

Parish Week / Sunday, 11 July 2021

Saturday, 10 July

8.00 am Mass: † Souls in Purgatory (Audrey Caza)

2.00 pm Saturday Class Confirmation Mass

5.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Lorraine Seneviratne)

SUNDAY, 11 JULY / 15-B

■ Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galea

■ 2nd Collection: ShareLife Freewill Offering

9.00	am	Mass: † Swarna Amereskere (family)
10.30	am	Mass: † Mathalada D'Souza (family)

- 12.00 pm Mass: † Michael D'Mello (Esme)
- 1.30 pm Infant Baptisms
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday 12 July

- 8.00 am Mass: † Carmelita & Teodoro Mulla (Willie) 7.00 pm Mass: Int. Alwina Fernando (friends)
- 1.00 pm mass. mt. Arwina remando (menus)
 - Tuesday, 13 July
- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Rebecca Gomes)

11.00 am Memorial Mass Manola Cruz

Wednesday, 14 July

8.00 am Mass: † Hughie Doherty (Daphne Suitters)

Thursday, 15 July / St. Bonaventure, bishop & doctor

8.00 am Mass: † Prisco & Maria Ana Forones (Joel & Jennifer)

Friday, 16 July / Our Lady of Mount Carmel

8.00 am Mass: † Charles D'Silva (family)

Saturday, 17 July

8.00 am Mass: Int. Fr. Elias Chachati (family)

1.00 pm 25th Wedding Anniversary: Marcos & Sofia Datinguinoo

5.00 pm Mass: † Pietra Vitello (Lina)

SUNDAY, 18 JULY / 16-B

■ Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati

- 9.00 am Mass: † Valerie Saunders (family)
- 10.30 am Mass: † Rose & Hans Kwa (Angela Tam)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Beato & Natalina Gonsalves (family)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Focus on the Word

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B Amos 7.12-15; Ephesians 1.3-14; Mark 6.7-13

O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path, give all who are accounted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ and to strive after all that does it honour. Amen.

Pray for the Deceased

Richard Brugger The 82 victims of the hospital fire in Baghdad, Iraq



This God – His way is perfect; the promise of the Lord proves true; He is a shield for all who take refuge in him. *Psalm 18.30*

R & R Report 11 July

The next R&R report will be made at all Masses on 10/11 July, detailing the work on the most recent Church repairs.

11 July: ShareLife Appeal, Freewill Offering

On 11 July, the 2nd collection will be the *Freewill* Offering for our annual *ShareLife Appeal*, supporting over 40 Catholic agencies and 10 grant recipients that respect the sanctity of all human life.

COMING UP

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25 July	2 nd Collection: <i>Maintenance;</i> - Bundle Up Sunday
2 Aug. 8 Aug.	Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm) Infant Baptism (1.30 pm)
5 Aug	Feast of the Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major ; - Fr. Elias Chachati , Anniversary of birth (1955)
6 Aug.	Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord
15 Aug.	Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary; - 2 nd Collection: Canadian Missions
21 Aug. 28 Aug. 29 Aug.	Wedding: John Aloanilla – Gayle Baylon (1:00 pm) Wedding: Raphael Santiago – Mary Parayna (1:00 pm) 2 nd Collection: <i>Maintenance</i>
4 Sept. 6 Sept. 12 Sept. 19 Sept. 26 Sept.	Wedding: Santos – Clavesillas (1:00 pm) Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm) Infant Baptism (1.30 pm) 2 nd Collection: Bishops 2 nd Collection: Maintenance

Website stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org

During the current pandemic zone management, we are celebrating our Masses with a 127-person capacity limit on attendance, and all must wear a face mask.

ShareLife 2021

Living the Gospel by giving to **ShareLife** and its Agencies



Your gift to ShareLife helps!

Thank you for supporting our parish's *ShareLife* Campaign. Thanks to you, our generous donors, our Parish has been able to raise \$ 16,760.00 toward our goal of \$ 41,000.00.

When you support *ShareLife*, you help clients at more than 40 agencies that respect the sanctity of all human life.

Please make your sacrificial gift to our *ShareLife* campaign through the parish office, on our website, or at <u>sharelife.org</u>. Please give generously.

11 July 2021 is our *ShareLife* Freewill Offering. Thank you for supporting *ShareLife*!



Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults & Children

The RCIA meets regularly on Friday evenings at 7.30 pm, and the RCIC meets periodically on Saturday mornings; their next meeting is on 3 July.

Bible Sponsors

Do you cherish the **Bible**? Would you like to help spread the *Good News* to new Catholics, and let them know how powerful the Bible is? The *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* invites parishioners to serve as **Bible Sponsors** for the candidates. For more information on how you can help, call: **Fr. Edwin**, 416-261-0076.

Residential Schools

The RCIA has begun a study series on Residential Schools. Documents provided from public records, the Archdiocese and archival sources are reviewed in light of the current interest in advancing the Reconciliation effort.

Parishioners are welcome to participate; however, due to the pandemic guidelines, it is necessary to register so that the number attending may be tracked.

The next meetings will be held at 7.30 pm on Friday, 9 and 23 July. If you wish to take part, please send an email message to: stmariagoretti@rogers.com, and be sure to including the **names** of those wanting to participate, and a **telephone number** to allow for quick contact.

A Special Gift LINO CELAJES Funeral

Our Parish extends its thanks to the family of **Lino Celajes**, who died on 31 May, for donating to our Church the beautiful flowers from his funeral. Your kind gift was greatly appreciated. May he Rest in Peace.



Saturday Class Confirmation

Many thanks to all who participated in the recent celebrations of the Sacraments of 1st HOLY COMMUNION and CONFIRMATION, vital events in the lives of our Youth.

Students *currently in Grade 2 and 7*, who should have received their Sacraments this past Easter Season, will be provided their appropriate Liturgies after School resumes in September.

The Saturday Class will receive Confirmation on 10 July.

Upcoming Weddings

Ian Hojas *and* **Michelle Lopez** *16 July 2021, St. Barnabas Church*

Marcos Datinguinoo and Sofia Austria 17 July 2021, St. Maria Goretti Church

Shane Bagwandin and Koshigaine Baskaran 24 July 2021, St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Markham

> Kethujan Matt and Nicole Travas 7 August 2021, Prince of Peace Church

Mayurin Ahilan and Brenda Vethanayagam 21 August 2021, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

Raphael Santiago *and* **Mary Parayna** 28 August 2021, St. Maria Goretti Church

Victor Bevilacqua and Sara Keats 6 November 2021, St. Maria Goretti Church



STUDY OF THE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS ISSUE

Session 2: BACKGROUND FOR CATHOLICS: RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

July 9, 2021

Dear friends of the Archdiocese of Toronto,

Over the past several weeks, there has been a painful national conversation on the tragic history of residential schools in Canada. The role of the Catholic Church in the residential school system has been a central part of that discussion.

We acknowledge the terrible suffering that took place and condemn the system, established by the federal government and operated by faith communities, which separated children, often forcibly, from their parents and attempted to strip away their language, culture and identity.



The Catholic Church must continue to atone for our involvement in this dark history. It is undeniable that some Catholic teachers (priests, religious men and women and lay staff) entrusted to care for children at residential schools assaulted the dignity of the students by mistreatment, neglect and abuse.

A recent poll suggested that only 10% of Canadians have a thorough understanding of the history of residential schools. We also know that many Catholics have asked for additional information, unsure of this history and wondering how to respond when asked about it. In addition to resources like the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report, we have prepared a webpage

at: www.archtoronto.org/residentialschools with numerous resources, links and information.

We encourage you to access our latest document, "Background for Catholics – Residential Schools," which provides answers to eight frequently asked questions on recent topics of discussion.

We'd also like to make you aware of the following recent developments:

On June 29, 2021, it was announced that a delegation of Indigenous Elders/Knowledge Keepers, residential school survivors and youth from across the country will meet with Pope Francis from December 17-20 at the Vatican. There will be four days of meetings – focused on encounters with First Nations, Métis and Inuit participants – as well as a final audience with all delegates coming together on December 20, 2021. Pope Francis is deeply committed to hearing directly from Indigenous Peoples, expressing his heartfelt closeness, addressing the impact of colonization and the role of the Church in the residential school system, in the hopes of responding to the suffering of Indigenous Peoples and the ongoing effects of intergenerational trauma.

We have received numerous inquiries regarding financial support related to residential schools. A more detailed response on the settlement process, what has been paid and where we have fallen short, can be found in the latest "Background for Catholics – Residential Schools" document. Currently, dioceses across the country, including the Archdiocese of Toronto, are in discussions to determine how to best engage in a renewed financial effort to meet the goal of the \$25 million "best efforts" campaign. In addition, the archdiocese is developing a series of pastoral initiatives, with Indigenous participation, to engage parishioners and the broader community in a continued journey of prayer, listening and dialogue as part of ongoing reconciliation efforts.

We look forward to sharing more information with you on these plans in the days ahead.

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, pray for us.

Thomas Collins Archbishop of Toronto



9 July 2021

Over the past several months, there has been a national conversation on the tragic history of residential schools in Canada. The role of the Catholic Church in the residential school system has been a part of that discussion.

We acknowledge the terrible suffering that took place and condemn the system, established by the federal government and operated by faith communities, which separated children, often forcibly, from their parents and attempted to strip away their language, culture and identity.

The Catholic Church must atone for our involvement in this dark history. It is undeniable that some Catholic teachers (priests, religious men and women and lay staff) entrusted to care for children at residential schools assaulted the dignity of the students through mistreatment, neglect and abuse.

We echo the words of one of the original apologies made by the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate in 1991:

"We apologize for the existence of the schools themselves, recognizing that the biggest abuse was not what happened in the schools, but that the schools themselves happened...We wish to apologize in a very particular way for the instances of physical and sexual abuse that occurred in those schools...Far from attempting to defend or rationalize these cases of abuse in any way, we wish to state publicly that we acknowledge they were inexcusable, intolerable and a betrayal of trust in one of its most serious forms. We deeply and very specifically, apologize to every victim of such abuse and we seek help in searching for means to bring about healing."



1. How many residential schools were there and where were they located? Did the Catholic Church run all these schools?

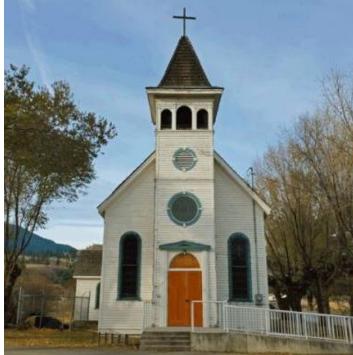
While the federal residential school system began around 1883, the origins of the residential school system can be traced to as early as the 1830s (long before Confederation in 1867), when the Anglican Church established a residential school in Brantford, Ont. It is estimated that 150,000 children between the ages of three and 16 were forced to attend federal residential schools, operated in Canada between 1883 and 1996.

Of the 139 residential schools identified in the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement (IRSSA), 46% (64 schools) were operated by Catholic entities; approximately 16 out of 70 Catholic dioceses in Canada were associated with the former residential schools, as well as about three dozen Catholic religious communities.

In Ontario, there were 17 residential schools:

7 were operated by Catholic entities,
5 by the Anglican Church,
3 by the Mennonite Church,
1 by the United Church and
1 by the Presbyterian Church.

No residential schools were operated in the Archdiocese of Toronto. The closest residential school was the Mohawk Institute in Brantford (1831-1970) operated by the Anglican Church.



2. What was the goal of residential schools?

Residential schools were established pursuant to federal government policies and legislation designed to control and assimilate Indigenous people. From the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Final Report:

For over a century, the central goals of Canada's Aboriginal policy were to eliminate Aboriginal governments; ignore Aboriginal rights; terminate the Treaties; and, through a process of assimilation, cause Aboriginal peoples to cease to exist as distinct legal, social, cultural, religious, and racial entities in Canada. The establishment and operation of residential schools were a central element of this policy. The federal government's residential schools were part of a horrendous assumption that it was in an Indigenous child's interest to be taken from his or her parents and to be culturally and linguistically reconstructed.

□ The federal government never established an adequate set of standards and regulations to guarantee the health and safety of residential school students.

□ The federal government never adequately enforced the minimal standards and regulations that it did establish.

□ The failure to establish and enforce adequate regulations was largely a function of the government's determination to keep residential school costs to a minimum.

□ The failure to establish and enforce adequate standards, coupled with the failure to adequately fund the schools, resulted in unnecessarily high death rates at residential schools.

3. What were the causes of death for students at residential schools?

(Information below has been sourced from the *Truth & Reconciliation Report, Volume 4: Missing Children & Unmarked Burials*)

Approximately 150,000 children attended residential schools in Canada. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission has identified 3,200 deaths on the Named and Unnamed registers of confirmed deaths of residential school students. Since the TRC report was published in 2015, the number of deceased children has most recently been updated to at least 4,100. Due to poor record keeping by the churches and the federal government, we may never know the total loss of life.

For just under one-third (32%) of the 3,200 deaths identified in the TRC report, the government and the schools did not record the name of the student who

died. For just under one-quarter of these deaths (23%), the government and the schools did not record the gender of the student who died. For just under one-half of these deaths (49%), the government and the schools did not record the cause of death. Aboriginal children in residential schools died at a far higher rate than school-aged children in the general population. (*TRC Volume 4 – Missing Children & Unmarked Burials –* Page 26-27)

In cases where the cause of death was reported, tuberculosis was the dominant cause of death, representing 48.7% or 896 of residential school deaths. The next highest were influenza and pneumonia.

Several of the schools were overwhelmed by the influenza pandemic of 1918–19. All but two of the children and all of the staff were stricken with influenza at the Fort St. James, British Columbia, school and the surrounding community in 1918. 78 people, including students, died. (TRC Report Summary, page 119)

Underfed and malnourished students were particularly vulnerable to diseases such as tuberculosis and influenza (including the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1918– 19). In large part due to the federal government underfunding the system, food was low in quantity and poor in quality.

Students also died as the result of suicide and accidents. Statistical analysis identified six suicides. The TRC report also identified 57 drownings, 40 deaths in school fires and 20 deaths due to exposure. 38 students died in a variety of other accidents, including vehicle accidents and falls. At least 33 students died while running away: they would have died from a variety of causes, the most common being exposure and drowning.

According to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report, parents frequently were not notified of a student's death, and the bodies of students who died at residential schools were rarely sent home unless their parents could afford transportation. In an effort to limit expenses, the Department of Indian Affairs (as it was then called) was opposed to shipping the bodies of deceased children to their home communities.



4. I've heard a lot about the discovery of unmarked graves in British Columbia and Saskatchewan. How do I better understand these "lost" burial sites and those that may be present in other locations?

We can expect that there will be burial grounds on most, if not all, land in close proximity to residential schools. Ground penetrating radar has been used to identify individual graves. The technology does not identify human remains.

According to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission:

"Sometimes virtually no cemetery information is readily available within the archival records, but knowledge of the existence and location of cemeteries is locally held."

Faith communities, including Catholic entities, who operated residential schools should have done more to respect those who died, providing information to family members and respecting the dignity of every child entrusted to their care. Church leaders have spoken publicly about the need to dialogue with Indigenous leaders to ensure appropriate memorials are constructed to remember and honour those who died, including names of the deceased wherever possible.

Children were often interred with simple wooden crosses that have deteriorated and disappeared over the decades. At present, remains at the former residential school burial sites have not been identified. Local Indigenous leaders as well as historians have noted the need to identify the children buried on these sites. The school-related burial sites may also include the remains of lay teachers and their own children, as well as nuns, priests and other members of the community.

From the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report:

In the 1940's, Indian Affairs was prepared to cover the burial costs of residential school students who died in hospital. It was not, however, prepared to pay for the transportation of the body to the student's home community. The Social Welfare section of the 1958 Indian Affairs field manual provided direction on the burial of "destitute Indians." Burial costs were to be covered by Indian Affairs only when they could not "be met from the estate of the deceased." There was no fixed rate of payment.

Instead, the "amount payable by the local municipality for the burial of destitute non-Indians is the maximum generally allowed." Those who died away from their home reserve were to be buried where they died. "Ordinarily the body will be returned to the reserve for burial only when transportation, embalming costs and all other expenses are borne by next of kin. Transportation may be authorized, however, in cases where the cost of burial on the reserve is sufficiently low to make transportation economically advantageous...

Given that schools were virtually all church-run in the early years of the system, Christian burial was the norm at most schools. Many of the early schools were part of larger, church mission centres that might include a church, a dwelling for the missionaries, a farm, possibly a sawmill and a cemetery.

The church was intended to serve as a place of worship for both residential school students and adults from the surrounding region. In the same way, the cemetery might serve as a place of burial for students who died at school, members of the local community, and the missionaries themselves.

For example, the cemetery at the Roman Catholic St. Mary's Mission, near Mission, British Columbia, was intended originally for priests and nuns from the mission as well as for students from the residential school. Three Oblate bishops were buried there along with settlers, their descendants, and residential school students.

When the Battleford school closed in 1914, Principal E. Matheson reminded Indian Affairs that there was a school cemetery that contained the bodies of seventy to eighty individuals, most of whom were former students. He worried that unless the government took steps to care for the cemetery, it would be overrun by stray cattle. Matheson had good reason for wishing to see the cemetery maintained: several of his family members were buried there. These concerns proved prophetic, since the location of this cemetery is not recorded in the available historical documentation, and neither does it appear in an internet search of Battleford cemeteries.

From the Truth and Reconciliation Report (Volume 4 – Missing Children pg. 118-119, 121)

The TRC report drew on the efforts of many investigators and consultants, including Dr. Scott Hamilton, a professor in the Department of Anthropology at Lakehead University, who worked from 2013-15 identifying residential-school-related gravesites across Canada.

His full, 44-page written report, "Where are the Children buried?" was made public only following Tk'emlups te Secwepemc Chief Rosanne Casimir's announcement regarding the Kamloops discovery in late May 2021. In a recent interview with the B.C. Catholic, Hamilton said that he believes his study provides important detail and context for a public grappling with the implications of the Kamloops news. An excerpt from the B.C. Catholic story:

Of particular concern to Dr. Hamilton is the fact that many news reports described the Kamloops gravesite as a mass grave, a term most often used to describe sites associated with war crimes or massacres in which people all killed at one time are buried en masse in a site that is then hidden.

In fact, deaths at Residential Schools accrued year over year, with "wild fluctuations" that probably reflected periodic epidemics, Dr. Hamilton said. The high death rates continued until the middle of the 20th century, when they finally fell to match those in the general population.

Hamilton said the "mass grave" description "misses the point with the Residential-School story," a story that unfolded over more than a century and in which appalling conditions led to high death rates due to disease, the most devastating of which was tuberculosis.

Deceased students were often buried in simple graveyards near the schools because federal authorities provided no funding to send the bodies home or to conduct proper burials...His report found no evidence that school officials intended to hide the graves. He also wrote that, in some areas, it is likely that the remains of teachers and their own children, nuns, and priests will also be found in school-related cemeteries. At present, none of the remains in Kamloops has been identified.



5. Is the Archdiocese of Toronto and the Vatican holding records in secret archives. Why not just turn over all the information that you have?

"In the history of our Archdiocese of Keewatin-Le Pas, we had seven Residential Schools. We will do all we can to provide what information we have on our gravesites. During the TRC our records were turned over to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. We commit to help with identifying the children that passed at our own Residential Schools."

Archbishop Murray Chatlain,

Keewatin-Le Pas – June 2021

Most Catholic entities that ran residential schools started sharing their records years ago. Cardinal Thomas Collins, along with other Canadian bishops, has stated publicly that any Catholic entity with records relating to residential schools that have not yet been shared should do so.

No residential schools were operated within the boundaries of the Archdiocese of Toronto, so our diocese has no residential school records. The archdiocese holds no residential school records from other dioceses or Catholic entities.

There is no evidence that secret files are hidden at the Vatican relating to residential schools. Records were kept by the religious orders and dioceses who ran the schools at the local level. Most groups have handed over records to the government or historical archives or committed to make this happen.

Some records were lost over time. According to a 1933 federal government policy, school returns could be destroyed after five years and reports of accidents could be destroyed after ten years. Between 1936 and 1944, the federal government destroyed 200,000 Indian Affairs files (as the ministry was then called).

Records of both the government and those that operated the schools were inconsistent and often incomplete. Fires in a number of residential schools also damaged or destroyed historical records in some locations.



6. I have read many stories that talk about the Catholic Church not apologizing for their role in residential schools. Why hasn't there been an apology?

Starting in the early 1990s, Catholic dioceses and religious orders that were directly involved in operating the federal government's residential schools began issuing a series of apologies. These statements, along with an apology from the Canadian Bishops themselves, were included in a submission to the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, which sat from 1991 to 1995.

A brief timeline can be seen in Appendix 090721

7. When will the delegation to Rome happen and who will be part of it?

On Tuesday, June 29, 2021, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops announced the delegation will meet with the Holy Father in Rome from December 17-20, 2021.

"Pope Francis is deeply committed to hearing directly from Indigenous Peoples, expressing his heartfelt closeness, addressing the impact of colonization and the role of the Church in the residential school system, in the hopes of responding to the suffering of Indigenous Peoples and the ongoing effects of intergenerational trauma. The Bishops of Canada are deeply appreciative of the Holy Father's spirit of openness in generously extending an invitation for personal encounters with each of the three distinct groups of delegates – First Nations, Métis and Inuit – as well as a final audience with all delegates together on 20 December 2021."

Below is an excerpt from the June 10, 2021 statement from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops:

This pastoral visit will include the participation of a diverse group of Elders/Knowledge Keepers, residential school survivors and youth from across the country. The event will likewise provide Pope Francis with a unique opportunity to hear directly from Indigenous Peoples, express his heartfelt closeness, address the impact of colonization and the implication of the Church in the residential schools, so as to respond to the suffering of Indigenous Peoples and the ongoing effects of intergenerational trauma.

8. Will the Catholic Church pay financial reparations to those harmed by residential schools?

The Catholic entities that operated residential schools were part of the 2006 Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement (IRSSA). The 50 or so individual entities which signed the IRSSA paid:

♥ \$29 million in cash (less legal costs);

✤ more than the required \$25 million of "in-kind" contributions; and

➡ an additional \$3.7 million from a "best efforts"
 campaign on a goal of \$25 million. The Archdiocese of
 Toronto, and other Canadian dioceses, contributed
 through an in-pew collection held in December 2013.

Currently, dioceses across the country, including the Archdiocese of Toronto, are in discussions to determine how to best engage in a renewed financial effort to meet the goal of the \$25 million "best efforts" campaign. In addition, the archdiocese is developing a series of pastoral initiatives to engage parishioners and the broader community in a continued journey of prayer, listening and dialogue as part of ongoing reconciliation efforts.

Together We Pray

For the children who died in residential schools throughout Canada, and for all those who continue on a journey through the darkness,

that there may be healing founded on truth and that the Spirit will inspire our ongoing commitment to reconciliation.

God, through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, continue to offer us correction so that your grace might change and transform us in our weakness and repentance.

Give us humility to listen when others reveal how we have failed and courage to love others as ourselves, mindful of your love for the weakest and most vulnerable among us. Amen.

