



Boats deploy spinnakers after starting off on the Bell's Beer Bayview Mackinac Race from Port Huron, Mich.

Parish Week † Sunday, 23 September 2018

Saturday, 22 Sept.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Precilla Dualan (Corine Maulion)
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Doodnauth D. Bridgnauth (Shirley Persaud & family)

SUNDAY, 23 SEPT. / 25-B

- *Homilist: Deacon Ramon Villardo*
- *2nd Collection: Needs of the Church in Canada / Bishop's Collection*
- 9.00 am Mass: Int. Fr. Elias (friend)
- 10.30 am Mass: † Lydia & Ernesto Rodas (family)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Victoria Primitivo & Alfredo Parel (family)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday, 24 Sept.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Maria De Ludres (Maria Pinhiero)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Jose Sr. & Felicissima Turiano (Gina Arroyo)

Tuesday, 25 Sept.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Yoahan Alexander (parents)
- 1.00 pm ▶ St. Albert School Mass

Wednesday, 26 Sept. / Ss. Cosmas & Damian, martyrs

- 8.00 am Mass: † Maria De Ludres (Maria Pinhiero)

Thursday, 27 Sept. / St. Vincent de Paul, priest

- 8.00 am Mass: † Arline Gochoco (Corine Maulion)

Friday, 28 Sept. / San Lorenzo Ruiz & companions, martyrs

- 8.00 am Mass: † Alberto Dacanay (Rosalina Mopas)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Mary Ellis (Martino / Perri families)

Sat., 29 Sept. / Ss. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, archangels

- 8.00 am Mass: † Valerie Gibson (Daphne)
- 10.00 am Memorial Mass: † Sister Mary Admirabilis
- 5.00 pm Mass: Int. Mike D'Mello (friends)

SUNDAY, 30 SEPT. / 26-B

- *Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galea*
- *2nd Collection: Maintenance*
- 9.00 am Mass: † Ron Forrester (Debbie)
- 10.30 am Mass: Int. Margaret Cruz (family)
- 11.30 am Catholic Women's League Meeting
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Eduardo Villanueva (Cristeta & family)
- 2.00 pm ▶ *Life Chain*
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Focus on the Word

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Wisdom 2.12, 17-20; James 3.16-4.3; Mark 9.30-37

O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. Amen.

Pray for the Deceased

- Deacon Tab Charbonneau**
- Odette Gianfriddo**
- Adele Estella Nowak**
- Zenaida Fulgencio**
- John Joseph Harlowe**
- Antonia Rosario**

The 4 victims of the shooting in Fredericton, New Brunswick

2nd Collection

23 September: *Bishops' Collection for the needs of the Church in Canada*



The 2nd collection on Sunday, 23 September, will be for the *Bishops' Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada*.

Every year, the Bishops of Canada appeal for financial assistance to support their work through the Collection for the *Needs of the Church in Canada*. Through the work of its members, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB) is involved in national and international areas of pastoral activity, including social justice, ecumenical and interfaith relations, collaboration with Aboriginal Peoples, life and family issues, liturgy, catechesis doctrine and relations with Catholic associations and movements.

The CCCB also provides the Bishops a forum to share their experiences, insights and reflections on the major events and issues that shape the Church and modern society. It also works with the Eastern Catholic rites, such as the Byzantines and Syrians, to address needs within their communities.

COMING UP

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- 1 Oct. **Bishop Michael Power**, death anniversary (1847)
- Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7.40 pm)
- 4 Oct. Jean Vanier CSS Mass (9.00 am)
- 7 Oct. St. Vincent de Paul Bundle Up Sunday;
- Infant Baptism (1.30 pm)
- 8 Oct. THANKSGIVING
- 10 Oct. St. Maria Goretti School
Thanksgiving & Confirmation Enrolment Mass (8.45 am)
- 13 Oct. ▶ Altar Servers: Serra Awards Mass,
(St. Leo Church, Brooklin, 10:00 am)
- 14 Oct. Catholic Women's League Bake Sale
- 15 Oct. ▶ St. Albert School Mass (9.30 am)
- 21 Oct. 2nd Collection: *World Mission*
- Knights of Columbus (1.00 pm)

Website stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org

For more information on *Stewardship, Our Lady of Guadalupe*, and other articles, see page 3 in the bulletin on our website.

Life Chain

30 September, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

All are asked to join this year's *Life Chain*: a silent hour of prayer on: *Sunday, 30 September, 2 - 3 pm*. Our assembly location is:

**Danforth Avenue & Victoria Park Avenue,
or Lawrence Avenue & Birchmount Road**

Sacramental Preparation

Reconciliation, 1st Holy Communion: start 29 September

Preparation will begin on 29 September for the Sacraments of *Reconciliation* and *First Holy Communion* for those students in public school, and those who have entered the Catholic school system after grade 2. For further information, call the facilitator directly: **Fr. Elias**, 416-261-0076.

Confirmation: start 13 October

Preparation will begin on 13 October for the Sacrament of *Confirmation* for those students in public school, and those who have entered the Catholic school system after grade 7. For further information, call the facilitator: **Céline Donald**, 416-285-0811.

*Note: Students in Catholic Schools receive Confirmation preparation in Grade 7.

Sunday School for Kids

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



St. Augustine Seminarians

St. Maria Goretti parish is honoured to welcome three students from St. Augustine Seminary who have been assigned to assist us in our Sunday Masses: **Hilton Chiu, James Cyfko, Alvin Joys**

We pray that the Lord will bless all the students and staff at the Seminary in their academic and spiritual formation.

Bereavement Ministry 25 September, 7 pm

You are invited to join a special evening at Holy Cross Catholic Funeral Home for an insightful seminar. We will learn how to explore our grief, experience healing and renew our faith.

Grief, The Untold Story

Location: Holy Cross Catholic Funeral Home
211 Langstaff Road East, Thornhill (Bayview & 407)

Date: Tuesday, September 25, 2018 @ 7:00 pm

RSVP: (416) 733-8544, ext. 2047.

November Pilgrimage to the Historical Centre of Mexico, and the Guadalupe Shrine

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 flight, accommodations, buffet breakfast and dinners, bus transfers and all taxes & tips.

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

There will be a MASS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE at 7.00 pm on Thursday, 18 October (*all are welcome*), followed by an Information Session for those participating in this pilgrimage.



RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

22 Sept. Rite of CANDIDACY,
at the 5.00 pm Mass

Do you want to become Catholic? Do you want to understand your faith better? Adult Catechism classes, also known as R.C.I.A., are held on Fridays from 7:30-9:00 pm.

They are open to those who want to be Baptized, to those who are Christian and not yet Catholic, and those who are already Catholic but have not received all the Sacraments of Initiation. For more information, contact the pastor, **Fr. Edwin**: (416) 261-0076.



Altar Servers

ANNUAL AWARDS MASS

ST. LEO CHURCH, Brooklin 13 October

The annual Altar Server Awards Mass will be at 10.00 am on Saturday, 13 October at St. Leo Church, 130 Watford Street, Brooklin (just North of Whitby).

FALL TRAINING SERIES

Resumes Saturday, 22 September, 9-10.30 am

Would you like to be an Altar Server? The Fall Training Series for our new Altar Server Candidates will resume at 9.00 am on Saturday, 22 September. Applicants must be members of registered parish families, and have made their 1st Communion.



Stewardship

Offertory Envelopes

Many thanks to all our faithful parishioners for your generous support of our wonderful parish through your faithful weekly stewardship! This is an act of honour to God, our Creator.

Donation amounts

Some new parishioners have missed the instruction to ensure that the *donation amount* should be written in the space provided on the front of the envelope. If this is not done, our financial advisors must stop to do so, and this really slows down the process.

Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Matt 6:21	My Offering	
	Name: _____	_____
	Address: _____	_____
	Amount: _____	_____

Stewardship

A Call to Gratitude



Faith is a gift. It is a beacon of light that shines in our darkness. We all experience the pain, suffering and confusion that are caused by darkness in our lives.

Sin and death are the primary expressions of darkness that no human person - except the Blessed Virgin Mary, by the grace of God - can escape. We cannot overcome the world's darkness by our own efforts, but our faith tells us that we can open our minds and hearts to the light of Christ and, so, "journey through time" illumined by his brightness.

The Church teaches that faith comes as the result of a personal encounter with Jesus Christ. How well do we know him? How deeply do we love him? How effectively do we serve him by responding to the most profound needs of our sisters and brothers in faith?

The light of Christ shines through our darkness. It illumines the shadows of our life and touches us in what Pope Francis describes in his encyclical, "LUMEN FIDEI" (*Light of Faith*), as "the core of our being." When we see with faith, we recognize the meaning of life -- and of our individual lives.

Through faith, our minds and hearts are opened to the truth. We are not orphans. We are the sons and daughters of God, the brothers and sisters of Christ Jesus, who are called to see and to believe with great joy!

As people of faith, we are called to thank God for this great gift. But giving thanks, expressing our gratitude in thought and word, is only an initial aspect of being a grateful believer. We are called not only to say thanks to God, but to do thanks as well. This expression of gratitude to God in action is called stewardship.

In their pastoral letter "Stewardship: A Disciple's Response," the American bishops teach that authentic Christian stewardship is a disciple's response in faith to all the gifts we have been given by a loving and generous God.

When somebody gives us a gift or does us a favor, we spontaneously say "thank you." That's the expected response our parents taught us to make at a very early age.

But just saying thanks isn't really enough. Yes, we are expected to acknowledge in words the gift or benefit we have received, but we are expected to acknowledge it in action, too. This acknowledgment is not a "payback" in which we calculate the value of what we have received and give exactly that much back to the giver.

Rather, it's intended to be a deeper expression of grateful acknowledgment, a more emphatic way of showing that we are aware of what we have received and that we want to express our appreciation by giving something in return.

Gratitude in action is more demanding than just expressing thanks with words. It's more substantive. It costs more. It's more complicated. But it is also more expressive, and the

more we have been given, the more we are expected to give in return. Unless we are willing to give in return, our gratitude in words can easily become a mere formality.

Stewardship is the term used to express our "sacrificial giving" in return to the Lord who has given everything to us. Stewardship is not just giving "time, talent and treasure." It's not simply a technique for asking people to contribute more in order to pay the light bills and keep parish and school ministries going. Stewardship is the practice of putting our faith in action: it's what we do after we say, "We believe."

The practice of stewardship should not be a once in a while thing, any more than gratitude to God is a once in a while thing. Gratitude, and the expression of it in word and action, is supposed to be habitual in our lives. Stewardship and gratitude are part of what we are about in our day-to-day lives, every day. They are constituent elements of our Christian spirituality of faith in action.

Let's thank God for all his gifts. Let's be grateful stewards whose words and actions show that we are responsible, generous and willing to give back to the Lord with increase. Let's be grateful believers who do thanks as well as say it.

Putting Christ at the Centre

Putting Christ at the Centre means looking at the life of Jesus, and living as he teaches us. While each of us will follow in our own way, based on our talents and life circumstances, we will all respond with our faith.

We have an urgent call. It is a call to live as a disciple and as a steward. Jesus' call is urgent. He does not tell people to follow him at some time in the future, but here and now, at this moment, in these circumstances. There can be no delay.

Prayer to our Lady of Guadalupe

O Virgin of Guadalupe,

Patroness of unborn children, we implore your intercession for every child.

Help expectant parents to welcome from God the priceless gift of their child's life. Console parents who have lost that gift through abortion, and lead them to forgiveness and healing through the Divine Mercy of your Son. Teach us to cherish and to care for family and friends, until God calls them home. Amen.

