

# Parish Week ❖ Sunday, 30 Oct. 2022

## Saturday, 29 Oct.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Randy Garcia (Vinah)
- 11.00 am Memorial Mass: † Russell Masters
- 1.00 pm Wedding: Thomas Byron & Janet Villaruz
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Cecilio Saguisag  
- RCIA Catechumenate Rite

## SUNDAY, 30 OCT. / 31-C

- *Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galea*
- *2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Maintenance*
- 9.00 am Mass: † Bernardo Villaron (family & friends)
- 10.30 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Thomas & Sally)
- 11.30 am Catholic Women's League
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Dian D'Lima (Renny & family)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

## Monday, 31 Oct.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Balatbat family (Clarita Rodrigues)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Int. Isabelle Gracias (friends)

## Tuesday, 1 Nov. / All Saints

- 8.00 am Mass: † Deceased Souls, D'Mello & D'Cunha families (Esme)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Deceased members of Marquez family

## Wednesday, 2 Nov. / All Souls

- 8.00 am Mass: † Antonio & Maria Cifaldi (Irma Pisciola)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Mary Magdalene Dias (Dominic & Anita)

## Thursday, 3 Nov. / St. Martin de Porres, *religious*

- 8.00 am Mass: † Corazon Camacho (family)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Jose & Felicisima Turiano (family)

## Friday, 4 Nov. / St. Charles Boromeo, *bishop*

- 8.00 am Mass: † Karl & Karl Max (Christa Hahn)
- 6.00 pm Holy Hour
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Xavier & Belen Turiano (family)

## Saturday, 5 Nov.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Consuelo Gotera (family)
- 9.00 am Altar Servers training
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Gabriel & Francis Andreas (Vincent Ambrose)

## SUNDAY, 6 NOV. / 32-C

- *Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati*
- 9.00 am Mass: † Vincenzo Grande (family)
- 10.30 am Mass: † All Souls in Purgatory (D'Souza family)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Therese & Bernaldo Endaya (Raphael)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

### A Special Gift ALTAR FLOWERS

We thank the family of **Chona Floro** for your gift of the beautiful flower beautiful arrangement of red roses at the Altar following her funeral on 13 August. May she rest in peace.

## 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.

# Focus on the Word

## 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Wisdom 11.22-12.2; Thessalonians 1.11-2.2; Luke 19.1-10

*Almighty and merciful God, by whose gift your faithful offer you right and praiseworthy service, grant, we pray, that we may hasten without stumbling to receive the things you have promised. Amen.*

## Pray for the Deceased

Roniel Debuque, Alma Lacanlale Pineda, Elsie Quenit, Ralph Ritchie Santa Ana



The **120 victims** of the **floods** in **low-lying areas** of **Bangladesh** 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.

## Fall Time Change 6 November

“SPRING AHEAD, FALL BACK.” Parishioners are reminded that next weekend is the *Fall Time Change*. Eastern Standard Time resumes (and Daylight Savings Time ends) at 2.00 am on Sunday, 6 November. Make sure to update your clocks and watches.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: 30 October, Maintenance

The 2<sup>nd</sup> collection on Sunday, 30 October, will be for the support of our major parish projects through the *Maintenance Collection*.

## COMING UP

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- 7 Nov. Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
- 9 Nov. St. Maria Goretti School Mass (9:00 am)
- 13 Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: *Shepherds' Trust*;  
- Infant Baptism (1:30 pm)
- 20 Nov. Knights of Columbus (1.30 pm)
- 24 Nov. ► St. Albert School Mass (9:30 am)
- 27 Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> **Sunday of Advent**  
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: *Maintenance*;  
- St. Vincent de Paul *Bundle Up* Sunday;  
- Catholic Women League (11:30 am)
- 5 Dec. Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
- 6 Dec. ► St. Albert School Mass (1:00 pm)
- 7 Dec. Advent Day of Confessions;  
- St. Maria Goretti School Mass (9:00 am)
- 10 Dec. Catholic Women League Advent Reflection (2-4 pm)

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

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

## Ministry Sunday: 30 October

St. Maria Goretti Parish will hold its Annual *Ministry Sunday* at all Masses on 29/30 October. All parish ministries will have representatives and information about their activity at the tables throughout the Church Vestibule.

God created each of us with unique gifts, talents, and experiences. Part of our journey towards holiness and towards 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. We invite you to take an 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.

## RCIA Rite of Candidacy

5.00 pm Mass, Saturday, 24 September, 2022

Candidates present, and proceeding toward Initiation

### RCIA

Adekoya, Omoshola  
Ebba, Dawane  
Habtom, Yerusalem  
Haile, Weinarge  
Jardine, Mark  
Lewis, Sheena  
Okunuga, Christianah  
Owen, Shana-Gaye  
Ruiz, Ruben  
Semere, Bemnet  
Shabo, Sandy  
Sobodu, Adesola  
Vane, Alvin

### RCIC

Abraha, Hana  
Adekoya, Joshua  
Adekoya, Mofaramoluwa  
Adekoya, Rereloluwasimi  
Alzaga, Mya  
Gomes, Florence Cecilia  
Issak, Barkot  
Mamo, Catherine  
Mamo, Gabriella  
Tesfaldet, Adonai  
Yehdeigo, Ivan



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 5.00 pm Mass on

29 October 2022

the Inquirers will celebrate 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**. You may sponsor one Bible for a donation of \$25. For more information on how you can help, call: **Fr. Edwin**, 416-261-0076.

## ADVENT PREPARATIONS

### Advent Wreath Lighters

Would you like to be an Advent Wreath candle lighter? This is a wonderful way to involve your family in the spirit of this wonderful season, and assist your fellow parishioners in our common worship and praise of the Father. See the sign-up list on the Vestibule bulletin board.



## Wedding Congratulations



**D'Artaniel Jackman and Theresa Linatoc**

30 September 2022



**Ricky Yip and Samantha Dulnuam**

8 October 2022

## Sacramental Preparation

Reconciliation, 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion



Students in our Catholic Schools will receive preparation for 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation and 1<sup>st</sup> Communion in Grade 2. Soon the families will begin receiving Information packages to register the students in this process. We look forward to resuming the in-person family instruction meetings that will be held early in the New Year.

# What is Halloween?

The word “*Halloween*” comes from “All Hallow's Eve.” It is the vigil (the evening before) of All Saints Day, also known as “All Hallows Day.” The word “hallow” means “holy.” (In the Our Father we pray, “Hallowed be thy name.”) All Saints Day honors not only the Saints in heaven who have feast days and whom we know by name, but all the Saints in heaven, even those whose names are unknown.

Pope Gregory III (731–741) set the Feast of All Saints on 1 November. Halloween therefore falls on 31 October. All Souls Day is on 2 November. These three days form a “Triduum” of feasts called *Hallowtide* or *Hallowmas*. This is the time of year when those living on Earth (the *Church Militant*) honor all the dead in Christ: the saints in heaven (the *Church Triumphant*) as well as all the holy souls in Purgatory preparing for their way to heaven (the *Church Suffering*). It is a celebration of the Communion of Saints!

The eve of All Saints Day (Halloween) came to be celebrated by Catholics around the world in their own cultural ways. It was customary in historic Catholic Europe to have evening vigils with pious celebrations on the day before a major feast or solemnity; the rhythms of people's lives and culture moved with the liturgical calendar. That's why a Vigil was kept on the evening before All Saints Day, and why Halloween exists at all. Even today, Catholics begin celebrating major feasts the evening before the big day. *Christmas* has Christmas Eve, *New Year* has New Year's Eve, and *All Hallows Day* has All Hallows Eve.

From the beginning, Halloween has been a Catholic holiday. It does not have origins in paganism. Different religions, such as Judaism, Hinduism, Islam, Zoroastrianism, Druze, Buddhism, Sikhism and Druids, all have dates for their major feasts that occur variously throughout the year. The origin of Halloween, 31 October, is the date of the following day, All Hallows (Saints) Day, 1 November.

Where did the Halloween traditions come from? In North America, many immigrants brought their variety of local Catholic customs. *Dressing up* (as Saints) for Halloween came from the French; *Jack-o-Lanterns* (spreading the light of faith) came from the Irish, who originally carved turnips, but switched to pumpkins in America; the English begged from door to door for “*Soul Cakes*,” promising to pray for the departed loved ones of those who gave them these treats. These traditions converged in North America.

When European Catholics immigrated to America, they brought a variety of cultural Catholic customs with them. Non-Catholics did not recognize them, and those who did not know history denounced them as “pagan.” (Puritans once banned the celebration of Christmas and Easter!)

A lot of current Halloween customs are products of a secular culture, which has a mostly commercial base. Unfortunately, it ignores the religious roots of the feast, and often glorifies the demonic. That should never prevent Catholics from enjoying Halloween as the Vigil celebration of the great

feast of All Saints. Catholics should not neglect to celebrate of any of the Church's major feasts. The three days around our celebration of the Saints, 31 October, 1 and 2 November, are particularly important.

To avoid superstition and the occult, Halloween should be honored as a Catholic feast. It's a day to give honor to the Saints in heaven; and to pray for the souls of the faithful departed. All this can be combined with fun and feasting!

## *How should my family celebrate Halloween?*

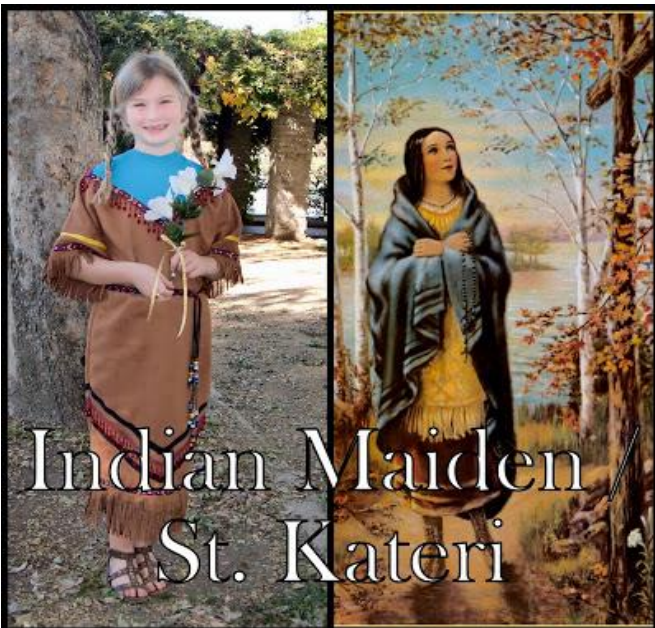
- Take the family to Mass on Halloween.
- Pray for the intercession of the Saints in heaven
- Pray especially to your patrons.
- Read about the lives of the saints, give out holy cards.
- Have a party with saint-based costumes for kids.
- Reserve your apartment lobby or condo function room.
- Thank the Saints for what they have done for you; adorn their images with flowers, recite prayers in their honor. Enjoy a special meal with loved ones.

On All Souls Day, 2 November, pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory and make sacrifices on their behalf, especially those whom you have known and loved. Remember to pray for those who have no one to pray for them.

Visit graveyards and cemeteries to pray for the dead, since they can no longer pray for themselves. They depend on us. There is an indulgence for those who visit a cemetery and offer prayers on this day.

In this way you can enjoy Halloween and celebrate it in a manner that is pleasing to God!







Family and friends of **Alma Lacanlale Pineda**, who died 7 October, gather for a 9<sup>th</sup> day Memorial Prayer.



Members of the **John** and **Limpin** families celebrate 56<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday Blessings, 22 October.



Family of **Monica Tsoi-A-Sue**, who died 7 Sept. 2022, at the placement of her ashes in a niche with her husband George, who predeceased her in 2015.



Family of **Benita Garcia**, who died 11 Sept. 2022, at the blessing of her ashes on 21 Oct.

## A True Disaster: *The Coconut Grove* 28 November 1942 – 80 years ago

This year marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of an unbelievable tragedy. On a cold November night in 1942 in Boston, the Coconut Grove nightclub was absolutely hopping. It was a well-known hangout in that area of the city. It had opened in the late 1920s. By the time the U.S. Thanksgiving weekend rolled around, the Grove was clearly the place to be. Soldiers, sports fans (a big football game had been played earlier that day between Holy Cross and Boston College), and those just out for a night on the town crowded into the sprawling complex for the food and live music.

The Grove held 460 people at its upper limit. But with the holiday season starting, a growing war raging in Europe and in the Pacific, and everybody looking for a diversion, the place was packed. On that Saturday evening, 1,000 well-dressed customers were there looking for a good time.

28 November 1942. It was a night that Boston has never forgotten. It also was a night that shook the globe, and that changed emergency procedures internationally.

The now-infamous Coconut Grove nightclub fire claimed 492 lives that night. It is the deadliest nightclub fire in U.S. history. The black and white photos from the evening are a sobering reminder of its toll; dead bodies carried from the nightclub on stretchers, other victims face down in the street.

The Grove was a disaster waiting to happen. On that night, not only was the club overcrowded, but the owners had *sealed off six of the nine exits*, to keep people from leaving without paying. The club's décor, an island-inspired theme that included fake palm trees with coconuts and draperies over false ceilings, was full of flammable materials. The main entrance was a single revolving door, which quickly became jammed when panicked patrons surged to escape.

The crowding in the club was hard to imagine. It was just elbow to elbow. There was no emergency lighting. All the doors opened inward. The doors jammed up immediately when people tried to rush out. The *windows were all glass block*, which you cannot break.

The fire began downstairs, in the 'Melody Lounge.' People blamed a busboy, based on an interview of the busboy and the eyewitness accounts of John Heyman, a survivor of the fire. This is from the *Boston Globe's* obit of Heyman, who wrote an earlier piece in the newspaper about his recollections of the night. He died in 2019 at age 99:

"I watched as a busboy struggled to replace a burned out bulb just 10 feet in front of me," Mr. Heyman wrote in 2012. "He could not see in the dark, so he struck a match, which immediately ignited both the artificial palm tree holding the socket and the decoration above the tables. The cloth ceiling caught fire and flames exploded upstairs instantaneously, spreading choking smoke and heat everywhere."

A single 4-foot (1.2-meter) wide stairway led up from the Melody Lounge to a door at the top of the stairs. The door, equipped with a panic bar, *was locked shut*.



As the fire leapt upstairs and into the main ballroom area, patrons bolted toward the single revolving door, which jammed shut with the onslaught. The other doors in the club opened inward and were forced shut by the surging crowd.

Within five minutes of the fire igniting, the entire club was engulfed. The final death toll was devastating: 492 people.

The subsequent fire commissioner's report made a number of recommendations to improve the safety of public buildings and to increase the chances of escape and survival in the event of an emergency. Among these measures, the report called for the equipping of exit doors with panic bars and the use of illuminated "EXIT" signs. Architects were instructed to improve exit routes in public assembly spaces, and flammable materials were banned in such spaces.

It would be consoling to think that the measures introduced after this tragedy have saved lives, and certainly this is true. However, the persistence of fire disasters is discouraging. The *Station* nightclub fire in Rhode Island killed 100 people in 2003. The fire was ignited by pyrotechnics set off by the tour manager of the headline band. In 2013, a fire at the Kiss nightclub in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, killed 233 people after performers set off fireworks. And in England, a fire in the high-rise Grenfell Tower apartment building in Kensington, London in 2017 killed 72. The fire began in a 4<sup>th</sup>-floor unit where a refrigerator with an electrical fault ignited. The fire spread through combustible materials in the apartment, and then climbed the exterior of the building, which had just been covered with new exterior cladding that allowed the fire and smoke to rise upwards and burn all the floors above.

