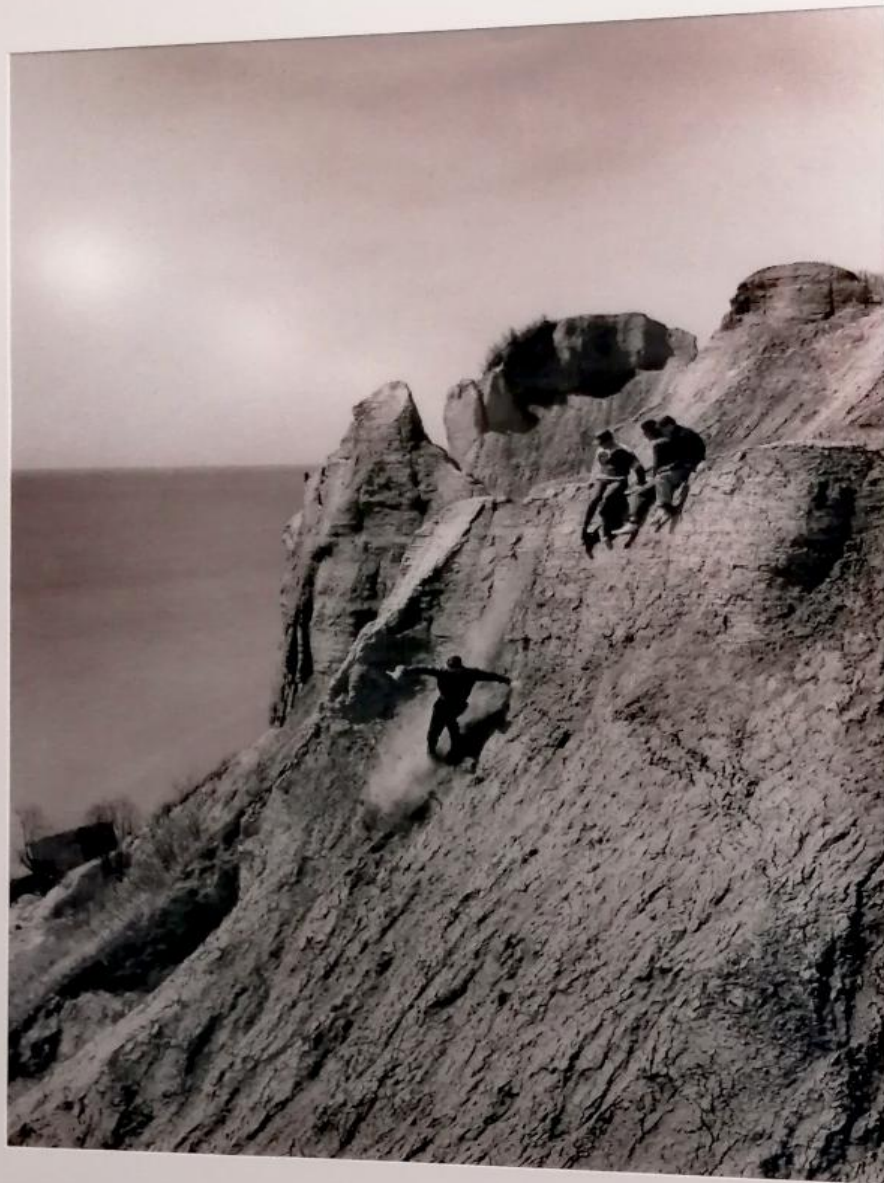
"Seminary life is all about discerning God's will," he continues. "That doesn't happen overnight. Through that journey, there are ups and downs, but God will reveal His will. The question we all need to keep asking the Lord is 'What do You want me to do?'"













WILLIAM J. SCANLON
TORONTO



