



Our Lady of Grace Parish

Dedicated September 17, 1983

15347 Yonge St., Aurora, Ontario L4G 1N7

website: olgraceau.archtoronto.org

telephone: (905) 727-4594

email: olgraceau@archtoronto.org

PASTORAL TEAM

Fr. John Bertão, Pastor

Fr. Rony Grayda, Associate Pastor

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday: 8:30 am – 4 pm

Weekends & Statutory Holidays: Closed

WELCOME TO OUR HOUSE OF PRAYER.

We are thankful for your visit. Do you plan on returning? Have you considered becoming a member? If so, please take a registration form with you and return it to the parish office. One of our parish staff will contact you, or you may contact us if you wish.

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil: 5 pm;

Sunday: 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon, and 7 pm

Weekday Masses

Monday – Friday: 8 am

(followed by Adoration & Rosary)

Saturday & Holidays: 9 am

First Friday Adoration

**Starts at 6 pm with Benediction
at 6:45 pm and Mass at 7 pm**

Reconciliation

**Saturday: 4 pm – 4:30 pm
or by appointment**

Baptism

Families must be registered with envelopes for a minimum of one year and regularly attending Mass. A baptism preparation session is a prerequisite for both parents and godparents. Please contact the office for more information.

Marriage

12 months advanced notice required before a date can be confirmed. Preparation course is a prerequisite.



***Our Lady of Grace,
pray for us!***

WAYS TO SUPPORT THE PARISH

Pre-authorized giving (PAG) is an easy way of supporting the parish. You decide how much, and we will charge your account the amount you are comfortable with on the 20th of each month. You can change the amount at any time by contacting the parish office. How much?

For example, if you currently give \$12/week, that would be around \$52/month; and if you give \$25/week, that would be around \$108/month.

Kindly consider this convenient way of supporting our parish. The PAG form (blue) may be found near both entrances of the church or by the parish office.

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PASTORAL REFERENCES

For a pastoral reference, you must be a registered parishioner with envelopes for a minimum of one year, attending Sunday Mass regularly, be in good canonical standing within the Church and participating in the sacramental and pastoral life of the Church community by serving in a parish ministry (e.g. lector, catechist) on an ongoing basis.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

MASS INTENTIONS		
Mon., Mar. 9 th	8am	+ Mary Jean Sobiera
Tue., Mar. 10 th	8am	+ Karl Klement
Wed., Mar. 11 th	8am	+ Michelle Zaina
Thu., Mar. 12 th	8am	+ Walter Motyka
Fri., Mar. 13 th	8am 7pm	+ Cecile Burg
Sat., Mar. 14 th	9am 5pm	(SI) Da Silva family, + Joseph Pfaff, + Alice Niland + Vittorio Mastromartino & Lisa Franchi
Sun., Mar. 15 th	8am 10am 12pm 7pm	+ Lorne Wall + Filomena Petricca & Maria Cianfarani "Populo" for the intentions of our parish families



Palm Sunday Vigil	Sat., Mar. 28 th	5pm
Palm Sunday	Sun., Mar. 29 th	8am, 10am, 12pm & 7pm
Mass of The Lord's Supper	Thu., Apr. 2 nd	7pm, followed by adoration until 9pm
Good Friday	Fri., Apr. 3 rd	Passion with Holy Communion at 9am & 12pm, Stations of the Cross only – 3pm, - office closed -
Blessing of Food	Sat., Apr. 4 th	12noon (no 9am Mass)
Easter Vigil	Sat., Apr. 4 th	7pm
Easter Sunday	Sun., Apr. 5 th	8am, 10am, 12noon & 2:00pm (no 7pm Mass)
Easter Monday	Mon., Apr. 6 th	9am, office closed

**His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo's
Lenten Message**

To access, go to <https://www.archtoronto.org>.

Are you a registered member of our parish family? If not, call the parish office for more information.

Also, have you considered becoming a Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) member? It's an easy way to support the parish. You decide the amount you are comfortable with and it gets debited from your bank account on the 20th of each month. You can change it at any time by contacting the parish office. Kindly consider this convenient way of supporting our parish. The PAG form (blue) can be found by both entrances of the church or by the parish office. Thank you.

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
The novena takes place in our church every Wednesday at 7:50am followed by the 8am Mass.



CWL Meeting - Tue., Mar. 10th

Our upcoming CWL meeting will be held on Tue., Mar. 10th at 7:30pm in the Large Meeting Room. We will be having a speaker from the Rose of Sharon Services for Young Mothers come to tell us all about their new home in Newmarket and about their programs. All women of the parish are welcome to join us.

Stations of the Cross
Each Friday, during Lent there will be Stations of the Cross at 6:30pm & Mass at 7pm (the morning 8am Mass, Adoration, and Rosary will continue as usual).



Debt Reduction – Mar. 14th/15th
On the weekend of Mar. 14th/15th, our 2nd collection will go towards reducing our parish debt. Your generosity helps support our parish life and community. Thank you for your kindness.

IMPORTANT DATES	TIMES
Thu., Mar. 19 th	Feast of St. Joseph
Mon., Apr. 27 th to Thu., Apr. 30 th	Confirmation Rehearsals
Mon., May 4 th to Thu., May 7 th	Confirmation Masses

**Happy
St. Patrick's
Day!!!**

(Tue., Mar. 17th)

Christ with me,
Christ before me,
Christ behind me,
Christ in me

-St. Patrick

Old Palm Leaves

Don't know what to do with your old 'blessed' palms? Kindly bring them in before Holy Week and place them in the container available in the upper narthex.



Parish Reconciliation – Mar. 19th

When: Thu., Mar. 19th

Time: 6:30pm to 8pm

Please see below the links provided on “How to go to Confession” & “Examination of Conscience”.

For Youth:

guide-youth-en-2016.pdf (archtoronto.org)

For Adults:

guide-adult-en-2016.pdf (archtoronto.org)



THE CROSS OF CHRIST

ORIGINAL ORATORIO BY ROMULO DELGADO

TICKETS @ <http://bit.ly/4q1zAN>



When: Palm Sunday, Mar. 29th at 3:30pm
Where: St. Mark's Parish, Stouffville Cost: \$50



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Development Office, Archdiocese of Toronto

One of the most financially sound ways to support the Archdiocese of Toronto is a gift of securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds). You pay no capital gains tax and receive a tax receipt for the full amount of the gift. It means a great tax break for you and more significant support of your Parish and various archdiocesan charities such as ShareLife, St. Augustine's Seminary, The Shepherds' Trust, and many others. To donate securities, follow the link below: [Archdiocese of Toronto - Gift of Securities](#) For more information, contact our office at development@archtoronto.org.



The following toiletries are needed for the weekend of Mar. 21st/22nd:

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Body Wash | Dish Detergent |
| Shampoo | Laundry Detergent |
| Conditioner | J - cloths |
| Kleenex | Toothpaste |
| Toilet Paper | Men's Deodorant |
| Paper Towels | Women's Deodorant |

Kindly leave your donations on the upper narthex (the upper landing before entering the church). Thank you so much.



ShareLife Sunday

On the weekend of Mar. 21st/22nd, the 2nd collection will go towards ShareLife. Last year, our parish surpassed the ShareLife goal of \$163,500 for a total of \$171,381 (\$68,576 collected at the parish + \$102,805 at the ShareLife office).

Thank you for living the Gospel through your compassion which has helped so many in need.

This year, our parish goal is \$173,000.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at <https://sharelife.org/donate/>.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

(Apr. 8th - May 27th)

This spring we will be running part 3 of the Bible study -



The Bible Timeline, The Story of Salvation, offered through Ascension Press. This is an in-depth 24-week study of the Bible divided into three 8-week sessions. This final 8-week session will run on Wednesdays from 7-9pm, from Apr. 8th to May 27th.

The cost of the material is \$90. If you are interested in this Bible Study, but were unable to attend the previous sessions, it will not impact your ability to join us for the last session. All are welcome to participate as we continue to learn about the Bible. Please register at the parish office by Tue., Mar. 24th by providing your name, contact information, and payment (cash or cheque only).



Lenten Message 2026
His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo
Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May Jesus and Mary be in your hearts.

As we enter into the holy season of Lent, I would like to share some words of spiritual nourishment and encouragement. Each year, while Ash Wednesday emphasizes repentance, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, on the First Sunday of Lent especially, we are invited to pursue our journey of faith into the desert with Christ. However, it is not a solitary journey, nor are the three Lenten practices purely a “private affair”. Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition teaches us that God never saves individuals in isolation, rather, he gathers a people to himself (cf. *Lumen Gentium*, 9). Recently, the universal Church has reflected on the meaning of *synodality* and emphasized the ecclesial and social togetherness of our journey together to God, thus recalling the importance of the community in the salvific plan of God (cf. CCC 781). With this in mind, I would ask us to consider how Lent is not only about our personal conversion but also the healing and renewal of our relationship with God and one another. We would do well to ask ourselves: how do we live Lent together?

Conversion or repentance is frequently framed within the context of individual acts such as sacramental confession, penance, self-denial or acts of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The Old Testament already understood the human person within the context of the community which is very different from the modern understanding of a radical individualism. The Hebrew Scriptures, in fact, narrate a strong sense of community and its fidelity or sinfulness in the eyes of God. This is because from the beginning, God relates to Israel as a collective body (cf. Ex 6:7). Sin is never merely a private act because the covenant binds people together, and one person’s infidelity affects the whole body. Fidelity and infidelity are corporate realities. In this way sin, though personal, is likewise always social inasmuch as it always wounds the Body. And conversion, if it is real, always restores relationships. Lent teaches us that to return to the Lord is also to return to one another, and journey together.

Today, many experience the social or communal fragmentation caused by sin: families strained by silence or envy, communities divided by fear or resentment, parishes weakened by absence or disengagement. We may live or work in close proximity to others and yet carry unspoken distances in our hearts. Lent invites us to name this reality honestly—not to assign blame, but to seek healing and forgiveness. The call of the Gospel is not simply “to be better,” but “to be reconciled” (cf. 2 Cor 5:20). Part and parcel of our journeying together is the experience of authentic and daily conversion, both personal and communal, embodied beautifully in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. While Confession is deeply personal, it is never private because sin wounds not only our relationship with God but also our communion with the Church (cf. CCC, 1440; 2 Cor 5:18–20).



Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we restore not only our friendship with God but our bonds within the community—a ministry Our Lord entrusted to the apostles (cf. Jn 20:22–23; CCC, 1443–1445). Through this sacrament, the Lord repairs the bonds we have weakened—with him and with one another—and teaches us again the language of mercy and love (cf. CCC, 1468–1469; St. Ambrose, *On Repentance*, I.15). Our Lenten practices culminate on Easter Sunday when our conversion is publicly proclaimed and personally reclaimed as we renew our Baptismal vows, rejecting evil and confessing our belief in the One God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—through whom we were reborn into new life (cf. Rom 6:3–11; CCC, 1213, 1262).

Traditional Lenten practices take on deeper meaning when seen through the lens of our communion with God and one another (cf. CCC, 1434–1435). How? Prayer opens our hearts to God who unites us to him and to others, as Jesus himself prays that all may be one in the communion he shares with the Father (cf. Jn 17:20–23; CCC, 2564). Fasting teaches us to make room for God and for one another by reordering our priorities, and restoring justice and communion (cf. Is 58:6–7; Joel 2:12–13; St. Basil the Great, *Homily on Fasting*, 1). Almsgiving is a concrete act of solidarity, a recognition that my life is bound to the life of my neighbour, and my love cannot remain abstract but must be expressed in deeds (cf. 1 Jn 3:16–18; CCC, 2447).

The road to Jerusalem that Jesus walks is not a path done in isolation; he gathers disciples, eats with sinners, heals the broken, and calls the lost by name as He sets His face toward Calvary (Lk 9:51–19:27). Even as Jesus carried his cross, was crucified, and breathed his last, he remained focused on others and the mission entrusted to him by the Father (Mk 15:21, Lk 23:27–31; Mt 27:46–50, Lk 23:44–46; cf. Lk 2:35). To follow Jesus is to allow our own journey of repentance to become a journey of renewed communion (Lk 24:13–35; CCC, 781).

As we begin this Lenten season, we pray for the grace not only of conversion, but for the healing of our relationships; not only to examine our consciences, but to rebuild communion; not only to walk toward Easter individually, but to arrive there together. For it is together—as one Body in Christ—that we are led from the desert to the joy of the Resurrection. May the Blessed Mother be our inspiration, guide, model and companion on this journey of spiritual and social renewal.

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