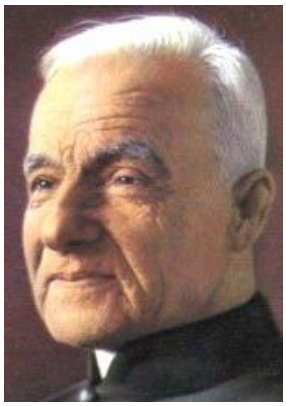
Lights for our Way
Saints and friends

Saint Brother André Bessette
7 January



Born **Alfred Bessette** on 9 August 1845, Brother André died at Montréal on 6 January 1937. Although he was unimposing in speech and stature and never advanced beyond the most lowly positions within his religious order, the Congregation of the Holy Cross, Alfred, who took the name Br. André in 1870, became the most popular religious figure in Québec in the 20th century. He died as he had lived, suffering heroically, praying fervently, and even working great cures.

Thousands attribute their miraculous healings to André's intervention with his patron, St Joseph. A basilica, still Montréal's most imposing landmark, was constructed 1924-55. Half a million visitors still come to the oratory every year. On 17 October 2010, he was *canonized*, by **Pope Benedict XVI**, making him the 1st male Catholic saint born in Canada.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha
17 April

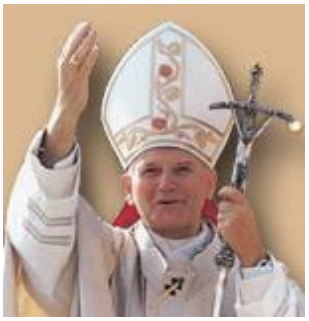
The "Lily of the Mohawks", **Kateri Tekakwitha** was born in 1656 in Upstate New York to a Catholic Algonquin mother and a Mohawk Chief. When she was four years old, her parents and brother died of smallpox. Kateri was also affected by the disease, which left her almost blind and badly scarred her face. When Kateri turned 18, Father Jacques de Lamberville arrived to take charge of the Catholic mission in her village of Caughnawaga. Kateri was Baptized, and fled to St. Francis Xavier Mission, a Mohawk village in Kahnawake, Quebec. She received her first Communion on Christmas Day 1677, and made a vow of perpetual virginity on the Feast of the Annunciation in 1679. Kateri was known for her faith and holiness. She taught prayers to children, cared for the elderly and the sick, and would often attend mass at sunrise and sunset. Kateri died on 17 April 1680. Her final words were: "*Jesos Konoronkwa*" ("Jesus, I love you"). Since Kateri's death many miracles have been performed through her intercession, with the sick being cured and many prayers being answered. Kateri was declared Venerable by **Pope Pius XII** on 3 January 1943, and *beatified* by **Pope John Paul II** in 1980. On 21 October 2012, **Pope Benedict XVI** *canonized* her; she is "the first native North American to be raised to the glory of the altar."

Saint Mother Teresa of Kolkata
5 September

Mother Teresa was born **Gonxha** (**Agnes**) **Bojaxhiu** in Skopje, Yugoslavia, on 27 August 1910. At 18, Gonxha chose to join the Loreto Sisters of Dublin. In 1929, she was sent to their novitiate in Darjeeling. In 1931, she made her first vows there, choosing the name of Teresa. She was sent to St. Mary's, a high school for girls in Kolkata. Here she began a career teaching for the next 15 years. Teresa pursued every avenue to follow what she "never doubted" was the direction God was pointing her. She was "to give up even Loreto, where I was very happy, and to go out in the streets. I heard the call to give up all and follow Christ." In 1948 she received permission from **Pius XII** to leave her community and live independently. She went back to Kolkata, and began her new undertaking.

Teresa found a never-ending stream of need in the poor she met, and was often exhausted. Young women came to volunteer their services and became the core of her MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY, who grew like the mustard seed of the Bible. Until her death on 5 September 1997, Mother Teresa continued her work among the poorest of the poor, depending on God for all of her needs. She was *beatified* on 19 October 2003 by **Pope John Paul II**, and *canonized* on 4 September 2016.by **Pope Francis**.

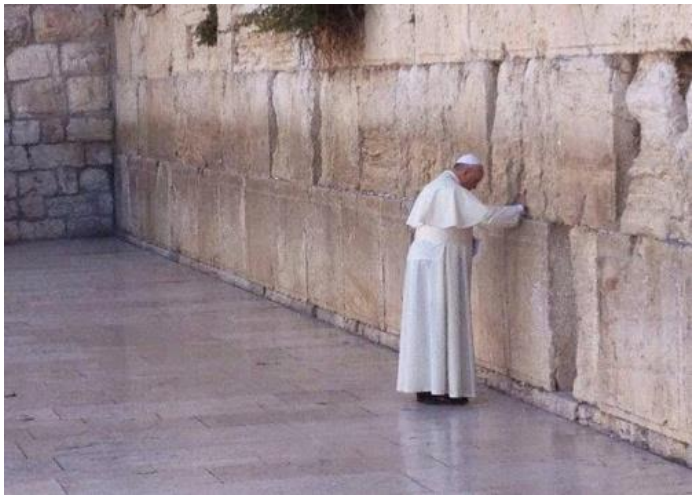
Saint Pope John Paul II
22 October



Born **Karol Józef Wojtyła**, 18 May 1920, he served as the Vicar of Christ from 16 October 1978 until his death on 2 April 2005. He was the only Polish Pope, and the first non-Italian Pope since Dutch **Pope Adrian VI** in 1520. **John Paul II** has been acclaimed as one of the most influential leaders of the 20th century. He was instrumental in ending communism in his native Poland and eventually all of Europe, as well as significantly improving the Catholic Church's relations with Judaism, the Orthodox Churches, and the Anglican Communion. He is praised for his firm Catholic stances in faith and morals. He visited 129 countries during his pontificate. He beatified 1,340 people and canonised 483 Saints, more than the tally of his predecessors during the last five centuries. A key goal was to reposition the Church. He wished "to place the Church at the heart of a new religious alliance that would bring together Jews, Muslims and Christians in a great [religious] armada."

One of his amazing legacies is the annual *World Youth Day* celebration. At the closing Mass of the 2000 WYD in Rome, the pope said to the pilgrims: "It is Jesus in fact you seek when you dream of happiness; He is waiting for you when nothing else satisfies you; He is the beauty to which you are so attracted; it is He who provokes you with that thirst for fullness that will not let you settle for compromise; it is He who urges you to shed the masks of a false life; it is He who reads in your hearts your most genuine choices, the choices that others try to stifle. It is Jesus who stirs in you the desire to do something great with your lives, to follow an ideal, to refuse to allow yourselves to be ground down by mediocrity."

On 1 May 2010, John Paul II was proclaimed *Blessed* by **Pope Benedict XVI**. **Pope Francis** *canonized* him on 27 April 2014.



Sh'ma Yisrael Adonai Eloheinu Adonai Echad

"Hear, O Israel: the LORD is our God, the LORD is One."

Parish Week / Sunday, 26 August 2018

Saturday, 25 Aug. / St. Louis of France

8.00 am Mass: Int. Fr. Elias (friend)
1.30 pm Wedding: Dhan Pinlac & Joanne Carreon
3.30 pm 25th Wedding Ann. Mass, Girlie & Mailo Padillo
5.00 pm Mass: † Maria & Dominic Fernandes (Joe)
6.00 pm Memorial Prayers (Berardinetti family)

SUNDAY, 26 AUG. / 21-B

■ *Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati*
■ *2nd Collection: Maintenance*

9.00 am Mass: † Jean & John Dabrowski (Ray)
10.30 am Mass: † Lydia & Ernesto Rodas (family)
12.00 pm Mass: † Eduardo Villanueva (Cristeta & family)
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday, 27 Aug. / St. Monica

8.00 am Mass: † Sebastina Nunes & Mavis De Cruze (family)
7.00 pm Mass: † Antonio Gutierez (Narisa & Gina)

Tuesday, 28 Aug / St. Augustine, *bishop & doctor*

8.00 am Mass: † Cleto Amat (family)

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

8.00 am Mass: † Roque & Cecilia Araujo (family)

Thursday, 30 Aug.

8.00 am Mass: † Margarita Buguing (Go Tan Family)

Friday, 31 Aug.

8.00 am Mass: † Antonio Gutierez (Toronto's Finest)

Saturday, 1 Sept.

8.00 am Mass: † Holy Souls in Purgatory (Audrey)
10.00 am Memorial Mass: † Dolores Rayala
5.00 pm Mass: † Frances & Gabriel Andreas (Gracious & family)

SUNDAY, 2 SEPT. / 22-B

■ *Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati*

9.00 am Mass: † Theresa Joseph & Joseph Jesudass (Mary Joseph)
10.30 am Mass: † Deceased Fernandes & Lemos families
12.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Nicholas)
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Focus on the Word

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B
Joshua 24.1-18; Ephesians 4.32-5.2,21-32; John 6.53-69

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 on true gladness. Amen.

Family of Faith *Implementing the Pastoral Plan*

St. Maria Goretti Parish took part in Wave 1 of the *Family of Faith* Campaign. As we move from the active fundraising phase of the *Family of Faith* Campaign to its implementation and stewardship, the archdiocese will keep parishes informed with timely updates and information. Among the most significant projects has been the repair and upgrading of *St. Michael Cathedral* (below).

Pilgrimage to Guadalupe and Central Mexico

15 – 21 November 2018

See the notices on the Vestibule bulletin board, and the PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE in the website bulletin.

$2,199.00 Canadian per person; includes all taxes and tips.

For more info, contact: **Michael Kwadrans**, 647-887-4069.

COMING UP

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3 Sept.	Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
8 Sept.	Wedding: Best – Ganio (3:00 pm)
9 Sept.	Infant Baptism (1:30 pm)
12 Sept.	**Fr. Richard Veltri**, death anniversary (2011)
16 Sept.	2nd Collection: *Maintenance;* Knights of Columbus (1:00 pm); - Christopher Leadership Course (to 2 Dec., Holy Trinity Church)
23 Sept.	2nd Collection: Needs of the Church in Canada
29 Sept.	Feast of **Ss. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael**, *archangels*
30 Sept.	- 2nd Collection: Maintenance; Catholic Women League Meeting (12:00 pm)
1 Oct.	**Bishop Michael Power**, death anniversary (1847)

Website stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org

In the website bulletin: see details of the *Guadalupe* pilgrimage, and contact information for the *Comboni Missionaries*.

The Comboni Missionaries

2018 Mission Co-op Appeal with Fr. Gregor Scmidt

Many thanks to **Fr. Gregor Schmidt**, for his inspiring homilies and presentations on behalf of the *Comboni Missionaries* at our Masses last Sunday, 19 August.

For parishioners who wish further information, or to just follow up with Fr. Gregor, his email address is:

gregor.bogdong@gmail.com

Pilgrimage to Mexico

15 -21 November 2018

Enrich your faith with memories that will remain in your heart. Join fellow parishioners and friends on a pilgrimage to the Historical Centre of Mexico, and the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Nov. 15 - Thursday
Arrive in Mexico City, and transfer to the "City of Angels," Puebla, for Mass and dinner.

Nov. 16 - Friday
The Old City, Cathedral, Dominican Cloister, Rosary Chapel. Tiaxcala and the Shrine of San Miguel del Milagro. Mass where St. Michael the Archangel appeared to Diego Lazaro in 1631, directing him to the Grotto and to a well of miraculous waters. See the image of Our Lady of Ocotlan in the Basilica of Our Lady.

Nov. 17 - Saturday
The Indian baroque Church of Tanantzintla and Cholula Church constructed on top of the Great Pyramid. Then on to the famous "Silver City," Taxco. See jewels of baroque style architecture – St. Priscilla and St. Sebastian Church.

Nov. 18 - Sunday
Depart to Mexico City. Visit the Square of the Three Cultures, and continue to the old and new Basilicas of Our Lady of Guadalupe, visited by twenty million pilgrims every year. The site is near the location where Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to Juan Diego in 1531.

Nov. 19 - Monday
Explore the magnificent city centre, built over the ruins of the Aztec capital city. Stop at the Zocalo, Palacio Nacional, celebrate Mass in the Cathedral and drive along the famous Paseo de la Reforma.

Nov. 20 - Tuesday
Travel to Teotihuacan and the largest American Pyramids, the pyramids of the Sun and the Moon. Also see the Pyramid of the "Feathered Dragon."

Nov. 21 - Wednesday
Farewell Mass at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and transfer to airport to return to Toronto.

For more information, call:
Michael Kwadrans, 647-887-4069.

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