



H O L Y C R O S S  
P A R I S H

291 Cosburn Avenue, Toronto, ON M4J 2M4

Tel: 416-421-5225 - press 0 (office); press 3 (St. Vincent's De Paul) Fax: 416-421-4656

Email: [holycrosssto@archtoronto.org](mailto:holycrosssto@archtoronto.org) Website: [holycrosssto.archtoronto.org](http://holycrosssto.archtoronto.org)

**Office Hours:**  
Tuesday to Thursday  
9:00 am to 4:00pm

*Fr. Godofredo R. Claudio, Pastor*

*Maria Agovino, LPA Holy Cross Parish & Canadian Martyrs Parish*

*Joan Bolanos, Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper*

*Enrique De Leon - Custodian*

**Weekend Masses:**

Saturday 9:00 am  
Sunday 9:00 am, 11:00 am

**Morning Prayer:**

Wednesday & Friday 8:30 am

**Weekday Masses:**

Wednesday & Friday 9:00 am

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Saturday 9:30 am to 10:00 am  
First Friday 6:15 pm to 6:45 pm  
For any other day by appointment only

**First Fridays: *except July and August***

Holy Hour: 6:00 pm  
Mass 7:00 pm

**Baptism:**

By appointment and after an interview with the parents.

**Marriage:**

Couples planning to be married should contact the pastor one year in advance.

**Care of the Sick:**

Please call the parish to request visitation of the sick or elderly for prayers, Holy Communion, Sacrament of the Sick.

**New Parishioners:**

Registration Form is available in the vestibule of the Church, in the parish office or on the website.

**Holy Cross School Phone:** 416-393-5242

299A Donlands Avenue, Toronto, Ont. M4J 3R7

**Principal:** Arlene Martin

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Meditate on  
God's  
Word



... <i>Mass Intentions</i>		
JAN	MASS FOR	REQUESTED BY
12 Mon, 9am	NO MASS	
13 Tues, 9am	Canadian Martyrs	
14 Wed, 9am	Priscilla Cruz +	Winnie Palero
15 Thurs, 9am	Canadian Martyrs	
16 Fri 9am	Thanksgiving & Special Intention Marcela Abergas	Jon & Anna Agustin
17 Sat, 9am	All Parishioners Felizardo, Ruperto & Philip Dingdong Olase +	..... Fe & Vinda Olase
5pm	(Canadian Martyrs Parish) Alice & Ray Campbell +	Margaret Moreau
18 Sun, 9am	Sofronio & Carolina Bautista	Vienna Bautista
11 am	Thanksgiving – Carl D’Souza	D’Souza Family

**Sunday Gospel Reflection**  
Feast of the Baptism of the Lord  
Gospel: Matthew 3.13-17 - The Baptism of Jesus

Baptized into Stewardship

This Sunday we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. From reflecting on Jesus’ baptism, we can learn more about the mystery of our own baptism which the Catechism describes as “God’s most beautiful and magnificent gift” (CCC, 1216). Firstly, we realize that being God, Jesus did not need to be baptized yet chose to do so as a model for us and to reveal Himself more fully.

Firstly, the Father reveals Jesus as His “beloved Son.” So too, in our baptism we receive our renewed identities as beloved sons and daughters of God. St. Paul also describes baptism as clothing ourselves with Christ (Gal 3:27). It is during this most special sacrament that our entire lives are changed for we fully recognize who we are in the eyes of God.

Secondly, the descent of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove reveals Jesus as the Anointed One, or the Christ. Following His baptism, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to prepare for His mission. Similarly, during our baptism we are anointed with sacred chrism which “signifies the gift of the Holy Spirit” (CCC, 1241). Like Jesus, we too will be led by the Spirit into mission. The USCCB in their Pastoral Letter on Stewardship\* calls all the baptized to accept their baptismal responsibility “to place their gifts, their resources, their selves at God’s service in and through the Church.” Essentially, to live out our baptism is to live as an authentic steward. Let us ask ourselves, are we truly living out the call of stewardship we received during our baptism?

Summary

In our baptism we receive our renewed identities as beloved sons and daughters of God just as the Father called Jesus His “Beloved Son” at His baptism. Moreover, as the dove representing the Spirit descends on Jesus, so too during our baptism we are anointed with sacred chrism signifying the gift of the Spirit. Lastly, as Jesus’ baptism marked the beginning of His mission, our baptism marks the start of our mission as stewards of Christ to place our gifts, resources, and very selves at God’s service in and through the Church.

<https://www.archtoronto.org/stewardship>

*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*



We would like to inform everyone that the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place every **Wednesday and Friday after the 9:00 a.m. Mass from 9:30am until 10:00 a.m.** in the Church **except on holidays.**

*Let us pray for the sick*



**We keep in our prayers the sick, the homebound, and the “forgotten members” in our community.**

If you have a loved one you would like on our Sick list, please call or email us. We will keep their names on our list for 4 weeks. *Thank you.*

**Combined First Holy Communion**

Here are a few photos from last Sunday's catechism session and First Holy Communion enrolment ceremony for the Holy Cross and Canadian Martyrs candidates.

All FHC sessions will be held at the Holy Cross Church Hall on Sundays, immediately after the 11:00am Mass, and will run until 1:30 pm.

The final ceremony is scheduled for April 25, 2026.

Let us keep the children in our prayers, and may the Holy Spirit guide them throughout this beautiful journey.



**Combined Sacramental Preparation**

Our combined Holy Cross and Canadian Martyrs candidates' sacramental preparation programs are ongoing. We continue to accompany our young people as they grow in faith and prepare to receive the sacraments.

<b>Confirmation</b> at <i>Canadian Martyrs</i> : every Saturday from 3:00–5:00 p.m.
<b>First Holy Communion</b> at <i>Holy Cross</i> : every Sunday, Catechesis from 12:30–1:30 p.m.

**2025 Tax Receipt Cut-Off Date**

The cut-off date for 2025 tax receipts is **January 4**. All donations received on January 4 will be included in the 2025 tax receipt.

**2025 Tax Receipt Notice**

Please contact the parish office if you have moved or if your phone number or email address has changed. Having your updated information helps ensure that you receive your official receipt for income tax purposes. Thank you

**PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND AND MEDJUGORJE**

Under the spiritual leadership of Father Godofredo R. Claudio Pastor Holy Cross Parish, Toronto

Tour Co-ordinator: Ms. Claudette Wilson

A **\$100.00 bonus incentive** will be given to anyone who books this trip by **January 15, 2026**.

For details, please contact **Henry Rousseau** at **Heritage Tours**.

**Special Announcement**

We would like to inform you that our pastor, Fr. Fred, will be on holiday starting January 6 to February 6—a much-needed rest, especially now that he is overseeing two parishes. During his absence, **Fr. Nabine Djore** and **Fr. Luis Melo** will be assisting us in celebrating the Masses at both Holy Cross and Canadian Martyrs. We sincerely appreciate their support and thank them in advance. We look forward to their guidance during this period.



**Ways to Give – Sunday Donations**

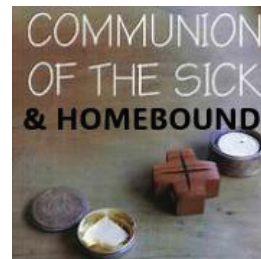
**In-Person:** Place your envelope in the collection basket during Mass.

**Online Giving:** Visit our parish website to donate securely anytime.

**Pre-Authorized Debit:** Set up automatic monthly contributions for convenience.



**Mail-In:** Send your donation directly to the parish office.

✦ *If you donate occasionally and are registered with another parish, please provide your contact information so we can ensure you receive a tax receipt.*



**Communion to the Sick and Homebound**

If any parishioners are unable to attend Mass due to illness or are homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact the parish office at **416-421-5225** or email [holycrosssto@archtoronto.org](mailto:holycrosssto@archtoronto.org).

<b>Special Devotion Candles Jan 6 to 13</b>	
Special Devotion Candles (Sanctuary Lamps near the Tabernacle) available to burn for your intentions for one week. The cost is \$20.00 per candle.	
	<b>Thanksgiving and prayers for the Mancini Family, living, sick &amp; deceased.</b> Requested by: Angela Mancini & Family “May this year bring hope to every heart and remind us of the bonds that unite us across time and space.”
	<b>For all Intentions</b> This Sanctuary Lamp Devotion Candle is being offered for all the intentions of Holy Cross Parish Community, living, sick and deceased.

**Come & See – Discernment Weekend Retreat – February 27 – March 1, 2026 at St. Augustine’s Seminary**

The Office of Vocations will be hosting a Come & See Weekend Discernment Retreat for men 18 years and older, at St. Augustine’s Seminary on Friday, February 27 (6:30 p.m.) until Sunday, March 1 (2 p.m.). This Retreat offers a way for men to discern a possible call to priesthood at our seminary. Registration must be done online at [www.vocationstoronto.ca/comesee](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca/comesee) For more information, please email: [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)

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