

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. - 12:30 p.m.

1:30 p.m. - 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.

Are You Awake?

If a clown were to ride past you on a unicycle, would you notice? Most of us would like to say that we would! However, chances are we would not- if we were talking on our cell phones. According to a recent experiment at a college in Washington State, three out of four students talking on their cell phones failed to notice a unicycling clown as he rode around campus. They were so distracted by their phone conversations that they failed to notice what was going on around them.

Now, this is somewhat funny because it is so ridiculous. However, we all know that this kind of distraction can be deadly serious. Six thousand people die each year, and a third of a million more are injured, because of drivers who were texting or talking on their cell phones when they should have been paying attention to the road. When we are distracted or preoccupied, we fail to be aware of those who are around us- including God. Because of the way, we live our lives today, and the way we structure our time, we are often too distracted to be aware of God's presence around us or hear his voice when he speaks.

Today is the First Sunday of Advent, and as tradition has it, our readings speak to us of Jesus' coming. Of course, we are beginning to anticipate Jesus' coming at Christmas. But in a special way today, we also anticipate Jesus' coming again at the end of time. Jesus made it clear that his "second coming" will catch some people by surprise! That's why he warned that we need to keep watch and be vigilant. Not in the sense of looking for signs but in the sense of being prepared. And for us to be truly prepared to meet Jesus tomorrow, we need to be aware of his presence today. To do that, we need to put aside certain distractions, so we can see his hand guiding our lives; so, we can hear his voice. God wishes to speak with us! But we won't hear him if we're distracted. His voice will be drowned out by the noisiness in our world.

Today's gospel makes it quite clear that Jesus' second coming will be unmistakable; there will be no doubt about what's happening. However, God's presence amongst us today is generally far more subtle. The Holy Spirit very seldom shouts at us. Instead, the Spirit speaks in a whisper. Not because he's trying to be secretive, but for a good reason. Because to hear someone who speaks in a whisper, it takes all of us to hear what's being said. We can't be multi-tasking. We must stop everything; we must strain to hear. We must force ourselves to truly pay attention.

That's why I think God whispers, instead of shouting. He wants us to really focus and pay attention,

so we can really hear what he has to say. And let's face it: There's already enough shouting and loud noise in our lives anyway. God doesn't want his voice to get lost in the commotion and confusion. So, he whispers. Which means we need to focus, so we can really listen. Truly listening to another requires effort, energy, and attention. Think of it this way: If we were speaking to someone else, and the other person was fidgeting, checking the clock, typing on a computer, flipping through a newspaper, glancing at the TV set, and saying nothing more than "Uh huh" every so often, we'd know that we didn't have their full attention; we'd know that they weren't truly listening to us.

God is trying to speak to us. But do we give him our full attention? Do we make the space in our lives to truly listen? We need to take time, be quiet, and be single-minded. Prayer and multi-tasking don't mix well. "We cannot find God in noise or agitation," said Mother Teresa. "In silence we are granted the privilege of listening to his voice."

We're gearing up for Christmas right now. This season brings with it a great deal of noise, chatter, busyness, distractions- things that might keep us from listening to Jesus whose birth it is we're preparing to celebrate! Even Christmas carols, beautiful as they might be, can add to the commotion. But what's the most popular Christmas carol of all time? I'll give you a hint: It's not "Noisy Night." It's "Silent Night."

This Advent let's be sure to enjoy the sights and sounds of the season. But let's also take the time, and make the space in our lives, to be quiet, to pay attention, to be "vigilant," so we can listen for the voice of God speaking in our hearts. If we don't, it'll be far more than a clown on a unicycle we'll miss. We will miss the words of Jesus, the Word-made-flesh.

OLP 2024 YOUTH MINISTRY

Location: St. Elizabeth
Elementary School
at 5 Redcar Ave., Etobicoke

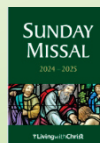
Doors open @ 6:15pm

Programs run from 6:30pm-9:00pm

Session 5: December 6th 2024

For questions, please contact Arnold Samson
asamson@archtoronto.org Visit our Youth Ministry page on the
parish website! Go to "Our Ministries" and select "Youth
Ministry" from the menu. Updates & important information
posted regularly.

The 2024-2025 Sunday Missals are ready for you at the
back of the church.



Please consider a minimum \$5.00 donation
*Recycle bins are located near the church exit
doors. If you'd like to discard your Sunday
Missals from past years, kindly place them in the
designated bins.*



Mass Intentions

Saturday November 30th 5pm

†Julian Molina
†Mario Borges Requested by Maria Borges
†Tony Rigitano Requested by Susan Gagliardi
Special Intentions of the Currie Family

Sunday December 1st 10am

†Henry & †Aniela Doplaga Requested by Doplaga Family
†Jan Weglicki Requested by Doplaga Family

11:30am

†Patrick Corbett Requested by Teresa & Breda
†Julian Molina Requested by Fr. Yaw
†Anna Cavalcante Requested by Emily Colosimo

Monday December 2nd - No Mass

Tuesday December 3rd 9am

†Dorothy Sitarz Requested by Doplaga Family

Wednesday December 4th 9am

†Michael Gulbinski Requested by Doplaga Family
†Patrick Corbett Requested by Teresa McNamara

Thursday December 5th 9am

†Karl & †Mary Doplaga Requested by Doplaga Family

First Friday December 6th 9am

†Genevieve Chornenki Requested by Michele Giorno
†Sheila Clayton Requested by Susan McRae
Special Intentions for Alberto Pasco-Font
Requested by Marita Pasco-Font

Rite of Welcome & Acceptance (RCIA/RCIC)

Dear Parish Family,

This Sunday at the 10:00 am Mass, we have the joyful privilege of welcoming new members into our community! This fall, our dedicated catechists have been meeting with both adults and children who are eager to join us on their faith journeys.

Some of our inquirers are already baptized in Christ, and they are hoping to deepen their faith and complete their initiation into the Catholic Church by receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion. We are excited to support; Hanna Lim, Valeriia Isaienko, and John Messimeris, as they continue their path to full membership in our Church.

Others are preparing to take the beautiful step of becoming Catechumens, with the hope of being baptized and fully initiated into our faith. We warmly welcome; Lindsey Eldridge, Jasminpriya Karunamoorthi, Minh Do, Pamela Kocka, Olivia Staples, Adelyn Barnett, Nathan Barnett, Leandro Enrique Farje, Emery Enzo Hwang, Sebastian Carrasco-Zuniga, and Eleanora Mei Fang.

Please join us in praying for them as they embark on this sacred journey. Let's surround them with love, support, and encouragement as they take this meaningful step toward becoming full members of our faith family.

*With joy and gratitude,
Fr. Biju Kannampuzha.*



Sanctuary Candle Intentions

*Sacred Heart: †Julian Molina
St. Joseph: Special Intentions of Susan Gagliardi*



Christmas Concert & Nativity Pageant

All are invited to join us for some Christmas entertainment in the church: Attendance is free, but there will be a freewill collection. Sunday, December 15,

2024, Starting at 4:15 pm (approx.),

Doors open at 4pm. If your child would like

to participate in this year's Nativity play, or if you would like to perform in the concert, Please contact Arnold Samson asamson@archtoronto.org



Christmas Dinner

Sunday, December 15th, 5:15pm (approx.)
in the Parish Hall

\$30 per Adult, \$15 for Children (10 and under)

Includes: 4-course dinner, beverage & dessert

Wine sold by the glass

Tickets available from the office: 416-239-1259

or call Joan Grima at 647-278-9362





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