



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 Website: holycrosssto.archtoronto.org

Office Hours:

Tuesday to Friday
9:00 am to 5:00pm

Fr. Efren Alvarez-Pelayo, 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:

Mass Intentions

Wednesday, September 9

9:00am Mass

✦ **Silverito & Viviana Macarayan**
(Tess Macarayan)

Friday, September 11

9:00am Mass

✦ **Severina Mamaril**
(Theresa Mamaril & Family)

Saturday, September 12

9:00am Mass

✦ **Quirico, Manuela & Quirico Jr. Baldomar** (Fannie Baldomar)

Sunday, September 13

9:00am Mass

✦ **Anita Villote** (Naomi Stevens)

11:00am Mass

◆ **Anthony Flores' Birthday** (Ybarola Family)

5:00pm Parish Anniversary Mass

◆ **For all Parishioners: living and gone before us.**

Monday, September 14

7:00pm Parish Anniversary Mass

◆ **For all Parishioners: living and gone before us.**

Sanctuary Lamp

SEPTEMBER 1 TO 13

In Thanksgiving for
Ambrosini Family
(Incoronata Ambrosini)



Wishing you a safe long weekend. Please note our remote support will be closed on **Monday, September 7**, reopening on **Tuesday**.

Happy Labour Day

"LIFTED BY THE CROSS"

Message from the Pastor



+The Gospel today reminds us that Christian community is not built on perfection, but on reconciliation. Jesus teaches that when relationships fracture, the path forward is not avoidance but courageous conversation. Healing begins when we choose to meet one another with humility and truth. At Holy Cross Parish, this call is especially meaningful. The Cross is the place where God reconciles the world to Himself — and it becomes the model for how we reconcile with one another. Every time we forgive, every time we listen, every time we choose unity over division, the Cross is lifted high among us. As we approach the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, let us renew our commitment to be a parish where Christ's mercy is visible. When two or three gather in His name — even in difficult moments — He is there, healing, restoring, and making us whole. May our parish be a place where reconciliation is not rare, but normal; not burdensome, but freeing; not delayed but embraced.

PARISH FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

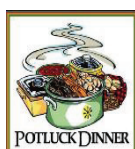
(VIGIL & SIMPLE CELEBRATIONS)

This year, due to our parish's ongoing transition and limited preparation time, we will not be holding our usual Feast Day festivities. However, we still wish to mark this important moment in a simple and prayerful way. We will begin with a **Vigil Mass on Sunday, September 13 at 5:00 p.m.** on the eve of our parish's **98th Anniversary**. Please note: although celebrated on Sunday, this Mass is for the **Vigil of the Feast** and **does not fulfill the Sunday obligation**. Following the Vigil Mass, everyone is invited to a **simple potluck gathering** in the Parish Hall.



On the **Feast Day itself, Monday, September 14**, we will celebrate Mass at **7:00 p.m.**, followed by a **brief social** in the hall. While Holy Cross does not have a traditional "patron saint," the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross remains our parish's principal celebration. We look forward to gathering in gratitude and humility as we honour the Cross of Christ and pray for our parish community during this time of transition. This will be a wonderful opportunity to mingle, share a meal, and celebrate together in the spirit of our parish community. **Everyone is welcome to contribute and participate!**

WE NEED YOUR HELP



We invite parishioners to share food items if you can for our potluck celebration on **September 13, the eve of our Church's 98th Anniversary**. Let us come together in fellowship and thanksgiving as we celebrate this special milestone. Kindly coordinate with Claudette Wilson or Karin Doumouras regarding the dish you plan to bring so that we can maintain a balanced variety of food groups. Thank you for your generosity and participation

MASS OF INSTALLATION OF OUR PASTOR



With great joy and gratitude, we invite all parishioners, families, and friends to celebrate the **Installation of Fr. Efren** as our pastor on **Sunday, October 18, at 11:00 a.m.** This special occasion marks the beginning of a new chapter in the life of our parish. Let us come together in prayer, thanksgiving, and fellowship as we warmly welcome Fr. Efren and offer our support as he begins his ministry among us. Following the Mass and installation ceremony, there will be a **parish potluck gathering** in the hall. Please bring a favorite dish to share if you are able, but most importantly, bring your presence and spirit of community. **Everyone is warmly invited to attend. We look forward to celebrating this joyful occasion together!**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NEWS

On **September 25**, the feast of St. Vincent de Paul, following **Mass at 7pm**, all are invited to stay for fellowship and light refreshments as we celebrate his spirit of compassion and generosity. Everyone is welcome. Also, we are having our **Bundle Up Weekend of Sept. 19/20**. The St. Vincent de Paul donation truck will be at the back of the church **Sept. 19/20, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.** Donations of clothing, footwear, bedding, drapery, towels, and new toys are welcome. Society members will be available to assist. Thank you for your generosity!



THINKING OF BECOMING A CATHOLIC?



Those interested in joining the Catholic Church (non-baptized and Christians baptized in a different denomination) are invited to contact the parish for this fall's OCIA program. Please note that this program runs with a minimum of 4 applications, as the ministry relies on group dynamics and teamwork. To begin this process, contact Joan at the parish office to express your interest.

MASS INTENTIONS EXPLAINED

(Sharing a Sacred Tradition)

Having a Mass offered for someone is a beautiful and longstanding tradition of the Church. Over time, however, practices and expectations can develop around Mass intentions that do not always reflect what the Church actually teaches. In the coming weeks, we will offer a short bulletin series explaining **what a Mass intention is, what the offering means, why the Church regulates intentions, the purpose of Mass cards, and why an intention does not depend upon a name being announced or published.** As a first practical change, beginning in **September**, the four Masses currently limited to one intention will be able to accommodate **up to two intentions**, normally limited to one or two names per intention. **Saturday's 9:00 a.m. Mass will continue under its existing arrangement as our approved multiple-intention Mass.** Our hope is simple: to preserve this beautiful tradition while making the opportunity to request Masses **fair, accessible, and properly understood by everyone.**



"I ask that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone." — 1 Timothy 2:1
One of the beautiful privileges of being Christian is that **we can pray for one another.**

*We pray for the living. We pray for the sick.
We give thanks. And, from very ancient times, God's people have prayed for the dead.*

NEW TO THE PARISH?



If you are new to the parish, please remember to register with us and let your old parish know that you have moved, so that they too can update their records. Registration forms and offertory envelopes are available at the parish office.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

FIRST RECONCILIATION/COMMUNION PROGRAM



Parents of children age 7 and older who are baptized Catholic and wish to prepare for First Reconciliation and First Communion are asked to **call the parish office** and leave their contact information. Children attending Catholic or public schools are welcome. Families will be contacted once the required Parent Orientation is finalized. Registration will follow the Orientation.

CONFIRMATION 2026-2027

Parents of young people in **Grade 7 and above, including high school**, who are interested in preparing for **Confirmation** are invited to **call the parish office and leave their contact information.** Students from **Catholic and public schools** are welcome. Children not yet baptized will need to discuss this with the Church first. Families will be contacted when the **Parent Orientation** is finalized.



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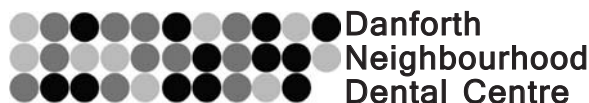
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