

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

10:00 a.m. & 11:30 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.

The gift of forgiveness

If we look back over our lives most of us will find something or other that we very much regret. We might remember speaking or acting in ways that hurt or damaged others. We might be aware of not doing something that we could have done and, that in our heart of hearts, wanted to do. Sometimes these experiences of personal failure can leave us very burdened. We can find it hard to move on from them; they trouble us and we struggle to be free of them. They can weigh heavily on us and drain us of energy. We can find ourselves going back in memory to them over and over again.

The first disciples of Jesus must have felt like this in the aftermath of Jesus' crucifixion. During the days of Jesus' final journey, they had all deserted him. Their mood in the aftermath of Good Friday can only have been one of deep regret. They must have felt that their relationship with Jesus was over. According to today's gospel, however, the first words the risen Jesus spoke to his disciples were, 'Peace be with you.' These words assured the disciples of the Lord's forgiveness. For those first disciples, the initial experience of the risen Lord took the form of a profound experience of forgiveness. This was the risen Lord's gift to them.

The gift of forgiveness can be difficult to receive at times. We wonder if we are really forgiven. According to the gospel, when Jesus said 'Peace be with you,' they responded with alarm and fright and thought that they might be seeing a ghost. The risen Jesus then questioned them, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts?' It took the disciples a while to realize that they were forgiven.

It is only after the disciples had come to receive this gift of forgiveness that they were sent out as messengers of the Lord's forgiveness to others. According to our gospel, the risen Lord, having assured them that they were forgiven, went on to commission them to preach repentance for the forgiveness of sins to all the nations. It is forgiven sinners who are entrusted with the task of proclaiming the good news of God's forgiving love to all.

This is what we find Peter doing in today's first reading. He declares to the people of Jerusalem that, although they had handed Jesus over to Pilate, God's forgiveness was available to them if they turned to God by believing in Jesus. The church has been faithful to the mission entrusted to the disciples, proclaiming down the centuries the good news that God's forgiveness is stronger than human sin. In raising Jesus from the dead and sending him back to those who had rejected him and failed him, God was declaring that he can raise anyone from their sins. The risen Jesus reveals a faithful, forgiving God. Today's 2nd Reading states this clearly: 'If anyone does sin, we have our advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, who is just.'

Before we can receive the Easter gift of God's forgiveness that comes to us through the risen Lord, we must first acknowledge our need of that gift. In the words of today's 2nd Reading, we need to *admit the truth*. The truth is that we are always in need of the gift of God's forgiveness. Recognizing our need and asking God for the gift of forgiveness is what we call repentance. Peter in the first reading calls on the people of Jerusalem to repent and turn to God so that their sins may be wiped out. The risen Lord in

the gospel sends out his disciples to preach repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a privileged opportunity to admit the truth, to acknowledge our need of God's forgiveness and to ask directly for it. In that sacrament that the risen Lord says to us, 'Peace be with you.' The words of absolution include the prayer, 'through the ministry of the church may God grant you pardon and peace.'

The first disciples, having received the gift of the Lord's forgiveness, were sent to spread that forgiveness to others. In a similar way, we who receive the same gift are sent out on the same mission. As forgiven sinners we proclaim with our lives the presence of a forgiving and faithful God. We extend to others the gift we have received from the Lord. This will not always come easy to us. 'To err is human, to forgive is divine.' If that is true, we need divine help to do what is divine.

In the verses that immediately follow where today's gospel ends, the risen Jesus promises his disciples that he would send the Holy Spirit upon them. It is only in the power of the Holy Spirit that they would be able to engage in the task that Jesus was entrusting to them. We need the same Spirit if we are to forgive as we have been forgiven. In the weeks ahead that lead up to the feast of Pentecost, we might pray the prayer, 'Come Holy Spirit, fill my heart and enkindle in me the fire of your love.' We could pray this prayer especially during those times when we find ourselves struggling to pass on to others the gift of forgiveness that we continue to receive from the Lord.

TUESDAY TREASURES!



"Tuesday Treasures Program" every Tuesday
in the Parish Hall from 9.30am-12.30pm.

A beautiful relaxing morning chatting with friends discussing the Gospel, while enjoying Teas, Coffee & Refreshments

*Everyone is Welcome
We look forward to seeing you there!*



Bingo & Pizza Night!



Bring your family and friends to a fun-filled Pizza & Bingo night on Friday, May 3rd, 6:30 pm 2024 in the Parish Hall.

Admission is \$10.00 and includes one slice of pizza, Caesar salad, beverage and dessert.

Additional pizza slices are \$2.00 each.

You will have plenty of chances to win exciting bingo prizes!

Bingo cards are 3 for \$5.00 or \$2.00 each. 50/50 raffle draw.

Reservations are required.

Tickets are available after each Weekend Mass, the parish office or contact Joan Grima at 647-278-9362



Mass Intentions

Saturday April 13th

5pm

- †**Derek Reid** Requested Colasanti Family
- †**Bob Kennedy** Requested by Kennedy Family
- †**Maura Tootill** Requested Norma Stoneburgh
- †**Pauline Picciuto** Requested Carmin Picciuto

Sunday April 14th

10am

- †**Vincent Connors**
- †**Carl Stewart** Requested by Sheila Ferguson-Holmes

11:30am

- In Thanksgiving for Vincento & Lina Corde**
Requested by Joan & OLP Social Committee
- †**Alina Navarro** Requested Aristizabal Family

Monday April 15th

No Mass

Tuesday April 16th

9am

- †**Benito Cimicata** Requested by Steve Cimicata
- †**Rita Leona Kenny** Requested by Karen Dellio

9.45am

Our Lady of Peace School Mass

Wednesday April 17th

9am

- †**Cecilia Plut** Requested by Plut Family

Thursday April 18th

9am

- †**Hector Morrisette** Requested by Susan Gagliardi

Friday April 19th

9am

- †**Palmizio & Emmanuel Attard** Requested by Micallef Family

Sanctuary Candle Intentions

- Sacred Heart:** †**Teleuteria & †Pedro Tandoc**
Requested by the Lopez Family
- Sanctuary Candle:** †**Ester & †Melanio Lopez**
Requested by the Lopez Family
- St. Joseph:** †**Jesus & †Muguel Tandoc**
Requested by the Lopez Family



Please pray those who are sick:
Edward Staudinger

Volunteer Appreciation Week: Every Moment Matters from April 14-20, 2024.

Our Lady of Peace and the Archdiocese of Toronto would like to acknowledge our wonderful volunteers and the difference they make in strengthening Our Church community through their dedicated service in parish ministry.

We appreciate and celebrate your faithful service within our parish community.

Thank you for volunteering and making every moment matter.

THANK YOU!

We appreciate and celebrate your faithful service within our parish community. Thank you for volunteering and making every moment matter.

"So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith."
GALATIANS 6:10

FIRST COMMUNION

We look forward to seeing all our First Holy Communion Candidates at the classes that start back this weekend in the Parish Hall:

Saturday Classes	Sunday Classes
April 13 th 3pm to 4.15pm	April 14 th 12.30pm-1.45pm
April 20 th 3pm to 4.15pm	April 21 th 12.30pm-1.45pm
April 27 th 3pm to 4.15pm	April 28 th 12.30pm-1.45pm
May 4 th 3pm to 4.15pm	May 5 th 12.30pm-1.45pm
May 11 th 3pm to 4.15pm	May 12 th 12.30pm-1.45pm

Our Lady Queen of Peace, Pray for us

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



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