



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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www.vocationstoronto.ca

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

www.catholic-cemeteries.com

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.

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

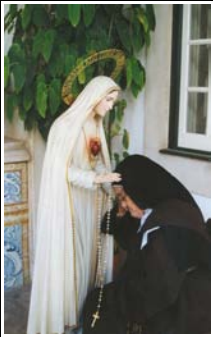
MASS INTENTIONS		
Mon., May 18 th	9am	(SI) Bob & Anne Shiley
Tue., May 19 th	8am	+ Kazimierz Miesowicz
Wed., May 20 th	8am	+ Raneé Simon
Thu., May 21 st	8am	+ Deceased Priests
Fri., May 22 nd	8am	+ Adelina & Domenico Barbuto
Sat., May 23 rd	9am	(SI) Da Silva Family, + Edilberto dela Cruz Sr., + Catalino Pasquin, + Nancy Handfield, + Elsbeth Lins, + Sue & Richard Nowell, + Fr. Jose Kuriedath
	5pm	+ Franca Poblete
Sun., May 24 th	8am	+ Elsbeth Lins
	10am	+ Savannah Enfesta
	12 noon	“Populo” for the intentions of our parish families
	7pm	

2nd Collections for this Month

The Pope's Pastoral Works - May 16th/17th
 Today, there will be a 2nd collection for the Pope's Pastoral Works. These funds are passed on to the Holy Father for immediate response in countries stricken by war, famine, and natural disasters. The Pope's Pastoral Works displays Christ's love and compassion for people in desperate need. Please give generously

ShareLife - May 30th/31st

Your support of ShareLife supports human connection across the world, making a difference in the lives of thousands of people in our community and beyond—funding more than 40 agencies, which help children and youth, families in crisis, seniors, immigrants and refugees, people with special needs, international development and missions, and vocations. The 3rd ShareLife collection is on the weekend of **May 30th/31st**. Thus far we have raised \$91,117.40 toward our goal of \$173,000. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, or online through our parish website <https://sharelife.org/donate/>.



Irmã Lúcia dos Santos
 (22 March 1907 - 13 February 2005)

"There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot resolve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary".

Explore the flyer on Sr. Lucia dos Santos on our parish website:
<https://olgraceau.archtoronto.org>

“Receive the Holy Spirit” - Mon., May 25th

A day of reflection animated by Mary Bastedo, drawing on the writings of Fr. Henri Nouwen.


When: Mon., May 25th
Time: 9am to 3:30pm
Where: Manresa Jesuit Centre, Pickering.

To register, go to:
<https://manresa-canada.ca/event/receive-the-holy-spirit/>



Office Closed – Mon., May 18th

Please note: the office will be closed on Mon., May 18th for Victoria Day, and the church will be closed after the morning 9am Mass and Rosary.



- Communications from the Archdiocese of Toronto**
- For ways to Celebrate the Special Jubilee Year of St. Francis, please visit:
<https://www.archtoronto.org - St. Francis Jubilee>
 - Cardinal Leo Writes to Prime Minister, MPs – “I ask you to choose life...”
<https://www.archtoronto.org - Choose Life>
 - Help Not Harm: Take Action to Support Bill C-218 - Write your Member of Parliament Today!
<https://www.helpnotharmcanada.ca/>
- 

A Day With Mary

You're invited to
 “A Day With Mary” on Sat., May 30th at Villanova College in King City.

This free, family-friendly event includes Mass with Cardinal Frank Leo, the Rosary, Confessions, a keynote talk, children's catechesis, music, and fellowship.

There is no fee to register. To register, go to
<https://bit.ly/DWMRegistration>.

Complete information can be found at
<https://archtoronto.org/Mary>.





chalice.ca

Chalice would like to thank your parish for sponsoring 24 children during your sponsorship event.




“Chalice extends a heartfelt ‘thank you’ to Fr. Bertao and Our Lady of Grace Parish for hosting a Child Sponsorship Weekend on April 25th - 26th. As a result, 24 children in need were sponsored, in addition to those who are usually sponsored after more time and consideration. On behalf of these children, thank you for your generosity and hospitality! You have revealed God’s love to His precious children. Chalice envisions a world where all children and families have the means to overcome the cycle of poverty. Please prayerfully consider a call to sponsorship, a unique way to live out your faith by providing hope for a child in need. Please visit chalice.ca or call 1-800-776-6855 for more information on our mission or to sponsor a child today.”

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- Monday - Friday: 8:00 am & 12:00 pm
- Saturday: 8:00 am & 9:30 am
- Sunday: 8:00 am

yesTV (Eastern Time)

- Monday - Saturday: 1:00 pm
- Sunday: 10:30 am

Salt + Light Media


- Please check local listings

Anytime/Anywhere


- Website: www.dailytvmass.com
- YouTube: www.youtube.com/dailytvmass
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/dailytvmass

Magnificat Breakfast – May 30th

Join our Mary, Cause of our Joy
Toronto Chapter for the 52nd
Magnificat breakfast on
Sat., May 30th from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Register at
<https://www.stbenedicts.ca/magnificat-breakfast>.



Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery & Funeral Home
Pre-Planning Seminar – Sat., May 30th



Planning ahead is a caring gift for your family. Join us to explore your options and make confident, faith-informed decisions. Learn about:

- Funeral and burial options
- How advance planning eases the burden on loved ones
- Catholic teachings on cremation
- Flexible payment options, incl. 0% financing

When: Sat., May 30th at 9am
Location: Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery & Funeral Home, 211 Langstaff Rd. E., Thornhill

You must RSVP to attend by phone at 905-889-7467 ext. 1 or by email at holycrossinquiry@cc-fs.ca.

Tour to England, Ireland, Scotland, and Paris

Featuring a cruise aboard the
“Majestic Princess” - Princess Cruises with
Fr. John Bertao, Pastor of Our Lady of Grace Parish, Aurora and Fr. Peter Choi, Pastor of St. Andre Bessette Parish, Maple
When: **July 22 – August 5, 2027 (15 days);**
Cost: \$6,190



Includes:

- ♦ air transportation from Toronto (unless specified otherwise), incl. all taxes & surcharges, - single supplement \$2,500.00
- ♦ 3 meals daily while on the ship, breakfast and dinner in London.
- ♦ all sightseeing as per itinerary with English speaking guide - all tips in restaurants & hotels
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The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Sent via e-mail

20 April 2026

Dear Prime Minister,

I am mindful of the many sacrifices made to lead our country. Know of my prayers for you and your family. As the Archbishop of Toronto, providing spiritual leadership for close to two million Catholics, I write to you keenly aware of our collective obligation to safeguard the dignity of every human life and to serve the common good.

As you know, our Catholic faith opposes the taking of any human life and it is with great disappointment and anguish that we have seen our country expand Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) at a rapid and alarming rate since legislation was passed in 2016, despite the commitments made and the safeguards promised. Euthanasia and assisted suicide are indeed contrary to the dignity of the human person.

You are certainly aware that many Canadians are increasingly troubled by the speed and scope of these developments, and by the inevitable harmful effects on vulnerable individuals who may feel pressure — whether subtle or overt — during moments of profound suffering, isolation, or despair, to seek assisted death.

A society is rightly judged by how it cares for its most vulnerable members. There is growing anxiety that the normalization and expansion of assisted suicide risks undermining a culture of compassion, weakening investments in palliative support, and diminishing the collective commitment to accompany those suffering.

Before Parliament at present is a Private Members' Bill, C-218 – An Act to Amend the Criminal Code (Medical Assistance in Dying) that would restrict the expansion of MAiD for those whose sole underlying condition is mental illness. As Parliament considers Bill C-218, I respectfully urge you to allow a free vote among Members of Parliament within the Liberal Party of Canada. This legislation raises profound questions of conscience that transcend partisan alignment and touch on deeply held moral, ethical, and spiritual convictions. I ask you to choose life and not death; to help build a civilization that cares for those suffering and does not eliminate them, but instead surrounds them with dignity, compassion, and love.

I would also urge you and the Minister of Justice to consider measures that restrict any further expansion of assisted suicide in our country and instead prioritize investments in palliative care, mental health support and resources for those who are increasingly marginalized and isolated, especially seniors and Canadians living with disabilities.

I remain available to speak with you directly on this or any other matter in the days ahead and reiterate my prayers for you and for all who serve in public office. May you be guided by wisdom, courage, and a steadfast commitment to the common good.

Yours Sincerely,

Frank Cardinal Leo
Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto

cc. Hon. Sean Fraser, Minister of Justice, Attorney General of Canada



Message on the Month of the Blessed Mother

1 May 2026

His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo
Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto

Her witness enlightens our path

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May Jesus and Mary be in your souls.

I am writing to you in anticipation of the month particularly dedicated to the Blessed Mother, the month of May. The **origin** of this *dedication* dates back many centuries. Historians point to the hymns of 13th century Alfonso X “the Wise” King of Castile and León followed by the writings of 14th century Dominican, Blessed Henry Suso as being the seeds of the devotion of Our Lady this month. In the 16th century the Benedictine Wolfgang Seidl published a volume on the devotions and teachings connected to May. At roughly the same time, in Rome, St. Philip Neri was teaching the youth to honour Our Lady with songs, flowers, praises and acts of virtue and mortification. However, it wasn’t until the Baroque period, the end of the 17th century in Italy and in Germany, when we see this month develop significantly with the establishment of Confraternities and devotions including the singing of litanies and crowning statues with crowns made of roses. In the modern sense, nevertheless, the recognized initiator of the Marian Month *per se* in terms of its formalization including daily prayers and practices is the 18th century Jesuit Fr. Annibale Dionisi, in Rome, followed by other inspired pastors of souls such as Archbishop G.M. Saporiti of Genoa and the Jesuit Fr. A. Muzzarelli. The holy Rosary, originally linked specifically to the month of October, is now introduced in the month of May as well. Subsequently, at the beginning of the 19th century throughout Europe and the Americas as well as in the missions, this devotion spread rapidly. It came to be an important and beautiful expression of the Church’s devotion to the Mother of Jesus and to this day, it continues to help us journey in faith, keep the fire of devotion burning in our hearts and challenge us to live the life of faith, virtue and justice after the example of the one who alone was chosen to be the Mother of God.

During these four weeks we are invited to contemplate the mystery of Our Lady’s life and to rediscover how **her witness continues to illuminate the path of the Church**. As our mother and model, Mary offers timely wisdom and guidance on what it means to be disciples of Christ whose daily living is marked by spiritual discernment and apostolic action (cf. *Lumen Gentium* 63-65).

One of the defining characteristics of Mary’s life is her **profound openness to the action of God**. At the Annunciation she receives a mission that exceeds human understanding, yet she responds with a heart ready to cooperate with his divine plan (Lk 1:38; CCC 494). The Church recognizes in this moment a pattern of authentic discernment: attentiveness to God’s initiative, trust in his promises and the courage to respond generously. These same attitudes are essential



for us who seek to listen to the Holy Spirit in the present moment of our history (cf. *Dei Verbum*, 5).

Mary's *fiat* – her free and courageous “yes” – reveals the **interior disposition** that lies at the heart of Christian discipleship. God initiates, grace is offered, and we respond in freedom. We are reminded that freedom is not the ability to do anything whatsoever, but the ability to choose what is good (*Veritatis Splendor*, 35; CCC 1731-1733). The sacred dialogue between grace and freedom remains at the centre of the Christian life. As St. Augustine reminds us: “God created us without us: but he did not will to save us without us” (*Sermo 169*,11,13). Each day, in countless places around the world, the Lord continues to speak to human hearts, inviting them to cooperate in his saving work.

Mary also manifests a deep capacity for **contemplation**. The Gospel of St. Luke relates that she “treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart” (Lk 2:19; CCC 2717). Our Blessed Mother's quiet attentiveness to the mystery unfolding before her reminds the Church that discernment is never rushed. Like Mary of Nazareth we are invited to cultivate spaces of prayer and reflection in our homes, schools, communities and hearts where the Word of God can take root and illuminate our path forward (*Verbum Domini*, 86-88). Attentiveness to the voice of God requires humility, openness and trust in the action of the Holy Spirit, truly listening to God.

Mary's contemplative heart never withdraws from the needs of the world. Her life is marked by a readiness to respond when God calls her into **service**. Whether it is her visit to Elizabeth after the Annunciation (Lk 1:39-45), welcoming the shepherds in Bethlehem (Lk 2:16-19), presenting the Child Jesus in the Temple (Lk 2:22-25), or standing faithfully beneath the Cross (Jn 19:25), Mary remains steadfast in her participation in the saving work of Christ (cf. LG 58). In this way, the Blessed Mother reveals that authentic discernment always leads to witness and action (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 120). This can be difficult for us, we want to do God's will but perhaps we are unaware of what he wants, or unsure of how to respond.

The month of May invites us to put aside our doubts, insecurities, and fears; **to renew our own response to God's call**. Standing devoutly and spiritually beside Mary, we learn again the courage of her surrender and the confidence of her faith (*Redemptoris Mater*, 14-15). The same Holy Spirit who overshadowed her (Lk 1:35), desires to work within us, forming Christ anew in the hearts of all believers (cf. Gal 4:19). When we turn our hearts to Mary, in her **faith** we learn anew how to welcome God's action in our lives. In her **humility** we discover the freedom that allows the Holy Spirit to work within us. In her **fidelity** we see the perseverance required to remain close to Christ even in moments of uncertainty. As such, my prayer for the faithful of the Archdiocese of Toronto is that especially this month we will think about how to honour Mother Mary and consider how her witness illuminates our daily life and vocation so that under her maternal care, may we continue to journey with renewed openness to the Holy Spirit.

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