



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 23

9:00am Mass

- ✠ Florentino Ranases
- ✠ Butch Bernardez

Friday, September 25

9:00am Mass

- ◆ In thanksgiving for Jennifer Ducusin Steinfeld

Saturday, September 26

9:00am Mass

- ✠ Maria Ruvitte C. Montille

Sunday, September 27

9:00am Mass

- ✠ Michael Angelo Cervantes

11:00am Mass

- ◆ Stephanie & Terry Miranda

Sanctuary Lamp

SEPTEMBER 22 TO 29

In Loving Memory of
Maria Boudreau

MASS INTENTIONS EXPLAINED

(What the "offering" means)

The offering connected to a Mass intention, commonly referred to as a "stipend," is a longstanding freewill contribution that supports the priest and the parish. It is never a payment for grace and does not affect whether a Mass can be requested. This custom has roots in the earliest Christian communities, where the faithful supported their ministers and the celebration of the Eucharist. Today, the offering remains a simple gesture of support that helps sustain parish life. It is a practical expression of gratitude, not a requirement for the spiritual reality of the intention. The intention itself is spiritual; the offering is a sign of participation in the Church's prayer.

"I ask that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone."

1 Timothy 2:1.



GRATITUDE AND RENEWAL

After the joy of our parish feast, this Sunday's Gospel reminds us that God's generosity always exceeds our expectations. The parable of the workers in the vineyard teaches that grace is not earned by hours or effort but received as gift.

Our community lived that truth beautifully last weekend. The vigil Mass was a moment of grace — shaped by the dedication of our liturgical ministers, music teams, decorators, and volunteers who prepared the church and welcomed every guest. The presence of visiting clergy added depth and warmth to our celebration, reminding us that the

Cross unites all who serve Christ. To those who attended, prayed, sang, and shared fellowship afterward — thank you. Your participation made the feast not only an event, but a witness of faith. As we return to ordinary time, may we carry forward the same spirit of generosity and service that filled our parish these past days. The Cross we exalted is now the Cross we carry.

BETTER LATE THAN UNOFFICIAL

After a slightly dramatic opening act involving surgery and substitute coverage back in June and July, it is finally time to make things official. Please join us on **Sunday, October 18, at 11:00 a.m.** for the official Installation Mass of Fr. Efren as our pastor—and consider this your final opportunity to object before we're stuck with each other for good. Following the Mass, we will host a parish potluck in the hall. Bring a dish to share if you can, but most importantly, bring your presence as we finally settle into this new chapter together.



KNOW YOUR FAITH – SCRIPTURE STUDY



We extend our sincere appreciation to all who participated in our recently concluded *Know Your Faith* program. Your enthusiasm and engagement enriched our time together. Inspired by this momentum, we are pleased to introduce **Know Your Faith: Scripture Study. COME AND JOIN US** as we reflect on the Sunday readings through prayer and study **after the Saturday 9:00 a.m. Mass (9:40–10:45 a.m.) on October 3, 10, 24 & 31. Facilitator: Therese De Manche.** All are welcome as we continue growing together in God's Word.

WAYS TO GIVE TO OUR CHURCH

We are grateful for your generosity and support of our parish. You may make your offertory contribution through: **Weekly offertory envelopes, Cash donations during Mass, Cheques payable to Holy Cross Church, Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG)** Your support helps sustain our mission, ministries, outreach programs, and parish operations. For more information, please contact the parish office. Thank you for your continued generosity.



THANK YOU FOR CELEBRATING WITH US!



With hearts full of joy, we thank everyone who shared in our 98th Church Anniversary Celebration — our volunteers, food donors, parishioners, and guests. Your generosity, kindness, and presence filled our parish with warmth and love. Together we celebrated not only our history but the spirit that makes our church family so vibrant. May the blessings of this joyful feast continue to shine in our community and in each of your homes.

With heartfelt appreciation, Your Parish Family

FIRST FRIDAY SCHEDULE UPDATE



Starting in October, the 9am mass will be surrendered so that Canadian Martyrs can have a proper mass on First Friday followed by the traditional devotions. The evening **6:00 p.m. Holy Hour and Confession and 7:00 p.m. Mass will remain.** This will give us an opportunity to be one by attending the Mass that most suits our ability to participate. Come spend time with the Lord in prayer and quiet reflection at Holy Cross (6pm) or at Canadian Martyrs (9am). Confessions will be heard at both Churches. Everyone is welcome.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD



All children are invited to join Children's Liturgy of the Word during Mass to hear and celebrate the readings at an age-appropriate level, helping them participate more fully in the Liturgy of the Word before returning to the congregation for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

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!

VISITING MINISTRY

-Holy Communion for the Homebound-

If any parishioners are unable to attend Mass due to illness, limited mobility, or are homebound, our Visiting Ministry is here to support you. Trained ministers are available to bring **Holy Communion to your home**, offering prayer, comfort, and a connection to our parish community. If you or a loved one would like to receive a visit, please contact the parish office (see information on the cover page).



OCIA – BECOMING CATHOLIC

We are now welcoming inquiries for this fall's **OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)**. Formerly called RCIA, the updated name reflects the Church's renewed focus on the *order* and *stages* of becoming Catholic. OCIA is for adults who are: **Unbaptized** and seeking the Sacraments of Initiation or **Baptized in another Christian tradition** and seeking full communion with the Catholic Church. If you are interested, please contact the parish office.



HOSPITALITY MINISTRY (USHERS)

Parishioners interested in serving in our Hospitality Ministry as ushers are invited to join this ministry of welcome and support at our weekend liturgies. Ushers assist with greeting, seating, and helping maintain a smooth flow during Mass. For information or to express interest, please contact the parish office.



OUR SECOND COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY

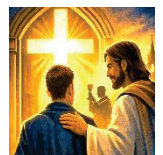
Needs of the Church in Canada Collection

– **September 27** This collection supports the pastoral work of the Catholic Church across Canada and helps meet the needs of dioceses and communities from coast to coast. **Please give generously. Thank you for your support and stewardship.**



COME & SEE – DISCERNMENT WEEKEND RETREAT

Men 18 years and older are invited to a Come & See discernment retreat at St. Augustine's Seminary, to be held on **November 6–8, 2026**. This weekend offers an opportunity to reflect on a possible call to the priesthood. Contact vocations@archtoronto.org or Register online: vocationstoronto.ca/comesee.



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