



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, October 21

9:00am Mass

✕ Alfred De Manche

Friday, October 23

9:00am Mass

✕ Julita Jacinto

✕ **Saturday, October 24**

9:00am Mass

✕ Michelina Ruscillo

✕ Carolina Bautista

Sunday, October 25

9:00am Mass

✕ Marcelino Tan Asares

✕ Priscilla Cruz

11:00am Mass

✕ Rose Marie Villote

Sanctuary Lamp

OCTOBER 20 TO 27

For all Parishioners: living and gone before us.

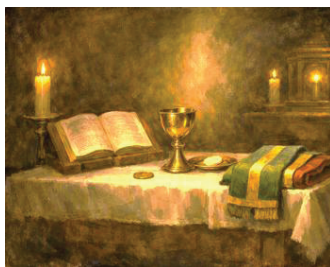
NOVEMBER: MONTH OF PRAYER FOR ALL SOULS IN PURGATORY



November is dedicated by the Church to prayer for **All Souls in Purgatory**. Beginning this weekend, the **Book of Life** will be placed in the near the sanctuary. During this month, the faithful are invited to remember and pray for their departed loved ones. **All Souls Envelopes** will be available near the Book of Life before and after all Masses throughout November. You may write the names of your deceased loved ones on these envelopes. They will be included in our parish's general prayers for **All Souls in Purgatory**. Completed envelopes may be placed in the box provided near the Book of Life.

"WHAT BELONGS TO GOD"

Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 • 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 • Matthew 22:15-21



Isaiah reminds us that God guides His people through moments and leaders we sometimes do not expect. In the Gospel, Jesus holds a coin and asks whose image it bears. The answer is simple — Caesar's. But then He offers the deeper truth: Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God. Today, these words touch our parish in a particular way. As I am installed as your pastor, I am reminded that this ministry is not something I possess, but something I receive. It is entrusted, not owned. It belongs first to God, and only then to us together. The installation is not a celebration of a role, but a reminder of a responsibility — to serve, to listen, to walk with you, and to help us all give our hearts more fully to God. This new beginning is not about titles or ceremonies. It is about the quiet covenant between a parish and its shepherd, and the shared mission we now carry. We bear the image of God, and our work — mine and yours — is to reflect that image with faith, patience, and hope. Perhaps this week, as we begin this chapter together, we can return one thing to God: a worry, a fear, a habit, or a hope. Caesar may claim the coin, but God claims the heart. And today, I offer mine to this community, trusting that God will guide us gently and faithfully into the future He has prepared.

ALL SOULS DAY MASSES

This year, on November 2, the **Commemoration of The Faithful Departed**, we will have **TWO MASSES**, one at **Canadian Martyrs at 9am**, and one at **Holy Cross at 7pm**. The collection of "All Souls" offerings will be taken and they will be the collective intention of this day when we remember All those who have gone before us.

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL INVITATION



Our parish is seeking **two additional members** to join the **Parish Finance Council**. Former members are also warmly encouraged to return, as continuity is a great benefit to the parish. The PFC assists the pastor in overseeing parish finances, budgeting, and stewardship. Members are appointed by the pastor through nominations or self-applications. If you feel called to serve, please email **Fr. Efren** at ealvarezpelayo@archtoronto.org. An interview will follow to help determine suitability for this role.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE



During October Society of St. Vincent de Paul is holding a Thanksgiving Food Drive to help restock our food cupboard. Please place donations of non-perishable food items in the SSV collection bin in the church foyer. **Items most needed:** Canned meat, canned vegetables, canned fruit, and peanut butter. Thank you for your generosity and support for those in need.

OCTOBER 18, 2026

CUSTODIAL STAFF UPDATE



We wish to inform the parish community that Enrique ("Rico") de Leon, our shared custodian for Holy Cross and Canadian Martyrs, has submitted his resignation. His final day of service will be Friday, October 23. We are grateful for the work he has provided to both parishes. Parishioners who wish to do so are invited to privately extend their good wishes to him as he moves forward into new employment. We will share further information regarding custodial coverage and next steps as they are confirmed.

FIRST COMMUNION ORIENTATION



Follow-Up for Parents Our First Communion Orientations conclude this weekend. We thank all families who were able to attend. If you missed the Orientation, please contact the parish as soon as possible for instructions on how your child may still enter the program. The deadline to do so is Friday, October 23. Orientation is an essential first step, so please reach out promptly. We look forward to helping you move forward in the preparation process.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

For students in Grade 7 and up, including high school, our Confirmation program will begin later in the Fall. We are currently preparing a **schedule that reflects our parish's present transition** and ensures everyone can take part. Please feel free to **call the parish office and leave your contact information** so we can reach you directly once details are ready.



MASS ATTENDANCE SURVEY



The annual Mass Attendance Survey for all parish and mission communities will take place on the weekends of **October 17-18, and October 24-25**. Ushers are reminded of this important practice at each mass.

RENOVATION FUND COLLECTION

Due to multiple collections for the 1st Sunday of the month, the **second collection for the Renovation Fund** has been moved to **Sunday, October 25**. If you have already prepared your donation envelope, kindly bring it on that date. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of our parish.

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.

PARISH BUILDING COMMITTEE INVITATION



We are establishing a **Parish Building Committee (PBC)** and are seeking 3-5 **founding members**. The PBC will assist the pastor in caring for and improving our parish facilities. If you feel called to serve, please email **Fr. Efren** at **ealvarezpelayo@archtoronto.org**. Interviews will follow.

ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL NEWS

They are now accepting applications for September 2027. Prospective students and their families are invited to attend Open Houses on **Oct. 15** and **Oct. 20** at **7:00 p.m.** Register at **applySMCS.com**. Financial assistance is available for eligible students.

HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Ministry of Hospitality is seeking additional ushers for the weekend Masses. Parishioners interested in serving may kindly contact the Church office. Training will be provided.



PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE 2027

A Journey of Grace for Every Heart

February 22 – 27, 2027

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Fr. Efren Alvarez-Pelayo, Pastor of
Holy Cross & Canadian Martyrs

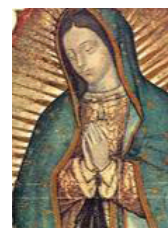
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