OUR LADY OF PEACE PARISH A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

3914 Bloor St. W., Etobicoke, Ontario M9B 1L7 Telephone: 416-239-1259 Email: olpeace@archtoronto.org Website: www.olpeace.archtoronto.org

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."

Our Pastor:

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

Office Administrators:

Teresa McNamara & Rosanne Colavecchia Tel: 416-239-1259 Ext 0

Office Hours:

Monday to Friday 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals:

Please contact the Parish Office.



Holy Mass Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

> Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m.

> > **Confessions:**

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

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

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.

Touch that Transforms

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In the inspiring tale of St. Francis of Assisi, we encounter a profound moment when he faced his natural horror of lepers. Despite his initial fear and revulsion, he chose to embrace a leper he met on the road, driven by a commitment to disregard his own discomfort in obedience to God's command. As he kissed the leper's hand and offered both money and compassion, the miraculous disappearance of the leper underscored the deeper meaning – Francis's transformative encounter with God.

In today's Gospel, we witness a similar transformative touch, as Jesus reaches out to a leper, curing him of a dreaded and incurable sickness. This man faced not only physical suffering but also social ostracism, isolated by Old Testament law. His spiritual condition further burdened him, as he was deemed unclean and believed his leprosy to be a punishment for sin.

Jesus defied societal norms by touching the leper, willingly embracing uncleanness to cleanse the man both physically and spiritually. This act of compassion shattered the man's isolation, offering a new lease on life. Today, we too may face physical, social, or spiritual challenges, but we can take solace in the fact that Jesus's touch transforms even the most hopeless situations.

Like the leper, we should approach Jesus with deep humility, earnestly pleading intervention. for His The man's acknowledgment of Jesus's almighty power and his appeal to God's will exemplify a profound faith. Similarly, we must approach humility, recognizing Iesus with our unworthiness but trusting in His transformative power.

Jesus continues to touch our lives, irrespective of our past actions or current struggles. When He entered our world to share in our pain and suffering, He offered His grace and power to bring about change. His compassion knows no bounds, and if we open ourselves to His touch, we can experience the profound transformation He brings.

Let us remember that, just as St. Francis and the leper encountered God through their interactions, our encounters with Jesus have the potential to change us. In moments of despair, let us turn to Him with faith, knowing that His touch can bring healing, restoration, and a renewed sense of purpose.

February 14th - Masses 10am & 7pm Embarking on the season of Lent, we commence with Ash Wednesday on February 14th, a day that involves the symbolic markings of the baptized with ashes as a communal declaration of penance. This solemn occasion signals the beginning of a period dedicated to introspection, self-examination, and spiritual realignment.

Ash Wednesday prompts us to engage in a thoughtful review of our past actions, fostering a commitment to eliminate undesirable habits through the disciplines of fasting and prayer. It is a day of fasting and refraining from meat, underscoring a collective effort towards spiritual growth.

<u>The blessing and distribution of ashes</u> will take place during Masses at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. marking a significant and communal moment within the Lenten journey.

Participate in the Stations of the Cross devotion <u>every Friday</u> <u>evening at 7:00 p.m. throughout the</u> <u>Lenten season.</u> Following the meaningful journey through the stations, everyone is warmly invited to gather in the parish hall for a shared meal of soup and bread





Please pray for those who are sick; Mary (Maura) Tootill, Geralding Frost, Leon Bowser and Frank Gimondo

And those who have died recently: **† Jose Meira Vidal** May he Rest in Peace.

New Sunday Mass Times Starting *March 10th, 2024*

Beginning March 10th, 2024, our Sunday Mass schedule will be updated to better serve our community.

New Mass Times: 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.



These new timings aim to accommodate your schedules and enhance the attendance. Please mark your calendars, spread the word, and join us in welcoming this positive change. We look forward to your continued presence and participation in our Sunday Mass celebrations

Welcome

We extend our most heartfelt greetings to all our visitors and extend a warm welcome to new members of our parish community. We hope you feel at home and embraced as part of Our Lady of Peace. New parishioners are encouraged to complete a parish registration form, which can be found at the rear of the church or by visiting our Parish Office. We offer Offertory Envelopes and Pre-Authorized Giving forms for your convenience

f 🞯 We are thrilled to announce that
Our Lady of Peace Parish has joined the social
media community. Connect with us on Facebook and
Instagram for the latest updates, inspirational
messages and a alimnse into the vibrant

community we share. Scan our QR Code



Pastoral Letters of Reference

If you anticipate needing a pastoral letter of reference from the pastor for applying to a position within the Catholic School Board, such as a Teacher or a Lunch Supervisor, or for roles like a Confirmation Sponsor or a Godparent, it is crucial to establish an early connection with the pastor. This ensures that the pastor has the opportunity to become acquainted with you. The reference letter aims to confirm that the candidate is a practicing Catholic, actively participating in the parish community by regularly attending Sunday Mass. Please note that a request for a letter of reference may not be fulfilled if the pastor lacks sufficient familiarity with the individual making the request

