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Contact the office olpeace@archtoronto.org

Our Lady Of Peace Parish

March 16th, 2025

Second Sunday of Lent

3914 Bloor Street West, Etobicoke, Ontario M9B 1L7 T: 416-239-1259 | E: olpeace@archtoronto.org | W: https://olpeace.archtoronto.org

Holy Mass

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday

10:00 a.m. (Children's Liturgy) & 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.

Our Pastor

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

Office Administrators

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

Youth Minister

Arnold Samson asamson@archtoronto.org

Office Hours

Monday to Friday 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.



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 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.

A Promise To A Promise

Two little boys were getting ready to boil some eggs so they could decorate them for Easter. The older brother told the younger one---"if you let me break three eggs on your head I'll give you Five dollars." "Really? "Five dollars?" The younger one's eyes grew wide with the prospect of getting Five dollars. "Yep. If you let me break three eggs on your head I'll give you Five dollars." "Promise?" "Yes, Promise." "Okay." The younger brother closed his eyes and held his hands at the side of his face as the older brother giggled and cracked open the first egg. As the yolk was just beginning to roll down onto his cheeks, the older brother said, "That's one." As he cracked open the second egg the older brother said, "That's two" The younger boy then braced himself for the third egg. After about ten seconds he said, "Come on, I'm ready for the third one." The older brother then said, "Are you kidding? That would cost me Five dollars."

We live in a world filled with broken promises and failed obligations. We see this when politicians break campaign pledges; marriage vows are abandoned; warranties and contracts aren't honored; governments don't provide necessary services; parents neglect their children; workmanship is sloppy and customer service poor; retirement plans fail; advertised products don't match the hype; business leaders are corrupt; and clergy and teachers misuse their power.

So we say things like: "You can't trust anybody; always read the fine print; let the buyer beware; don't talk to strangers; sign the "pre-nup." We might wonder: Who is it we can trust?

The good news God speaks to us today is that we can trust him. God is trustworthy. Consider our first reading, from Genesis. God promised Abraham that he would possess the land he had led him to. But Abraham wondered how he could know that this would really happen. So God made a covenant with Abraham. To seal the deal, God instructed Abraham to sacrifice some animals and lay the pieces on the ground. Then, after nightfall, God appeared to Abraham as fire and passed through the midst of the slain animals. This was God's way of saying to Abraham: May what happened to these animals happen to me if I fail to keep my promise to you. In the ancient way of understanding, God was calling down a curse upon himself.

We also encountered the theme of trust in today's psalm. The author felt surrounded by enemies. But he knew that the Lord would never fail him. "The Lord is my light and my salvation;" he sang, "whom should I fear? The Lord is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid?"

The Transfiguration of our Lord further reminds us that God keeps his promises, especially when Moses and Elijah were seen speaking with Jesus. Both Moses and Elijah were associated with the coming of God's promised Messiah. For them to appear at the Transfiguration served to show that, in Jesus, God's promise had been fulfilled. God the Father then proceeded to say that Jesus his Son is just as trustworthy as he is. "This is my Son;" he announced. "Listen to him."

We can be assured that God the Father and Jesus his Son are trustworthy; they are promise-keepers. But what about us? Are we people who keep our promises? Not always. We fail to keep promises to ourselves. We also fail to keep our promises to others, whether it be not getting something done when we said we would, or backing out of a volunteer commitment. And what about our promises to God? The promises we made at our children's baptisms and the promises we made as godparents to help new parents in their duty as Christian mothers and fathers. The promises we made on our wedding day, when we pledged to be true in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health, for richer or poorer, all the days of our lives, and to welcome children lovingly from God and raise them in the faith.

All of us fail to keep these promises, to one degree or another. And God knows that. God knows that we are weak, broken, and sinful people. He doesn't hold us to the same standard he holds himself. What he does ask is that we do our best, keep trying without getting discouraged, and ask his forgiveness when we fail.

Lent is a period of conversion and renewal. We prepare to renew our baptismal promises to God on Easter Sunday. Our trustworthy Lord invites and empowers us to re-commit ourselves to the promises we've made and confess the promises we've broken. Thus, we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ."



Altar Server Training

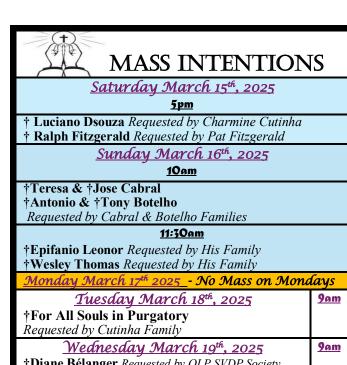
Saturday, March 29th 10-2pm for Holy Week Services
In the Parish Hall
act Our Youth Minister: Arnold Samson at asamson@archto!

contact Our Youth Minister; Arnold Samson at asamson@archtoronto.org



Stations of the Cross

7:00 pm Every Friday During Lent



Wednesday March 19th, 2025
†Diane Bélanger Requested by OLP SVDP Society
For Healing - Marianne Reis

Thursday March 20th, 2025
Special Intentions of Viesha & Janusz Ploski
Requested by her sister

Friday March 21th, 2025,

†Louise Kelley Requested by Jane Wallbridge

†Filippo Bozzelli Requested by Nick & Mary Romano

Sanctuary Candle Intentions Sacred Heart: Special Intentions for Lino Casalino

Requested by Menina Casalino

<u>Gt Joseph:</u> Special Intentions for Emily James
Requested by Menina Casalino

Mass Intentions

The Catholic Church has a longstanding tradition of celebrating Masses dedicated for the repose of souls or to fulfill specific intentions. These Masses serve various purposes, including prayers for the souls in purgatory, commemorating the departed, or celebrating special occasions like birthdays. Should you wish to offer a Mass for someone, please contact the Parish office at (416) 239-1259

Gardening Volunteers Needed

Meet outside the office on Wednesday April 2nd after the 9am Mass Please come along or contact Josie Galati 416 233 6892



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.



Lift Jesus Higher Rally

Join fellow Catholics from the Greater Toronto Area at the 34th annual Lift Jesus Higher Rally at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre on Saturday, March 29! Lift Jesus Higher is a Spirit-filled day filled with fellowship, praise and worship, Eucharistic Adoration, compelling talks from Bishop Scott McCaig, Deacon Larry Oney, Peter Herbeck, and more! The day also features a youth rally in the Centre's John Basset Theatre for youth ages 13-18.

Click here to register

OLP Youth Ministry

Join us on Friday 21-March-2025 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Location: St Elizabeth School, 5 Redcar Ave, Etobicoke Making of Rosary Beads Night

Registration is required

click here to register, or contact Youth Minister;
Arnold Samson at asamson@archtoronto.org



Children's Liturgy 10:00 AM Mass on Sundays

Liturgy of the Word with Children is suitably adapted to be made relevant to the lives and experiences of young children preparing them for full participation in the Liturgy. It gives them an opportunity to receive and respond to the Sunday readings.

Parents, Please bring your child/children to the Parish Hall before Mass and look for a volunteer with a name tag.