

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.

The Beatitudes: A Call to True Happiness

There was once a farmer who lived a content and peaceful life, tending to his farm with the help of his loyal horse. One day, the horse ran away. Neighbors came to offer their sympathy. “What a misfortune,” they said. The farmer simply replied, “Who knows? God knows.” A week later, the horse returned, bringing with it another wild horse. The neighbors, overjoyed, congratulated him. “What a blessing,” they exclaimed. Again, the farmer responded, “Who knows? God knows.”

But then tragedy struck. While riding one of the horses, the farmer’s son fell and broke his leg. Once again, the neighbors gathered around, offering their condolences. “What a tragedy,” they said. And once again, the farmer replied, “Who knows? God knows.” A week later, a war broke out, and the king ordered all able-bodied men to join the army. But because the farmer’s son had a broken leg, he was spared from the draft. The neighbors, now in awe, came to share their joy. “What a blessing!” they exclaimed. The farmer’s response remained the same: “Who knows? God knows.”

This story beautifully illustrates the essence of the Beatitudes. It reminds us that true happiness is not found in wealth, power, or success, but in recognizing that we are children of a loving Heavenly Father. True happiness, or *beatitude*, is discovered when we embrace our blessings and share them with others, just as Jesus did during His earthly ministry.

The word "beatitude" translates to “blessedness,” signifying both the enjoyment of God’s favor and the experience of supreme happiness. In the first reading, the prophet Jeremiah teaches that true happiness comes from placing our trust in God and His promises. The Responsorial Psalm reminds us that beatitude is found in keeping God’s law, aligning our lives with His will. In the second reading, St. Paul assures us that true beatitude is found in Heaven, where Christ’s Resurrection guarantees our eternal happiness.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus flips conventional wisdom on its head by teaching His disciples about the paradoxical blessings found in poverty, hunger, sorrow, and persecution. He says, "Blessed are those who are poor, hungry, weeping, hated, excluded, insulted, and denounced," because in these challenges, we learn to depend on God, trust in His providence, seek reconciliation with Him, and find joy in standing firm for the faith, even in the face of adversity.

The Beatitudes are not just about enduring hardships for their own sake but living them in the context of our commitment to Jesus and His call to selfless love. They challenge us to live lives of humble selflessness, generously sharing our blessings with those in need. The Beatitudes must be understood as glimpses of future glory—promises that encourage us to live today in light of the joy that awaits us in eternity.

St. Teresa of Calcutta, a living example of the Beatitudes, once responded to a question about her work with the poor by saying, "Jesus says the poor are the blessed ones. I take Him at His word. I treat them as the royalty of God’s kingdom, because they are." We, too, are called to live out the challenge of the Beatitudes in our daily lives. All around us, there are millions who are starving, persecuted, homeless, and in despair. The only way the promises of the Beatitudes can become a reality for them is through the love and action of people like us.

St. Teresa and the Missionaries of Charity have accepted this challenge, demonstrating that we can live the Beatitudes in the modern world. Every time we reach out to the needy, the sick, the oppressed, we offer them a taste of the promise of the Beatitudes here and now. Just as the apostles were called to minister to society’s untouchables, so too are we called to serve the marginalized, the discriminated against, and the outcasts of our own time.

Let us take up this challenge, living the Beatitudes through our actions and making God’s love visible to the world. Through our love, care, and service, we can bring a foretaste of the Kingdom of Heaven to earth and share in the joy of God’s promises.

FEBRUARY						
Day	Date	Start	Ends	Activity	Where	Who can join
Tuesday	18 th	9:30 AM	12:30 PM	Tuesday Treasures	Parish Hall	All Welcome
Thursday	20 th	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	Table Tennis Club	Parish Hall	All Welcome
Friday	21 st	6:30 PM	9:00 PM	Youth Ministry Gathering	St Elizabeth School	All Welcome
Saturday	22 nd	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	Teaching Mass*	Church	All Welcome
		5:00 PM	6:00 PM	First Holy Communion Class	Parish Hall	Registered Only
Sunday	23 rd	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Teaching Mass*	Church	All Welcome
		11:00 AM	12:00 PM	RCIA Meeting	Parish Hall	Registered Only
		11:30 AM	12:30 PM	First Holy Communion Class	Parish Hall	Registered Only
		11:30 AM	12:30 PM	Teaching Mass*	Church	All Welcome
Tuesday	25 th	9:30 AM	12:30 PM	Tuesday Treasures	Parish Hall	All Welcome
	25 th	5:30 PM	7:00 PM	Confirmation Class	Parish Hall	Registered Only
Wednesday	26 th	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	Mothers' Group	Parish Hall	All Welcome
Thursday	27 th	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	Table Tennis Club	Parish Hall	All Welcome
		5:30 PM	7:00 PM	Confirmation Class	Parish Hall	Registered Only
Friday	28 th	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	Eatonville Mass	Eatonville Care Home	Ask at Office



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday February 15th 2025

5pm

†Maria Nesci Requested by Nesci & Procopio Families

†Margaret Hojda

Sunday February 16th 2025

10am

In thanksgiving for Lou Salazar Requested by The Family

†Alexander Litigio & †Manuel Edmilao

Requested by Mavi Maceda

11:30am

†Helen & †Stanley Franczak Requested by Tkaczuk Family

Monday February 17th 2025 - No Mass on Mondays

Tuesday February 18th 2025

9am

†Stan Franczak Requested by Emerling Family

†Sante Zita Requested by Maria Zita

Wednesday February 19th 2025

9am

Special Intention Requested by the Currie Family

Thursday February 20th 2025

9am

†Alberto Galicinao Requested by Mavi Maceda

Friday February 21st 2025

9am

Special 90th Birthday Intentions for Helen Montemurro

Requested by Gisele Kenney

†Emilia & †Gianto Gravino Requested by Menina Casalino

Curious about faith?

ALPHA is for you



Join us for a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment.

At each Alpha session, you'll be hosted in small groups, to share a meal, to watch an episode on a different question of life & faith – then you have a chance to share your thoughts and hear what others think.

All are welcome, no matter your background or beliefs, and it's completely free!

This series will start on Monday March 3rd 2025 & runs for 11 sessions.

Doors will open each evening at 6:30 pm in Parish Hall.

For more information on Alpha or to register online, please see <https://olpeace.archtoronto.org> under "Parish Life" and select "Alpha". Forms are also available at the back of the church!

OLP Youth Ministry

Fridays at 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm .

21-February-2025,

07-March-2025 & 21-March-2025,

04-April-2025 & 23-May-2025

Location: St Elizabeth School 5 Redcar Ave, Etobicoke

Register on our Youth Ministry page, or contact

Arnold Samson at asamson@archtoronto.org

TUESDAY TREASURES!



Every Tuesday Morning

In the Parish Hall

9.30am-12.30pm.

chat

A beautiful relaxing morning as we continue to watch and discuss "The Chosen" – A series about the life of Jesus.

Please come along, connect and chat with friends, while enjoying Teas, Coffee & Refreshments

Everyone is Welcome, Drop in or stay awhile!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Any questions?

Please call the Parish Office 416 239 1259 ext. 0

Michael Power St. Joseph's

Class of '75

50th High School Reunion

Islington Golf Club,

June 5, 2025

For more info contact

Mike - mcachia75@gmail.com



Discover the Essence of Sri Lanka

A Cultural Tour from Our Lady of Peace Parish

Embark on a captivating 12-day journey to Sri Lanka, a land of enchanting beauty, rich heritage, and vibrant culture.

Join us from November 4-15, 2025, as we explore the wonders of this tropical paradise, from the bustling streets of Colombo to the serene beaches of the South Coast, this tour includes visits to

UNESCO World Heritage sites, historical temples, national parks, tea plantations, and so much more.

Highlights Of The Tour Include:

Colombo City Walks & A Visit To The Lotus Tower, Sigiriya Rock Fortress & Cultural Dance Show, UNESCO Sites; Like The Golden Cave Temple and The Temple Of The Tooth, Wildlife Safaris In Minneriya National Park, Scenic Train Ride To Ella Through Lush Tea Plantations, Whale & Dolphin Watching in Mirissa, Stilt Fishing & A Tour Of Historic Galle Fort, Beautiful Beaches of Sri Lanka's South Coast.

Price: \$6,875 CAD per person (Double Occupancy),

\$7,925 CAD (Single Occupancy) for more information & registration, please contact 416-239 1259 or visit Parish office.

Anyone for Tennis?

Table Tennis That is...

Join our Table Tennis Club!

Thursdays - Parish Hall -

10am - All Welcome



For more info call Albert: (416) 333-0833

2024 Tax Receipts have been processed & you should receive them on or before February 17th.

Thank you for your ongoing support! ☺



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