



## Parish Week

Sunday, 14 May 2023

### Saturday, 13 May

- 8.00 am Mass: † Castora Serneo (family)
- 1.00 pm Wedding: Donald Fogelboch & Lausa Molinaso
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Gwen Camacho (Lillian D'Souza)  
- Saturday Class First Holy Communion

### SUNDAY, 14 MAY / EASTER 6-A

- Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati
- Mother's Day

- 9.00 am Mass: Int. Macario Francis (family)
- 10.30 am Mass: † Lydia Marquez (friends)
- 12.00 pm Mass: Int. Hiranthi Somawarden (friends)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

### Monday 15 May

- 8.00 am Mass: † Cyrilda Alagaratnam (Shirani Hemachandra)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Mary Joyce Li Yan (mother)

### Tuesday, 16 May

- 8.00 am Mass: † Jose Della (family)

### Wednesday 17 May

- 8.00 am Int. Maria Jeremiah (friends)

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

- Birthday of St. Pope John Paul II (1920)

- 8.00 am Mass: † Estanislao Palarpalar (Julieta Entea)

### Friday, 19 May

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday Ethan Ryan (Shoba)

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

- 8.00 am Mass: † Margaret & Robert Fleming (Mary Faulkner)
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Joseph Gomes 40<sup>th</sup> day after death (Aruna)

### SUNDAY, 21 MAY / ASCENSION OF THE LORD

- Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galea
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Pope's Pastoral Works
- SVDP Bundle up Sunday

- 9.00 am Mass: † Rachele Volpe (Irma Pisciola)
- 10.30 am Mass: † Alexander D'Souza (family)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Ernesto, Lydia & Justino Rodas (family)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

## Focus on the Word

### 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Year A

Acts 8.5-17; 1 Peter 3.15-18; John 14.15-21

Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy, which we keep in honour of the risen Lord, and that what we relive in remembrance we may always hold to in what we do. Amen

## Pray for the Deceased

Sienna Menezes Almeida,  
Fr. Christopher Bennett,  
Helen Cinco, Elmer James Simbol

The 7 victims of the tragic fire in the center of old Montreal in March



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: 21 May - Pope's Pastoral Works

On Sunday, 21 May, the 2<sup>nd</sup> collection will be for the *Pope's Pastoral Works*, which cares for all his special charities.

If a disastrous flood or earthquake strikes a nation, the Holy Father offers aid in the name of Catholics everywhere.

If you use a recycled envelope marked "Pope's Works," please remember to write your own Sunday envelope number on top.

## COMING UP

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- 28 May *ShareLife* Speaker: seminarian **Daniel Lee**;  
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: **Maintenance**;  
- CWL (11:30 am)
- 29 May ▶ St. Albert School Mass (1:00 pm)
- 4 Jun. 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Sharelife
- 5 Jun. Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
- 11 Jun. Infant Baptism (1:30 pm)
- 16 Jun. Memorial Mass: † Camila Maulion
- 21 Jun. - St. Maria Goretti School Graduation Mass (9:00 am);  
St. Maria Goretti Graduation Exercise (5:30 pm)
- 22 Jun. ▶ St. Albert School Graduation Mass (9:30 am)
- 24 Jun. Wedding: Borzic & Dizon (1:00 pm)
- 25 Jun. 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: **Maintenance**;  
- ▶ *Die Fledermaus* (by Johann Strauss II) at Harbourfront Centre, with  
Carol Houston singing, former music director at St. Maria Goretti School
- 26 Jun. ▶ St. Albert School Graduation Exercises (5:30 pm);  
- Election for new Toronto Mayor
- 3 July **Fr. Elias**, 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination as Priest
- 23 July *Mission Co-op* Sunday: **Fr. Sampath**,  
representing the Diocese of Galle, Sri Lanka
- 28 July ▶ *Toronto Festival of Beer*, Bandshell, Exhibition Place
- 1-6 August ▶ WORLD YOUTH DAY, Lisbon, Portugal
- 4 August ▶ *Taste of India*, Nathan Philips Square

## Website [stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org](http://stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org)

For more information on Parish activities, see pages 3 and following in the website bulletin.

## ShareLife 2023

Thank you very much for supporting our parish's *ShareLife* campaign. *ShareLife* is LIVING THE GOSPEL by respecting and caring for life at all stages!



So far, we have raised: \$ 7,335.00  
toward our 2023 goal of: \$ 52,000.00

On 4 June, we will hold the 3<sup>rd</sup> Appeal in our parish's *ShareLife* campaign. We ask for your kind generosity and support once again.

We each have a part to play in supporting those in need in our community. And for that reason, each parish, and the archdiocese as a whole, has a fundraising goal for *ShareLife*. Reaching this goal means Catholic agencies can continue providing care to those who turn to them for help.

Thank you for "living the Gospel" through *ShareLife*.

### PRAYER FOR MOTHERS



God of love, listen to our prayer, and bless our Mothers. Shower them with the strength of Your Spirit. Bless them with the melody of Your love. Bless them with a place at Your eternal dinner table. May our dear Mother Mary guide them in their daily challenges, give them her example of fidelity in moments of doubt, and help them to live in peace and hope.

We ask this through Christ, Lord. Amen.

## Sacramental Celebrations

13 May, 5 pm: 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Mass for Saturday Class.

### A Special Gift FLOWERS FOR OUR LADY

We thank **Elsa Rizzi** for her thoughtful gift of a beautiful pot of Cala Lilies for Our Lady's altar in the Vestibule at Christmas.

### ☺ Your sabbath smile

#### A BIT STARTLED

*Little Mary had been told that thunder was nothing to be afraid of: it was only the noise the angels made when they were making their beds.*

*One morning after a storm, she remarked "I didn't mind the angels making their beds, but it made me nervous when they couldn't decide whether to turn their lights off or on."*

## RCIA, RCIC



### Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults & Children

Please remember in your prayers the Adults and Youth who recently received Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil (8 April) and the Easter Octave (15 April).

#### The next meetings:

RCIA Adults, 19 May, at 7.30 pm

RCIC Youth, 20 May.

#### The next Initiation:

Special Initiation, 20 May, at 5.00 pm.

## Mother's Day Cakes & Flowers

### Catholic Women's League

14 May, 8.30 am – 2.00 pm



On Sunday, 14 May, the *Catholic Women's League* will hold a Mother's Day CAKE AND FLOWER SALE in the Church Vestibule, from 8.30 to 2.00 pm. Come treat yourself to some awesome creations!

## Hour of Prayer for Palliative Care

7-8 pm, Monday, 15 May

*"Let us not underestimate the power of so many voices united in prayer."* – Pope Francis

The National CWL Executive has initiated a nationwide *Hour of Prayer for Palliative Care* on 10 May. This is designed to take place during the *National Hospice Palliative Care Week* as a witness to the sanctity of human life.

## Spiritual Reflection

### My Mother Kept A Garden

My mother kept a garden,  
a garden of the heart.  
She planted all the good things,  
that gave my life its start.

She turned me to the sunshine, and taught me to dream:  
Fostering and nurturing the seeds of self-esteem.  
And when the winds and rains came, she protected me;  
But not too much, she knew I'd need to be strong and tough.  
Her constant good example taught me right from wrong;  
Markers for my pathway to last my whole life long.  
I am my Mother's garden, I am her legacy.  
And I hope today she feels the love,  
Reflected back from me.



# THEOLOGY of the BODY I

HEAD & HEART IMMERSION

July 9-14, 2023

Black Rock Retreat Center in Quarryville, PA  
Taught by Christopher West and Jeanette Clark

This course introduces students to the key themes of the 129 Wednesday audience addresses that comprise John Paul II's Theology of the Body. Particular attention will be paid to the *imago Dei*, fall and redemption, Christian ethics and ethos, freedom and person, gender and vocation. Students will be encouraged to journey from "head to heart" in applying the theological concepts they learn to their own lives and relationships. For more information, check out:

[support@tobinstitute.org](mailto:support@tobinstitute.org)

Most of our modern questions on the family were tackled in great depth in John Paul's 1981 exhortation *Familiaris Consortio* (The Role of the Family in the Modern World). In 1994 he wrote his Letter to Families — which developed how "the history of mankind, the history of salvation passes by way of the family."

Most thoroughly developed was his five-year catechesis on Human Love in the Divine Plan, which centered on the nuptial dimension of human life and the importance of the sacrament of marriage in human redemption. These talks became known as "the theology of the body" and have had a growing impact on Christian thinking about what it means to be embodied as male or female.

According to Professor John Grabowski, Department of Theology, Catholic University of America, "Reflecting on the Genesis accounts of creation, Pope John Paul II underscored the way in which the body reflects or expresses the person.

The human person discovers his dignity through his body and its capacity to express his ability to think and to choose, unlike the animals, who lack this ability.

Yet humanity is radically lacking in its expression in only one sex," Grabowski explains. "The full meaning of the body and hence the human person is revealed only when the man stands over against another unique way of being human—woman. This distinctive way of being a person and a gift for others, male and female, reflects what the late Pope called '*the nuptial meaning of the body.*'"

## The Pope's Pastoral Works

The *Office of Papal Charities* is the Vatican department charged with exercising charity to the poor in the name of the Holy Father. It is headed by the Almoner of His Holiness, **Archbishop Konrad Krajewski**. Shortly after his appointment in 2013, Archbishop Krajewski explained his duties this way: "The Holy Father told me at the beginning, '*You can sell your desk. You don't need it. You need to get out of the Vatican. Don't wait for people to come ringing. You need to go out and look for the poor.*'" He has taken that direction to heart. Archbishop Krajewski visits homes for the elderly and writes cheques to the needy. He travelled to the Italian island of Lampedusa after a migrant boat capsized, and spent four days there, bringing 1,600 phone cards so the survivors could call loved ones back home in Eritrea. He also prayed with police divers as they worked to retrieve the dead from the sea floor. In Rome he has become known for establishing showers and barber service under the Vatican colonnade for the poor and homeless, hosting dinners with the Pope for the needy, setting up medical clinics for the poor on the street, and distributing food and sleeping bags in train stations and aid to earthquake victims.

Each morning, he gets a bundle of letters that the Pope has received from the faithful asking for help. In a given year, the almoner (one who distributes alms) may respond with help to over 6,000 such requests. A sign of the importance of his ministry came earlier this year, when Krajewski was appointed a cardinal. "But I've done nothing on my own initiative; everything always started from the Pope, so I should not be given any merit.

It was enough for me to be the almoner of the Pope, to be heard because I represent him. When they give me offerings for the poor, they trust me because they trust the Pope."

About the Pope's Pastoral Works The tradition of papal charities goes back to the earliest centuries of the Church. The almoner's duties are twofold: carrying out acts of charity in the name of the Pope, and raising the money to fund them. Our gifts through Together We Serve help extend that hand of charity to thousands of people each year.



# Bishop John O'Mara

Parishioners are kindly asked to keep in prayer the repose of the soul of **Most Reverend John Aloysius O'Mara**, Bishop Emeritus of St. Catharines. Bishop O'Mara passed away peacefully in his sleep on Wednesday, 16 February 2022, at Hotel Dieu Shaver Health and Rehabilitation Centre, St. Catharines. Bishop John O'Mara was 97 years old.

John Aloysius O'Mara was born in Buffalo, New York on November 17, 1924, the son of the late John Aloysius and Anna Theresa (nee Schenck) O'Mara.

He was the brother of Sister Mechtilde O'Mara, C.S.J., Mrs. Marcelline Brown, and Mrs. Eleanor Runge and brother-in-law Edward Runge. He was predeceased by his brother James O'Mara (1956) and sister-in-law Violet O'Mara (2009) and by his sister Winnifred O'Mara, C.S.J. (2002) and his brother-in-law James (Buster) Brown (2002).

Following studies at St. Michael's College School, Toronto and at St. Augustine's Seminary, Scarborough, Father O'Mara was ordained Priest by **Cardinal James McGuigan** in St. Michael Cathedral, Toronto on 1 June 1951. That same year, after a brief period of ministry in Niagara-on-the-Lake, he was assigned to graduate studies in Canon Law at St. Thomas Aquinas University (*Angelicum*) in Rome.

He returned to Toronto in July 1953, and was appointed Vice-Chancellor of the Archdiocese. In March 1954, he was named Secretary to the late Cardinal McGuigan and that same year, he was honoured with the title of Monsignor.

In September 1957, Monsignor O'Mara was appointed part-time, temporary pastor of the newly established parish of St. Margaret Mary, Woodbridge, a position which he held for the next twelve years. As secretary to Cardinal McGuigan, Msgr. O'Mara attended the Papal Conclave at which Pope John XXIII was elected (1958) and the Conclave which elected Pope Paul VI (1963). Msgr. O'Mara also attended the first three sessions of the second Vatican council as a Peritus (1962-1964) with Cardinal McGuigan.

In January 1969, Msgr. O'Mara was appointed Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Toronto, after **Bishop Thomas Fulton**.

In June that same year, he was appointed President/Rector of St. Augustine Seminary, Scarborough which was in the process of becoming a founding institutional member of the Toronto School of Theology. Msgr. O'Mara found this to be a challenging duty as it called for the implementation of the Decrees of the Vatican Council in a newly organized educational structure. Also, during his tenure the seminary established the Permanent Diaconate Program.

Monsignor O'Mara was also deeply involved in the Catholic Health Care Ministry in Ontario. In April 1961, he was appointed as the Bishops' representative to the Ontario Catholic Hospital Association. Later that year he became a member of the Board of Directors of the Scarborough General Hospital and, in October 1961, he was elected to the

Board of the Ontario Hospital Association. In 1962 he joined the the Board of Governors of the Catholic Health Association of Canada. He was a Commissioner with the Ontario Hospital Services Commission, 1964 to 1969.

Subsequently, he served on the Board of Directors of St. Joseph's Hospital, Toronto (1972-1975), St. Joseph's Hospital and Foundation in Thunder Bay (1977-1994) and Hotel Dieu Hospital, St. Catharines (1996-2002).

In his sixth year as President of St. Augustine's Seminary, December 1974, Monsignor O'Mara was appointed Pastor of St. Lawrence Parish, Scarborough. In May 1976, he was named the third Bishop of Thunder Bay and ordained Bishop by the late Archbishop Philip Pocock in St. Michael's Cathedral, Toronto on June 29, 1976.

In addition to his responsibilities in the Diocese of Thunder Bay, Bishop O'Mara was an active member of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. He served on the permanent Council, the pastoral team and as a member or chair of the Social Affairs, Clergy, and Missions Commissions. He was the Chair of the Communications Commission when the National Broadcasting Council was formed in 1994.

As a member of the Ontario Conference of Catholic Bishops, Bishop O'Mara served eleven years on the executive. He was the President for six years (1983-1989). He also represented the Canadian Church on the Pontifical Council "*Cor Unum*," 1977-1989. This Council focused on, and supported, the Church's mission of worldwide emergency relief, human development, and health care.

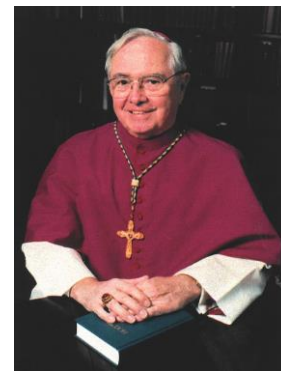
In February 1994 Bishop O'Mara was transferred to the Diocese of St. Catharines as the third Bishop succeeding the Most Rev. Thomas B. Fulton. He was installed in the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria on April 13, 1994 and served in this Diocese for nearly eight years until his retirement in January 2002.

In 2000, Bishop O'Mara was named an Honourary Fellow of the University of St. Michael's College. Following his retirement as Bishop of St. Catharines, Bishop O'Mara was welcomed to reside in the rectory of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish, Thorold where he assisted in pastoral ministry for many years. His funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Alfred Church, St. Catharines, on 22 February 2022.

As we pray for the eternal repose of the soul of Bishop John O'Mara, we extend our sincere sympathy to family and friends and to all and who mourn his loss.

*Requiescat in pace.*

"The souls of the just are in the hands of God; no torment shall ever touch them." (*Wisdom 3.1*)





Some of the Saturday 5 pm Music Team.



The family of Maria Corazon Salao at her Interment Rite, 26 April.



**Gina Tabat** (behind farewell poster, in white top) gathers with friends, 14 May.



**The Wedding Limo**, 13 May.



**Confirmation, 11 May: St. Albert School and Saturday Class.**



**Saturday Class 1<sup>st</sup> Communion candidates, 13 May.**



Lillian D'Souza at the CWL Toronto Convention, 25 April.

