

Our Lady Of Peace Parish

22nd February 2026
First Sunday of Lent

3914 Bloor Street West, Etobicoke, Ontario M9B 1L7

T: 416-239-1259 | E: olpeace@archtoronto.org | W: <https://olpeace.archtoronto.org>

Office Hours Monday to Friday 9:30 am - 12:30 pm & 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

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 Administrator

Teresa McNamara
tmcnamara@archtoronto.org
Tel: 416-239-1259 Ext 0

Youth Minister

Arnold Samson
asamson@archtoronto.org

Holy Mass

Saturday
5:00 p.m.

Sunday
10:00 a.m. & 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

St Vincent De Paul Society

For assistance, please call
437 575 3678 and leave your name & number.

Our Lady of Peace Parish 1951– 2026



JUBILEE PRAYER

Heavenly Father,
We thank You for the gift of Our Lady of Peace Parish,
for 75 years of faith, hope, and love lived in this community.

You have gathered us at Your table,
washed us in the waters of Baptism,
nourished us with Your Word and Sacraments,
and sent us forth as witnesses of Your peace.

Through the intercession of Mary, Our Lady of Peace,
help us to remember with gratitude the past,
serve with generosity in the present,
and walk with trust into the future.

Renew our parish during this Jubilee year.
Bless all the priests who have served this parish.
Strengthen our families, inspire our youth,
comfort the suffering,
and welcome all who seek a home in Your Church.

Make us instruments of Christ's peace,
so that, guided by the Holy Spirit,
Our Lady of Peace Parish may continue
to proclaim the Gospel for generations to come.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady of Peace...Pray for Us!

St. Elizabeth Catholic School
5 Redcar Ave, Etobicoke, ON M9B 1J8
(416) 393-5278

<https://www.tcdsb.org/o/stelizabeth>

Our Lady of Peace Catholic School
70 Mattice Ave, Etobicoke, ON M9B 1T6
(416) 393-5253

<https://www.tcdsb.org/o/ourladyofpeace>

Visit Our Lady of Peace Little Gift Shoppe in the Parish Hall

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.

From Desert to Deliverance

Our culture is vibrant and energetic, always in pursuit of happiness. Yet it often hides what makes us uncomfortable. Death is softened with flowers and pushed to the edges of town. Sin is renamed, psychoanalyzed, or excused. We say, “We made a mistake,” rather than, “We have sinned.” Lent gently but firmly invites us to step out of denial and into truth. It reminds us that the human story is one of fall and redemption, of temptation and grace.

From the very beginning, Scripture places before us the drama of freedom. In the Book of Genesis, Adam and Eve face the “original temptation”: “*You will be like gods.*” The temptation was not merely to eat forbidden fruit; it was to replace God, to define good and evil on their own terms. That same temptation lives in us. We resist limits. We dislike accountability. We want control. And yet, when we choose self over God, we discover the painful consequences—broken relationships, inner restlessness, and distance from the One who gives life.

St. Paul, in his Letter to the Romans, contrasts Adam and Christ. Through Adam’s disobedience came sin and death. Through Christ’s obedience comes grace, justification, and life. Sin is never merely personal; it wounds our relationship with ourselves, with others, with creation, and with God. But grace is never merely private either. Christ’s saving obedience restores what was broken. Where sin abounds, grace abounds all the more.

In today’s Gospel, St. Matthew presents Jesus in the desert for forty days. The desert is not only a geographical place; it is a spiritual experience. It is the place of testing, silence, hunger, and clarity. There, Jesus confronts three fundamental temptations—bread, spectacle, and power. They represent the deep human desires for prosperity, prestige, and control.

First, the temptation to turn stones into bread. Jesus is hungry. The devil urges Him to use His power for Himself. But Jesus responds, “*One does not live by bread alone.*” Physical needs are real, but they are not ultimate. Life is more than consumption.

Second, the temptation to throw Himself from the Temple. A dramatic miracle would win admiration and followers. But Jesus refuses to manipulate God for applause. Faith is not a performance.

Third, the temptation to gain all the kingdoms of the world through compromise. Power without the cross. Glory without sacrifice. Jesus rejects this outright: “*Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him alone.*” The path of redemption is not domination, but obedience.

Notice how Jesus conquers temptation: through prayer, fasting, and the Word of God. The desert was His “training ground.” He teaches us that temptation often comes from within, even if triggered from outside. The most dangerous temptations are not simply to *do* wrong, but to *become* someone we were never created to be.

Lent offers us our own desert experience. It is a season to confront honestly the areas where we have tried to take God’s place. It is a time for metanoia—a change of mind and heart. How, then, shall we live this Lent? Confront temptation with prayer and Scripture. Seek reconciliation—with God in Confession, and with one another through forgiveness. Fast not only from food, but from grumbling, harsh judgment, gossip, and resentment. Give up worry and cultivate trust in Divine Providence. Replace pessimism with hope, bitterness with mercy, anger with patience.

This First Sunday of Lent invites us into the desert with Jesus. It calls us to rediscover who we are before God. It challenges us to say “no” to sin and “yes” to grace. And it reassures us that we are never alone in the struggle: “Greater is the One who is in you than the one who is in the world.”

As we pray in the Our Father, “*Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,*” may this holy season renew in us the courage to choose obedience over pride, trust over control, and love over self. May this Lent lead us from temptation to transformation, from sin to grace, and from the desert to the joy of Easter.

Lenten Recollection, Reconciliation & Healing Mission

“Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.” – Luke 23:34



Lent is a sacred season of grace — a time to pause, to return to the Lord, and to allow Him to heal what is wounded within us. We invite you to experience a powerful Lenten Mission where the light of Christ can touch your heart, lift your burdens, and lead you to forgiveness, freedom, and new life.

Our Lady of Peace Parish warmly welcomes you and your family to these special days of prayer and renewal, led by

Fr. Roy Palatty, CMI
Spiritual Director of Shalom
World, gifted preacher, and
Professor of Philosophy.

Mission Schedule

Sat, Feb 28: 5:00 p.m. – Holy Mass & Talk

Sun, Mar 1: 10:00 a.m. – Holy Mass & Talk & 11:30 a.m. – Holy Mass & Talk

Mon, Mar 2: 7:00–9:00 p.m. – Holy Mass | Talk | Eucharistic Adoration

Tue, Mar 3: 7:00–9:00 p.m. – Holy Mass | Talk | Eucharistic Adoration

Wed, Mar 4: 6:00–9:00 p.m. – Confessions | Holy Mass | Healing Adoration

As we celebrate our **75th Anniversary**, this mission is a beautiful moment of grace — not only to renew our parish, but to renew our hearts, our families, and our relationship with God.

All are welcome — individuals, couples, and families.

Come and be renewed in Christ.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 21st February 2026 - 5:00pm

†Philomeno Vaz Requested by The Family

Special Intentions for Raymond Dwyer Requested by Janice Dwyer

Sunday 22nd February 2026

10:00am

†Anthony Boschi Requested by Raouda & Saviolli Families

†Gordon Nixon Requested by The Zirnhelt Family

11:30am

†Mario & †Pasqualina Iannotta Requested by Franca Iannotta

†Albert Y. Galicinao & †Estela Maniquis Requested by Mavi Maceda

†Dermot McNamara Requested by Barrie McNamara & Family

Tuesday 24th February 2026 - 9am

Special Intention for Emily & Annika Fu Requested by Judy De Martin

Wednesday 25th February 2026 - 9am

†Angus MacDonald Requested by Paul McDonald

Thursday 26th February 2026 - 9am

†Daniel O'Beirn Requested by the McRae Family

Friday 27th February - 9am

†Giacinto & †Emilia Gravino Requested by Menina Casalino

Instructional Mass

This weekend at all our Masses, we will celebrate an Instructional Mass. During the liturgy, a lector will briefly and respectfully explain the meaning and significance of the different parts of the Mass as they unfold.

This is a wonderful opportunity to deepen our understanding of the Eucharist and to grow in appreciation for the beauty and richness of our Catholic faith. Families, in particular, are warmly encouraged to attend, as this experience can be especially helpful for children and young people.

We invite you to join us for this meaningful and enriching celebration of the Mass.

Throneway: Sanctum – An Adoration Night

Join us for **Throneway: Sanctum**, an evening of Eucharistic Adoration, prayer, and worship this Saturday

February 21, 2026 6 – 8PM, after the 5pm Mass.

Come and spend time in the presence of the Lord through music, reflection, and quiet prayer. All are welcome to this beautiful night of adoration and renewal.

We hope you can join us.

Outreach Ministry – Elisa House

Dinner for the Women at the Shelter

This Saturday, our parish community had the joy of serving a delicious dinner to the women at **Elisa House**. We extend our sincere thanks to our Music Ministry for sponsoring this month's dinner, and to all the volunteers who shopped, prepared, cooked, and served the meal with such generosity and care. If you feel called to offer a helping hand—whether by cooking, delivering meals, or simply learning more about this ministry—we warmly invite you to an **information meeting on Tuesday, February 24 at 7:15 PM in the Parish Hall.**

This ministry is a simple yet meaningful way to share Christ's love and bring comfort to women in need within our community.

All are welcome, and we invite you to prayerfully consider being part of this caring outreach.

Sanctuary Candles



*St. Joseph: Special Intentions of De Martin Family
Requested by Judy De Martin*



The Parenting Teenagers Course Our Lady of Peace Parish.

This is an excellent opportunity for those in our community with children Aged 11 to 18.

Over the course of five sessions, parents will learn tools and strategies to help build healthy relationships with their teenagers and guide them into adulthood. Sessions will be held on **February 13th, 20th, March 13th, April 10th and 24th from 7pm to 9pm.**

Please contact our website for more details.

Shrove Tuesday Thank You

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Pancake (Shrove) Tuesday celebration! It was wonderful to gather together in fellowship. A very special thank you to the **Knights of Columbus** for sponsoring the event, cooking such delicious pancakes and for their generous service to our parish. Thanks to your support, a total of **\$225** was donated. The proceeds will go toward Youth Ministry and other ministries in our parish.

We are grateful to you all!

TUESDAY TREASURES!

Tuesdays 9.30am -12 noon

Join us for spiritually enriching conversation and reflection on

The Chosen -multi-season series about

The life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth

Come be nourished in faith and fellowship, and enjoy delicious snacks, tea, coffee.

Our Lady of Peace Little Gift Shoppe!

Looking for something special?

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First Holy Communion & Confirmation Cards and lots of adorable religious treasures!

Open Hours: Sunday after 11.30 Mass & Wed 2pm-4:30pm



LENTEN SOUP SUPPER

Join us beginning **Friday, February 20th** and every Friday during Lent in the **Parish Hall.**

6:30 pm – Soup Supper

7:30 pm – Stations of the Cross

Homemade soup, bread, and water will be served.

A **goodwill donation of \$5** is appreciated.

If you are able to make soup for any of the following dates: **February, 27; March 6, 13, 20, or 27**, please leave your name and phone number with the Parish Office.

We look forward to sharing this Lenten time of fellowship and prayer together.

• Feb 20 | 6:00–9:00 PM

Youth Ministry Gathering
Stations of the Cross (Parish Hall / Church)

• Feb 27 | 6:00–9:00 PM

EDGE Night (Grades 6–8)
Stations of the Cross (Parish Hall / Church)





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