Our Lady Of Peace Parish

June 1st, 2025 The Ascension of The Lord

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Holy Mass Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Our catholic faith has been passed down from generation to generation. Please ensure our faith lives on for generations to come by remembering your parish in your Will.

Sunday 10:00 a.m. (Children's Liturgy) & 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m.

Confession Saturday 4:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Adoration & Benediction First Friday following 9:00 a.m. Mass

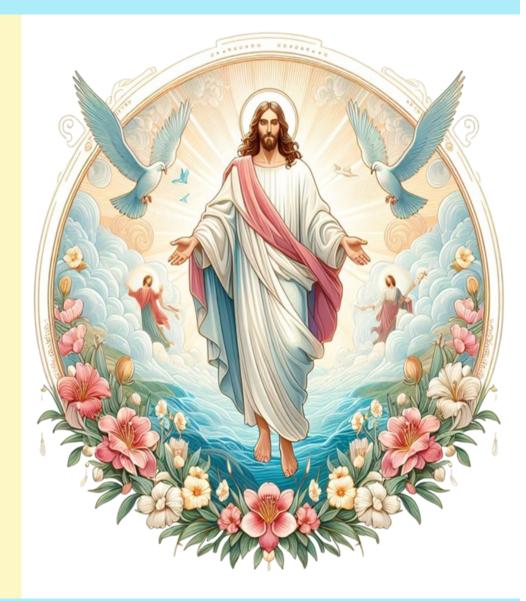
Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals Please contact the Parish Office

Our Pastor Fr. Biju Kannampuzha Tel: 416-239-1259 Ext 3

Office Administrators Rosanne Colavecchia Teresa McNamara <u>tmcnamara@arctoronto.org</u> Tel: 416-239-1259 Ext 0

Youth Minister Arnold Samson asamson@archtoronto.org

Office Hours Monday to Friday 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.



Our Mission

Guided by the love of God and the teachings of Jesus Christ, we the parish community of Our Lady of Peace come together embracing diversity and unity, to celebrate the Sacraments, to study the Word of God, and to provide unwavering support for one another. Through dynamic liturgical celebrations, meaningful fellowship, and continuous education, we strive to nurture each person's unique relationship with God and empower them to live out their faith in the world.

The Ascension of the Lord: A Call to Hope and Glory

In our modern world, the Ascension of Jesus can seem mysterious and even puzzling. We might picture Jesus simply rising higher and higher into the sky—eventually leaving the atmosphere and entering outer space. But the Ascension is far more profound than a physical journey upwards; it is a powerful revelation of divine truth and hope that transformed the apostles and continues to transform us today.

To truly grasp the meaning of the Ascension, we can look to another pivotal moment in Jesus' life—the Transfiguration. Both took place on a mountain, a place where God historically chose to reveal His presence—just as Moses and Elijah encountered God on holy heights in the Old Testament. These mountains are sacred spaces, where heaven and earth seem to meet, and where the invisible glory of God breaks through in dazzling light.

At the Transfiguration, Jesus' appearance was transformed—His face shone and His clothes became dazzling white. At the Ascension, something equally dramatic occurred: Jesus was lifted up, taken into the glory of heaven itself. Both events unveil the hidden majesty of Christ, a glory that is usually veiled from human eyes but now revealed as the fullness of God's love and power.

Notice the cloud in both stories—a powerful biblical symbol of God's presence. The cloud in Exodus led the Israelites, a sign of guidance and protection. At the Transfiguration, the cloud overshadowed Jesus and the disciples, accompanied by God's voice declaring, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" And at the Ascension, the cloud took Jesus from their sight, a poignant reminder that He remains intimately connected to the Father, now reigning in glory.

Both events also involve heavenly messengers: Moses and Elijah at the Transfiguration, and two mysterious men in white at the Ascension. Peter's instinct at the Transfiguration was to hold on to that moment, to build booths and cling to the glory. But God's plan was far greater. The Ascension was not a departure into abandonment but a passage into a new reality—the promise that Jesus, having been exalted, would come again in glory.

The word Luke uses to describe Jesus' departure at the Transfiguration is "Exodus," a powerful link to God's saving acts in history. Jesus leads His people not to despair but to freedom—the Promised Land of new life with God. Though the apostles struggled to understand, their experiences of the Transfiguration and Ascension prepared them to face the trials ahead. The Transfiguration gave them courage to follow Jesus to the Cross, and the Ascension prepared them for Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit would ignite their mission to proclaim Christ's victory to the world.

At the heart of the Ascension lies a promise that shines brighter than any star: because Jesus has been exalted to the highest heavens, we too are invited to share in this glory. The disciples didn't immediately grasp this hope at the Transfiguration, but after the Ascension, their hearts were filled with joy, for they began to understand that the glory they witnessed was not only for Jesus but for all who follow Him.

Today, as we celebrate the Ascension, we are called to rejoice with that same hope. We are reminded that Christ's exaltation is our promise of transformation, resurrection, and eternal life. Just as Jesus was raised up, so too will we be raised—lifted into a new, glorious life with Him.

Let this truth inspire us: the Ascension is not a goodbye but a glorious "until we meet again." It is a call to live boldly in faith, confident that we are destined to share in Christ's victory and eternal reign. So let us go forth with joy and courage, knowing that the Lord who ascended is with us always, guiding us home to the heights of heaven.



FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

6th June 2025



First Fridays have traditionally been associated with the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. To appropriately observe First Fridays there will be Eucharistic adoration following the 9:00 am Mass until 10:15 a.m. Closing with Benediction.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 31st May—5:00pm

† Don Elio Nizzero Requested by Dennis & Glenda Nizzero **† All the Souls in Purgatory** Requested by Mildred Monteiro Sunday 1st June 2025

10:00am

[†] Patricia Staudinger Requested by Jane Wallbridge

† Zenon Maligsay Requested by Eden Molina

[†] Persuelo Antonio Requested by Mary Joy Del Cruz

† Rufina Antique Requested by Mary Joy Del Cruz

11:30am

Children's Lituray

† Matthew Lunardo Requested by Susan McRae

For Healing Maria Destito Requested by Nickie Mendes

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A Creative Writing Workshop

Wednesdays Time: 2:00PM-4:00PM June 04, 18, 25, July 02, 09 \$20 Program Fee

Registration Forms at the Office or Back of Church This course is an opportunity for gentle self reflection and creative expression. Classes will feature secular writing prompts and free writing periods followed by sharing and discussion.

Writing materials and light refreshments will be provided.

Tuesday 3rd June - 9:00am

Wednesday 4th June - 9:00am

Special Intentions of the Colavecchia Family *†* Nicholas Relic Requested by Janice Dwyer

Thursday 5th June - 9:00am **† John, † Joseph & † Cecilia Plut** Requested by Stephen Plut

First Friday 6th June - 9:00am

The Annual OLP Ladies' Brunch

Sunday, June 8th, 12:30pm at the Canadiana Restaurant. \$30 includes Brunch, door prizes, and, back by popular demand, guest speaker: Sister Carmella. Tickets on sale at each Mass at the back of the church or call Joan Grima : 647 278 9362



Contact Arnold Samson for details or questions: asamson@archtoronto.org

Come be a part of our Ministry of Hospitality!



Ushers & Greeters Ministry of Hospitality Meeting Date: Wednesday, June 4th, 2025 in the Parish Hall. Time: 7:00–8:00 PM We're looking for friendly, welcoming faces to help greet newcomers and parishioners alike.

Whether you're new to the ministry or a longtime member, your presence makes a difference. Join us as we discuss upcoming opportunities to serve and share the spirit of hospitality in our parish community. We'd love to see you there!

Children's Liturgy 10:00 AM

Mass on Sundays

Liturgy of the Word with Children is suitably adapted to be made relevant to the lives and experiences of young children preparing them for full participation in the

Liturgy. It gives them an opportunity to receive and respond to the Sunday readings. Parents, Please bring your child/children to the Parish Hall

before Mass and look for a volunteer with a name tag.

Michael Power - St. Joseph's Class of '75 **High School Reunion** Location: Islington Golf Club Date: Thursday, June 5, 2025 For more information: Email: mcachia75@gmail.com

