



Focus on the Word

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B
Deuteronomy 6.2-6; Hebrews 7.23-28; Mark 12.28-34

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.

Parish Week / Sunday, 31 Oct. 2021

Saturday, 30 Oct.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Carmen Ramos (Xavier)
- 9.00 am Funeral Mass: † Marylou Bulais
- 10.00 am Memorial Mass: † Fely Sanchez
- 12.00 pm Memorial Mass: † Henry Swietlik
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Beatriz Remedios (family)

SUNDAY, 31 OCT. / 31-B

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

- 9.00 am Mass: † Lemos family
- 10.30 am Mass: Int. Isabelle & † Mike Gracias (friends)
- 12.00 pm Mass: Int. Fr. Elias (CWL)
- 1.00 pm Catholic Women's League
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday, 1 Nov. / All Saints

- 8.00 am Mass: † Vas & D'Silva family (D'Silva family)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Henry Carta (family)
- 7.40 pm Infant Baptism Parent / Godparent meeting

Tuesday, 2 Nov. / All Souls

- 8.00 am Mass: † Charles D'Silva (family)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Souls in Purgatory (Rebello family)

Wednesday, 3 Nov. / St. Martin de Pores, *religious*

- 8.00 am Mass: † Paquita San Juan (Miriam Portia Arriola)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Athanasius & Mary Magdalene (Dominic & Anita Dias)

Thursday, 4 Nov. / St. Charles Borromeo, *bishop*

- 8.00 am Mass: † Maria Coutinho (Theresa Johnson)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving & Special Intentions (Dominic & Anita Dias)

Friday, 5 Nov.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Antonio & Maria Cifaldi (Irma Pisciola)
- 6.00 pm Holy Hour
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Souls in Purgatory (Audrey)

Saturday, 6 Nov.

- 8.00 am Mass: † John D'Mello (Loretta)
- 9.30 am Wedding: Anath Mariathas & Darlene Pabiton
- 1.00 pm Wedding: Vittorio Bevilacqua & Sara Keats
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Gabriel & Francis Andreas (Charles)

SUNDAY, 7 NOV. / 32 - B

- *Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati*

- 9.00 am Mass: † Vincenzo Grande (family)
- 10.30 am Mass: Int. Malini Wijesingha & Mary Weerasinghe (friends)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Lydia Marquez (family)
- 1.30 pm Infant Baptisms
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo



Pray for the Deceased

Helen Castro

The **35 victims** of the **market suicide bombing in Baghdad, Iraq**

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 7 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, 7 November. Make sure to update your clocks and watches.



2nd Collection: 31 Oct., Maintenance

The 2nd collection on Sunday, 31 Oct., will be for the support of our major parish projects through the *Maintenance Collection*.

COMING UP

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- 8 Nov. ▶ Vaccinated Canadians can drive into the USA
- 14 Nov. 2nd Collection: *Shepherds' Trust*
- 28 Nov. **1st Sunday of Advent;**
- 2nd Collection: Maintenance;
- 29 Nov. **Fr. Edwin:** Ordination Anniversary (1980)
- 5 Dec. Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
- 12 Dec. Infant Baptism (1.30 pm)
- 19 Dec. **4th Sunday of Advent**
- 24 Dec. **Christmas Eve** Masses begin at 7.00 pm
- 25 Dec. Christmas: Feast of the **Nativity of Our Lord**
2nd Collection: *Christmas*
- 26 Dec. Feast of the **Holy Family;**
2nd Collection: *Maintenance*

Website stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org

We are celebrating our Masses with a 127-person capacity limit, and all must wear a face mask. It is not mandatory to sanitize hands, but it is recommended and available for those who wish. For more information on 1ST COMMUNION and CONFIRMATION, see the website bulletin.

Ministry Sunday 2021

Due to the pandemic, we need to follow a careful procedure for our Annual *Ministry Sunday* on 31 October. Parish Ministries may provide **Sign Up** sheets in the Vestibule for the faithful to offer their names to participate and serve. In the following days, our parish Volunteer Screening Committee will reviewing the list of candidates, to make sure they are registered in our parish, etc. Then, the Ministry Facilitators will be contacting you to arrange the follow-up so you can begin the orientation process to share your talents in our parish family of faith and service.



Sacramental Preparation *Moving forward*

We are now resuming our celebrations of 1st HOLY COMMUNION and CONFIRMATION, which are extremely important events in the lives of our Youth.

The families of Candidates in our schools who have prepared to receive these Sacraments will be given direction so they can move ahead. Keep referring to this website bulletin for more details.

The *St. Maria Goretti School* 1st Communions will be held:

Tuesday	9 November	6.00 pm
Wednesday	10 November	6.00 pm
Thursday	11 November	6.00 pm
Saturday	13 November	2.30 pm
Tuesday	16 November	6.00 pm



As soon as this schedule is completed, we will proceed to take care of all the **Confirmation** candidates.

The *Saturday* 1st Communion Class will resume shortly.

The *RCIC Youth* will have the next meeting at 10 am on 6 Nov.

A Special Gift HAND SANITIZER

Our Parish extends its thanks to **Anne Chiang**, who donated a supply of **hand sanitizer** to our Church. (The procedure is not mandatory, but highly encouraged.) Your gift is appreciated.

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 submit the names of deceased family members for use in our November *Book of Remembrance*, at the pulpit.

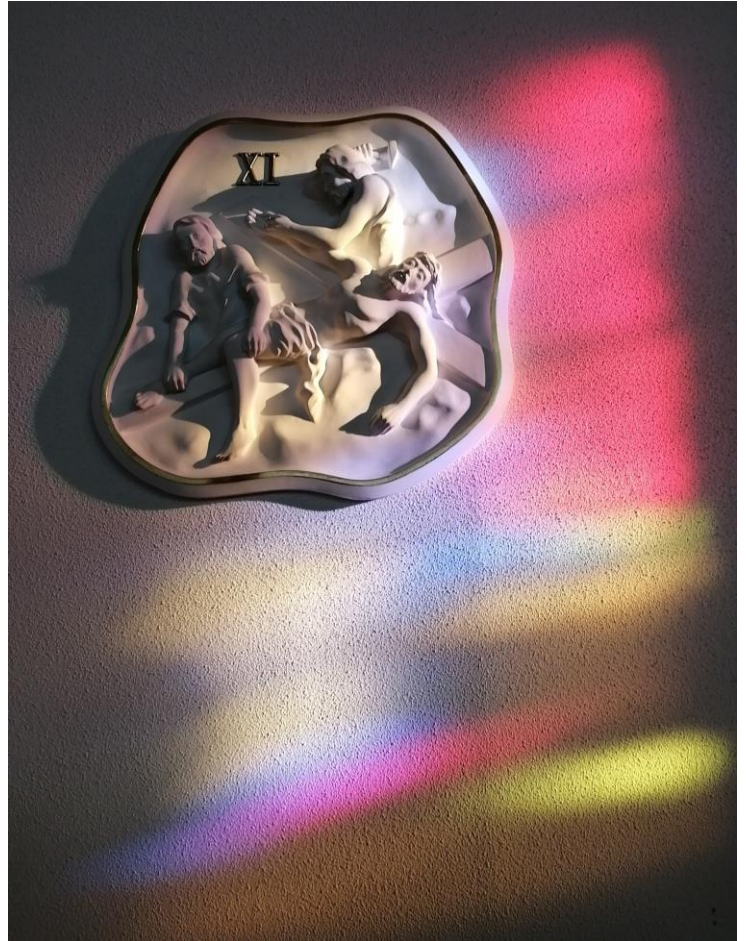
Due to the pandemic, we will follow the procedure created last year by the Parish Re-opening Committee. Parishioners may submit names via email. The email address created by the Committee specifically for the November book is:

mariagorettichurch@gmail.com

Parishioners who would rather write their names on paper may place their page in an envelope, and leave it at the Parish Office.

Henryk Swietlik

The Memorial Mass for **Henryk Swietlik** will be held in St. Maria Goretti Church: at 12.00 pm on Saturday, 30 October 2021. Mr. Swietlik was the artist who executed the amazing *bas-relief* images in our Church. See the website bulletin for more details.



RCIA, RCIC



Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults & Children

The RCIA meets on Friday evenings at 7.30 pm; their next meetings are: 6 & 19 November. The RCIC meets Saturday mornings; their next meetings are on 6 & 20 November.

Upcoming Weddings

Ananth Mariathas and Darlene Pabitou

6 November 2021, St. Maria Goretti Church

Vittorio Bevilacqua and Sara Keats

6 November 2021, St. Maria Goretti Church

Chaitanya Moturi and Donita Mercado

20 November 2021, St. Maria Goretti Church

We Remember our Instructions for First Holy Communion

WE WALK WITH JESUS

Your family celebrates special occasions. So do your friends at Church – they enjoy celebrations. The Church celebrates feast days like CHRISTMAS and EASTER, and special occasions like your BAPTISM and FIRST HOLY COMMUNION.

A Day to Remember

After Jesus died on the Cross on Good Friday, Peter, Andrew, and all the followers of Jesus gathered together in a room. They were very sad. Jesus was their best friend. He taught them about God’s Law of Love and he showed them how to live it.

Suddenly, some women ran into the room. Early that morning, before sunrise, they had gone to the tomb where Jesus was buried. Now they had some incredible news.

The tomb was empty! Then they remembered the words of Jesus: “ON THE THIRD DAY, I WILL RISE AGAIN.” They were so happy! Jesus was risen, just as he had told them.

Imagine yourself in the place of Peter. He was sad when Jesus died on the cross, but now was filled with joy. Can you remember a time when you were so happy you could hardly speak? It must have been like that for Peter and the others.

A Meal to Remember

A new life began for the friends of Jesus. Jesus had died on the Cross, but God the Father raised him to new life. His friends often talked together about all that Jesus had done and said. They remembered his Last Supper with them, and the beautiful words he spoke came back to them.

Imagine yourself at the table with Jesus and his friends. Put yourself among the Apostles. What would you have said to Jesus about his incredible words? What do you think he meant?

The Church Teaches:

Jesus is really and truly present in Communion.

He gives us his body and blood.

Adapted for children from Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC #1375)

At the end of the meal, Jesus said: “DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.” From then on, when his followers shared the bread and wine, they remembered Jesus, and he was there with them.

Just as Jesus asked, his followers soon began to gather every Sunday, the day of the Resurrection, in memory of him. For them, every Sunday was like celebrating Easter all over again.

At first his followers met in private homes. But soon there were many new members, so they had to move to larger spaces. They began to build Churches where they could praise and worship God and share their faith and love in memory of Jesus.

Your Parish Church

The people in your parish, which is the Christian community in your neighbourhood, gather every Sunday just as Christians have done since the time of Jesus. When you attend and celebrate Mass with your family, your neighbours, and with everyone who is part of your parish family, Jesus is truly there with you.

Your parish church is the place where you will celebrate your First Holy Communion.

WE LEARN ABOUT THE MASS

When you go to **Mass**, also called the *Lord’s Supper*, or the celebration of the *Eucharist*, you look, you listen, you sing, and you make gestures. You watch what the Priest does as he leads the people in prayer. But it is *all of us together* who celebrate the Eucharist. The two main parts of the Mass are the

Liturgy of the Word
and the **Liturgy of the Eucharist**.

First Holy Communion

Guidelines for Nov. 2021, after the pandemic delay

St. Maria Goretti Parish is grateful to be able to celebrate the **Sacrament of 1st Holy Communion** for the St. Maria Goretti School Grade 3 students who had anticipated receiving this Sacrament in Easter Season this year.

The delay has made it necessary to modify some procedures. Please read the following.

(1) REVIEW MATERIAL for 1st Communion will be published in the Sunday Bulletins on:

31 October, 7 and 14 November 2021.

You may view this information via the link to the Sunday Bulletins in the option bar at the top of the home page.

(2) *How to dress for the day?* The Toronto Archdiocese does not have a “mandatory” dress code for First Communion Candidates. The universal expectation is that, for such an important occasion, **Candidates** should wear “Sunday best,” which is formal or semi-formal attire. It is suggested that the Candidates incorporate a significant *white component* to their attire (e.g., a white dress for girls, a white shirt for boys, etc.) as a reminder of their Baptism. Boys may wear a suit, or a formal or semi-formal jacket with complementary trousers. Parents should be mindful that at this time of the year, the weather may be cool; but the Church is warm, so the children’s clothing should not be heavy. It is also suggested that **Family members** avoid clothing with garish or bold colour patterns (stripes, logos, etc.), and stick to simple, neutral colours, so that the Candidates stand out during the Mass, and in the photos taken afterward. In the future, the

photos will tell everyone that the focus of the day was on the Candidate and the Holy Sacrament received at the Altar.

(3) Under the circumstances, there are no REHEARSALS, so pay attention to the directions given at Church. Candidates will sit with their families and will approach the Sanctuary to one of 2 designated Communion stations.

(4) The CHURCH WILL BE OPEN one hour before the Mass. Candidates should arrive 45 – 30 minutes before Mass to *sign in*, and complete their *Summary Information sheets* (which the Catechists will use to review the complete information package). The facilitators will distribute printed programs of the Mass for the families, and personalized ones for the Candidates. Then they may take their place in the Church with their families.

(5) Most other GUIDELINES FOR THE LITURGY remain as usual. There is *no photography during Mass* (time for posed photos will be available afterward.) This year, families will have *permission to livestream* for relatives who cannot attend, on condition that the person managing the camera remains with the family: ❖ *In the pew* during Mass; and ❖ *Up to the Sanctuary* at the time of the Sacrament.



Henryk Swietlik

Born 19 January 1956, in Złotow, Poland

Died 17 August 2021 in Alexandria, Virginia, USA.

Memorial Mass in St. Maria Goretti Church:

12.00 pm, Saturday, 30 October 2021





Holy Mass in Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

Homily of His Holiness **Pope Francis** Laurentino Cemetery, 2 November 2018

Today's liturgy is realistic; it is tangible. It shows us the three-dimensional framework of life, three dimensions that even children understand: the past, the future, the present.

Today is a day to commemorate the past, a day to remember those who have walked before us, who have also accompanied us, have given us life. To remember, to commemorate. Remembrance is what makes a people strong, because it feels rooted in a journey, rooted in a history, rooted in a people. Remembrance helps us understand that we are not alone, we are a people: a people with a history, with a past, with a life. Remembering so many who have shared a journey with us, and they are here [indicating the surrounding tombs]. It is not easy to remember. We often struggle to turn our thoughts back to what has happened in my life, in my family, in my people.... But today is a day of remembrance, the remembrance that takes us to the roots: to my roots, to the roots of my people.

Today is also a day of hope: the second reading showed us what awaits us. A new heaven, a new earth, and the holy city, new Jerusalem. A beautiful image which it uses to help us understand what awaits us: "I saw the holy city ... coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband" (cf. Rev 21:2). Beauty awaits us.... Remembrance and hope, the hope of meeting each other, the hope of arriving where there is the Love that created us, where there is the Love that awaits us, a Father's love.

And between remembrance and hope there is the third dimension, that of the path that we must and do take. And how do we take the path without making mistakes? Which are the lights that will help me avoid taking the wrong path? What is the 'navigating system' that God himself gave us, so as not to take the wrong path? It is the Beatitudes that Jesus taught us in the Gospel. These Beatitudes — meekness, poverty of spirit, justice, mercy, purity of heart — are the lights that accompany us so as not to lose our way: this is our present.

Life's three dimensions are in this cemetery: remembrance, we can see it there [indicating the tombs]; hope, we will celebrate it now in faith, not in visions; and the lights to guide us on the journey so as not to lose our way. We have heard them in the Gospel: they are the Beatitudes.



Let us ask the Lord today to give us the grace to never lose remembrance, never suppress remembrance — remembrance of the person, remembrance of family, remembrance of people — and to give us the grace of hope because hope is one of his gifts: being able to hope, to look to the horizon, not to be closed before a wall. Always look to the horizon and to hope. And may he give us the grace to understand which are the lights that will accompany us on the path so as not to make mistakes, and thus to arrive where we are awaited with so much love.



Armenian Church in Malatya re-opens after 106 years

The Armenian Apostolic Church of *Surp Yerrortutyun* (Holy Trinity), in the eastern Turkish province of Malatya, has reopened its doors to divine worship after an interruption of 106 years. The divine liturgy, celebrated in the Church on 29 August 2021, was presided over by **Sahak Maşalyan**, current Armenian Patriarch of Constantinople, and was attended by a large number of Armenian Christians residing in the region. The architectural masterpiece, which was constructed in 1893, was in a state of decay after decades of abandonment. Following the deportations and massacres known as the "Armenian Genocide."



Leonardo Molina III, Christine Lumilan with her son Christopher Joseph Caleb Hayes, Carolyn Minty and Kishaun Antonio Martín with their daughter Astoria Isla at the Blessing in Preparation for Baptism, 27 October.



Crystal Jesupillai receives her Blessing in Preparation for Baptism, 20 October, with her mother and Alyssa Galego.



Anna-Marie Grace Eskins (l) receives her Blessing in Preparation for Baptism, 26 October, with mother Arna, father Anthony and sister Alexa Maria.



Christopher Joseph Caleb Hayes, born 1 Oct. 2021; 9 lb, 12 oz.



Ronel Carreido Jr. after his Baptism, with his mother Rienna Anonuevo, 23 October 2021.

