



# Parish Week

*One does not live on bread alone,  
but on every word that comes  
from the mouth of God.*

**Sunday, 21 March 2021**

**Saturday, 20 Mar.**

- 8.00 am Mass: † Agnes Joseph (Patrick De Caires)  
5.00 pm Mass: † Jose & Petra Cruz (Laureano & Norma)

**SUNDAY, 21 MAR. / LENT 5-B**

■ *Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati*

- 9.00 am Mass: † Pedrito Ibanez (Jocelyn)  
10.30 am Mass: † Frank & Joan DeVerno (Pamela)  
12.00 pm Mass: Int. Rediosa Dela Cruz (Alex Bael)  
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

**Monday 22 Mar.**

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Healing of Pasqualina Vaccaro  
(Maria Di Michele)  
7.00 pm Mass: † Richard D'Mello (Loretta)

**Tuesday, 23 Mar. / St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, bishop**

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Lydia & Antonio Alibangbang  
7.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding  
Anniversary (Lydia & Antonio Alibangbang)

**Wed., 24 Mar. / Blessed Oscar Romero, bishop & martyr**

■ *Lenten Day of Confession*

- 8.00 am Mass: † Cuthbert Serpes & family  
4-5 pm Confessions  
7.00 pm Mass: Int. Errol Wijesinghe (friends)  
7.30-9 pm Confessions

**Thursday, 25 Mar. / Annunciation of the Lord**

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (The Serpes family)  
7.00 pm Mass: † Santhiampillai Sebastiampillai (Ana)

**Friday, 26 Mar.**

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Birthday of Lorenzo Jr. Merin (family)  
7.00 pm Mass: † Souls in Purgatory (FOSS)  
7.30 pm Stations of the Cross (Knights of Columbus)

**Saturday, 27 Mar.**

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Virginia Tabat)  
5.00 pm Mass: Int. Sidney Lee (Jenny)

**SUNDAY, 28 MAR. / PALM SUNDAY: HOLY WEEK BEGINS**

■ *2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Maintenance*

- 9.00 am Mass: † Pasqualina Scarano (Grande family)  
10.30 am Mass: † Maria Wong Shi & Erlinda Go Te  
(Emilio Go & family)  
12.00 pm Mass: † Beatriz Remedios (family)  
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

## Prayer to St. Michael

*Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle,  
be our defense against the wickedness and snares  
of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly  
pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly hosts,  
by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the evil spirits  
who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.*



## Focus on the Word

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, Year B**

**Jeremiah 31.31-34; Hebrews 5.7-9; John 12.20-33**

*By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God, may we walk eagerly  
in that same charity with which, out of love for the world, your son  
handed himself over to death. Amen.*

## Pray for the Deceased

**Michael De Souza, Deacon Gerry Godsoe**

**The 13 victims of the California highway  
crash near the Mexican border**



## Lenten Masses

During Lent, there will be an evening Mass at 7.00 pm Monday to  
Friday, from Ash Wednesday to Holy Thursday.

## Stations of the Cross

Each Friday during Lent, the *Stations of the Cross* will be prayed  
congregationally after the 7.00 pm Mass.

For private use, the parish *Stations of the Cross*  
booklet may be obtained at the office for \$2.

The remaining Facilitators for 2021 will be:

March 26 **Knights of Columbus**

April 2 **Lectors**



## Calling all Palms

Bring in your *old blessed palms* by the Sunday before Holy Week  
(21 March). Kindly place them in the *palm box* in the Vestibule.

## COMING UP

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28 Mar.

**Palm Sunday:** *Holy Week* begins

1 Apr.

**Holy Thursday:** *Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper;*  
- Adoration until midnight

2 Apr.

**Good Friday:** *The Passion of Our Lord*

4 Apr.

**Easter Sunday:** *Resurrection of Our Lord;*  
2 Collections: (a) *Offertory*; (b) *Easter*

5 Apr.

Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)

10 Apr.

Wedding: Molinaro – Chakraborty (1:00 pm)

11 Apr.

Infant Baptism (1.30 pm)

18 Apr.

**ShareLife** Sunday

19 Apr.

**Joyce Durban:** birthday (1927)

21 Apr.

**Queen Elizabeth II:** birthday (1926)

23 Apr.

Wedding: Belen – Albino (1:00 pm)

24 Apr.

Wedding: Churchill – Dhanasekar (1:00 pm)

25 Apr.

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: **Maintenance**

10 June

**Prince Philip:** birthday (1921)

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

During the current pandemic zone management, we are celebrating  
our Masses according to the usual schedule. There is a 15%  
capacity limit on attendance, and all must wear a face mask.

# Sacramental Preparation

## Ready to move forward

All families of the Candidates for 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion and Confirmation have been eagerly waiting for news as to how the preparation process would proceed.

The modification in Church capacity that was made on 15 March has made it possible for us to resume plans to celebrate these extremely important events in the lives of our Youth.

Please refer to the website home page for updates, as we work with our Catholic Schools and Parish Catechists in order to prepare a schedule to move forward, as soon as possible after Holy Week.

## Lenten Day of Confessions

Wednesday, 24 March: 4 – 5 pm, 7:30 – 9 pm

Cardinal Collins is inviting Catholics across the Archdiocese to receive the *Sacrament of Reconciliation* on a Lenten DAY OF CONFESSIONS. At our Church, it will be on Wednesday, 24 March. Parishioners may come for Confession from 4.00 – 5.00 pm, and again following the 7.00 pm evening Mass, when we will have Confessors available from 7.30 – 9.00 pm.

Our parish will be prepared to reschedule plans for a Day of Confessions when the current *Covid 19 shutdown* ends.

## ShareLife 2021

Living the Gospel locally and around the world

“It is important that we continue to support the *ShareLife* appeal, to provide for the needs of those who are marginalized, both here in our communities and around the world. Sometimes the results are obvious and sometimes they’re invisible, but always they make a tangible difference in the lives of the people we are helping. Please prayerfully consider how you can be supportive on *ShareLife* Sunday.”

- Cardinal Thomas Collins

18 April 2021, is *ShareLife* Sunday.  
Thank you for supporting *ShareLife*!



## Spiritual Reflection

*The lives of each of us are designed by the Lord in a beautiful way to reflect His glory, if we only entrust Him with our will. If we try to run our own life without His grace, it will be a mess. If we open our lives to the Lord in trust, we will know His Divine Mercy.*



## RCIA, RCIC

*Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults & Children*



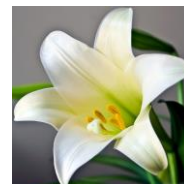
Pray for all in our parish R.C.I.A. process, who preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation; as well as the youth in our parish R.C.I.C. process.

Pray that God will bless the Candidates who will celebrate the **Rite of Enrollment of Names**, and the makeup **Rite of Election** at 1.30 pm on 27 March.

The RCIA meets regularly on Friday evenings at 7.30 pm, and the RCIC meets periodically on Saturday mornings; their next meeting is on 10 April.

## Easter Flowers

Parishioners are invited to sponsor this year's display of EASTER FLOWERS in our Sanctuary. Envelopes are available at the office.



## Stewardship 2020 Receipts, 2021 Envelopes

The Charitable *Tax Receipts* for all recorded donations during 2020 are in the Vestibule, as well as the *2021 Sunday Offertory Envelopes*. They may be picked up during Church opening hours.

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

We hope and pray that all Parishioners are staying healthy – both physically and spiritually. Please let us know if the Parish can help you during these difficult times.

Our Parish relies on the support of our Parishioners to function. Without the weekly offertory collection during this COVID 19 crisis, the Archdiocese has ways that we can continue our support.

→ **P.A.G.** You can contribute through *Pre-Authorized Giving*.

All that is required is that you complete a *Letter of Authorization* at the Parish Office, and bring one *voided cheque*. Contributions are withdrawn from your bank account on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## Remembering the Parish in your Will

Your parish has been there for you and your family during the most important moments of your lives. Make sure your Catholic community is active and alive for years to come.

Please consider your Parish in your *will* or through a *planned gift*. A Bequest is a beautiful way to express your faith and gratitude for a lifetime of blessings – a lasting legacy of love that will help the Church continue to serve future families with its many ministries.

For more details, please call the Parish Office at 416-261-0076 and ask for the Pastor, **Fr. Edwin**; or contact **Peter Okonski**, Manager of Planned Giving and Personal Gifts, at 416 934 3400, ext. 519; or by email at [development@archtoronto.org](mailto:development@archtoronto.org). All calls are confidential.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Communion *and* Confirmation

The celebrations of 1<sup>st</sup> HOLY COMMUNION and CONFIRMATION, which were to take place after Holy Week in 2020, are now being rescheduled in the near future. Candidates in our schools who have prepared to receive these Sacraments will be given information to take home, so that families can prepare properly. Keep referring to this website bulletin for more details.

Here is a preliminary chart for the 1<sup>st</sup> Communion schedule:

The *St. Maria Goretti School* 1<sup>st</sup> Communions will be held:

|           |          |         |
|-----------|----------|---------|
| Wednesday | 7 April  | 6.30 pm |
| Thursday  | 8 April  | 6.30 pm |
| Saturday  | 10 April | 2.30 pm |
| Sunday    | 11 April | 2.30 pm |
| Wednesday | 14 April | 6.30 pm |
| Thursday  | 15 April | 6.30 pm |
| Saturday  | 17 April | 2.30 pm |



The assignments will be similar to the lists that had been prepared for the 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Masses planned for November and December 2020. As soon as this proposed schedule can be confirmed, it will be distributed to the families along with any necessary planning reminders.

The *Saturday* 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Class will resume shortly.

The *RCIC Youth* will have the next meeting at 10 am on 10 April.

## GOD GIVES YOU PEACE

Everyone wants to be happy and get along with others. We all like to feel peaceful and happy. That's what God wants for us,



too. This is God's great dream, the dream that Jesus came to tell us about: "Stay close to God and God's plan for you, and you will have peace and joy in your life."

But sometimes things happen and we turn away from God's love. Whether we are children or grown-ups, we may do or say things to others that cause them pain.

- ▶ We cheat or we lie.
- ▶ We disobey our parents or teachers.
- ▶ We hurt other people's feelings.

To say this in another way, we choose to *sin*.

## GOD ALWAYS GUIDES YOU

Did you know? God has placed a small voice inside you that helps you know what is right or wrong. This voice is called your **Conscience**. In the Bible, God gives us rules that help your conscience to make good choices. These are called the Ten Commandments. You can learn them.

### The Ten Commandments

1. Love God with all your heart.  
You shall honor no other God but me.
2. Do not curse or swear.  
You shall not take the name of the Lord in vain.
3. Remember that Sunday is a holy day.  
Remember to keep holy the Sabbath.
4. Love and respect your parents.  
Honour your father and mother.
5. Do not kill another person.  
You shall not kill.
6. Be a good and faithful husband / wife.  
You shall not commit adultery.
7. Do not steal from others.  
You shall not steal.
8. Do not tell lies.  
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
9. Do not be jealous of other families.  
You shall not covet your neighbour's wife.
10. Respect your neighbor and all that is theirs.  
You shall not covet your neighbour's goods.





# Kulula Airlines

Kulula is a low-cost South-African airline that doesn't take itself too seriously.

On a Kulula flight, (there is no assigned seating, you just sit where you want), passengers were apparently having a hard time choosing their seats, when a flight attendant announced, "People, people, we're not picking out furniture here Find a seat and get in it!"

On another flight with a very "senior" flight attendant crew, the pilot said, "Ladies & gentlemen, we've reached cruising altitude and will be turning down the cabin lights. This is for your comfort and to enhance the appearance of your flight attendants."

And from the pilot during his welcome message: "Kulula Airlines is pleased to announce that we have some of the best flight attendants in the industry. Unfortunately, none of them are on this flight!"

After a particularly rough landing during thunderstorms in the Karoo, a flight attendant on a flight announced, "Please take care when opening the overhead compartments because, after a landing like that, sure as heck everything has shifted."

From a Kulula employee:

"Welcome aboard Kulula 271 to Port Elizabeth. To operate your seat belt, insert the metal tab into the buckle, and pull tight. It works just like every other seat belt; and, if you don't know how to operate one, you probably shouldn't be out in public unsupervised."

"In the event of a sudden loss of cabin pressure, masks will descend from the ceiling. Stop screaming, grab the mask, and pull it over your face. If you have a small child traveling with you, secure your mask before assisting with theirs. If you are traveling with more than one small child, pick your favorite."

"Weather at our destination is 50 degrees with some broken clouds, but we'll try to have them fixed before we arrive. Thank you, and remember, nobody loves you, or your money, more than Kulula Airlines."

"Your seat cushions can be used for flotation. In the event of an emergency water landing, please paddle to shore and take them with our compliments."

"There may be 50 ways to leave your lover, but there are only 4 ways out of this airplane."

"Thank you for flying Kulula. We hope you enjoyed giving us the business as much as we enjoyed taking you for a ride."

As the plane landed and was coming to a stop at Durban Airport, a lone voice came over the loudspeaker:

"Whoa, big fella. WHOA!"



On landing, the stewardess said, "Please be sure to take all of your belongings. If you're going to leave anything, please make sure it's something we'd like to have."

After another landing, the stewardess said, "As you exit the plane, make sure to gather all of your belongings. Anything left behind will be distributed evenly among the flight attendants. Please do not leave children or spouses."

Kulula 255 arrived with a very hard landing in Cape Town: The flight attendant came on the intercom and said, "That was quite a bump, and I know what you are all are thinking. I'm here to tell you it wasn't the Airline's fault, it wasn't the Pilot's fault, it wasn't the Flight Attendant's fault. It was the asphalt."

A Kulula flight arrived at Cape Town on a particularly windy and bumpy day. During the final approach, the Captain really had to fight it. After an extremely hard landing, the Flight Attendant said, "Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to The Mother City. Please remain in your seats with your seat belts fastened while the Captain taxis what's left of our airplane to the gate!"

Another flight attendant's comment on a less-than-perfect landing: "We ask you to please remain seated as Captain Kangaroo bounces us to the terminal."

An airline pilot wrote that on a particular flight he had hammered his ship into the runway really hard. The airline had a policy which required the first officer to stand at the door while the passengers exited, smile, and say, "Thanks for flying our Airline". He said that, in light of his bad landing, he had a hard time looking at the passengers in the eye, thinking that someone would have a smart comment. Finally, everyone had got off the plane except for a little old lady walking with a cane.

She asked the Captain, "Sir, do you mind if I ask you a question?"

"Why, no Ma'am," said the Captain. "What is it?"

The little old lady said, "Did you actually land this thing, or were we shot down?"



## The *Pachamama* episode

*Joshua Charles* was raised a protestant. He loves the many good men and women who helped him learn to love the Lord Jesus Christ, a love that has now found fulfillment in His Catholic Church. He comments on the recent situation of the *Pachimama* episode:

These are disturbing days. In particular, I refer to the blessing, and welcoming of a pagan idol by Pope Francis into the Vatican, and St. Peter's Basilica itself in October, 2019 as part of the Amazon Synod. Many better and holier men than myself have written about this scandalous event. I refer chiefly to Archbishop Viganò, whose August 2018 Testimony exposed to an unprecedented degree the amount of corruption and perversion currently at work in the Church, and at the behest of many of Her most powerful prelates. "The abomination of idolatrous rites has entered the sanctuary of God," he said in a November 2019 interview on the *Pachamama* scandal. Catholic theologian Douglas Farrow has written two compelling pieces on the Amazon Synod, *The Amazon Synod Is a Sign of the Times*, and *Reading the Signs of the Times*.

Cardinal Raymond Burke has said that "diabolical forces" entered St. Peter's Basilica through the idolatrous *Pachamama* event. Finally, 100+ Catholic theologians, priests, and laymen signed a Protest Against Pope Francis's Sacrilegious Acts in response to the *Pachamama* fiasco.

In short, this very disturbing event has been commented on by far greater men than me, and it is to them I primarily refer you.

So why do I write this blog post today? Because of a recent, again disturbing encounter over Twitter with someone who claimed that *Pachamama* was just a "cultural symbol."

Addressing him with respect, I protested that his statement simply wasn't true. I suggested he check out standard encyclopedic reference sources to see. I included a link to the Encyclopedia Britannica entry on "*Pachamama*," which simply says "Andean deity."

In the same encyclopedia's entry on "Nature Worship," *Pachamama* is described as the "Andean earth-mother figure...worshiped by the Peruvians." In the entry on "Bolivia," we find this line: "Some characteristics of pantheistic pre-Columbian religion have survived in the Indian communities of the Altiplano, especially the worship of *Pachamama*, the goddess of the Earth." [Emphasis added] In an entry on "Inca religion," we read that "Earth was called *Pachamama* (Paca Mama), or Earth Mother." Encyclopedia.com contains these words in its entry on *Pachamama*: "*Pachamama*, the earth mother goddess of the Incas. *Pachamama* was an agricultural deity worshiped with regard to fertility and the protection of the crops..."

In short, it is quite clear that *Pachamama* is no mere "cultural symbol." She is an earth goddess, a pagan



idol, the “Mother Earth” worshiped by pre-Christian pagans. As the Psalmist reminds us (Ps. 96:5), “For all the gods of the peoples are idols.” Some translations put “demons” for “idols.” No one had stronger words about such demons than St. Paul (1 Cor. 10:20-22):

No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be partners with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. Shall we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?

Throughout this debacle, I kept having a vague memory about having heard about this “*Pachamama*” before. Then I remembered that when I was in my early 20’s (still a protestant), I had a dear friend who had been on missionary trips to South America. On most of those trips, he encountered syncretistic Catholic-pagan sites and practices, some having to do with *Pachamama*. The stories he relayed to me were disturbing.

I recently asked this protestant friend to write a “testimony” about some of his encounters with *Pachamama* on his missionary trips, given recent events, and particularly the claims by some Catholic Bishops that *Pachamama* is a mere “cultural symbol.” His account refutes that notion, and it testifies to a very disturbing acquiescence in this pagan cult by at least some of the Catholic Church in South America.

Additionally, this friend spoke of multiple masonic symbols placed around these altar areas, as well as on top of Catholic Churches. Locals, he said, would tell them, and point out the many places where “There is a good deal of pagan religion down here that is mixed with Catholicism, and masonic symbolism.”

Suffice it to say, the idea that *Pachamama* is just a “cultural symbol” is false, and don’t let anyone who should know better tell you otherwise. I pray for them every single day on my Rosary, because they will be held to account, and I want them in Heaven.

My friend agreed to share his testimony against *Pachamama*. He visited missionary locations which were supposed to be Catholic, but which he observed to be anything but. Catholic celebrations were mixed with pagan Incan rituals. The rituals celebrate the fertility goddess *Pachamama*. We pressed for more details and the locals said the Church (Catholic Church) does nothing. They say nothing. It is allowed, even within the walls of the church. We were shocked to hear this, but all indications and observations gave reason to believe this was true.

**Joshua Charles** is one of the rising stars of the Millennial generation. A former White House Speechwriter for Vice President Mike Pence, bestselling author, historian, researcher, and international speaker, he is a passionate defender of America’s Founding Principles, western civilization, and the Catholic faith, to which he converted in 2018.

Joshua’s goal is to bring “the Great Tradition”—the wisdom of the great minds and heroes of human history, especially those of Christian Civilization—to as many people as possible, especially the young. To that end, whether in education, politics, or pop-culture, he loves teaching this “Great Tradition,” as well as telling, and helping others tell great stories that communicate it.

Joshua has authored and co-authored several bestselling books. His first book, *The Original Argument: The Federalists’ Case for the Constitution*, was a #1 New York Times Bestseller. His second book, *Liberty’s Secrets: The Lost Wisdom of America’s Founders*, was a #1 Amazon Bestseller in multiple categories. He also co-authored the book *God, Israel, and You: The Scandalous Story of a Faithful God*, and served as the Concept Developer and Senior Editor for *The Global Impact Bible*, published by the Museum of the Bible. He is the Senior Editor for the forthcoming book, *The Faith and Liberty Bible*, a study Bible highlighting the role of faith in American history. His conversion story appears in the 2018 book, *Mind, Heart, and Soul: Intellectuals and the Path to Rome*, edited by Princeton professors Robert P. George, and R.J. Snell.



## The Ten Commandments

### Exodus, Chapter 20

Then God spoke all these words:

<sup>2</sup> I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup> you shall have no other gods before me.’

<sup>4</sup> You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup> You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me,

<sup>6</sup> but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.



The base of the Eiffel Tower.





