

# Our Lady Of Peace Parish

21st December 2025  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

3914 Bloor Street West, Etobicoke, Ontario M9B 1L7

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

## Our Pastor

Fr. Biju Kannampuzha

Tel: 416-239-1259 Ext 3

## Office Administrator

Teresa McNamara

[tmcnamara@archtoronto.org](mailto:tmcnamara@archtoronto.org)

Tel: 416-239-1259 Ext 0

## Youth Minister

Arnold Samson

[asamson@archtoronto.org](mailto: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.



## 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.

**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>

Our Lady of Peace Pray for Us

*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.*

## EMMANUEL — GOD WITH US

At the very heart of Christmas is not sentiment or nostalgia, but a staggering truth: God has chosen to be with us. Not from a distance. Not conditionally. But fully, vulnerably, and forever. Emmanuel—God with us—is God’s answer to our fear, our sin, and our loneliness.

Over a hundred years ago, St. Damien of Molokai, a Belgian priest, lived among people with leprosy on a remote Hawaiian island. He built water systems, clinics, sanitation, and a chapel. Every Sunday, he began his homily with the same words: “You lepers know that God loves you.” Years later, after he himself contracted leprosy, he began one homily differently: “We lepers know that God loves us.” Damien had not merely served the suffering—he had become one with them. That is Emmanuel. That is Christmas.

In an infinitely deeper way, Jesus has done the same for us. He did not save us from a safe distance. He entered our human weakness, bore our wounds, carried our sin, and healed us by His love. “He was bruised and wounded for our sins... and by His stripes we were healed.”

When the prophet Isaiah spoke to King Ahaz, the king was afraid, calculating, and relying on political alliances instead of God. Ahaz refused to trust. Yet God gave a sign anyway: “Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be Emmanuel.” A child. Vulnerable. Small. Seemingly powerless. As the poet Carl Sandburg once said, “A baby is God’s opinion that the world should go on.” Christmas proclaims that no matter how dark the times, God has not given up on us. Seven centuries later, Matthew’s Gospel declares the final fulfillment of that promise. Jesus is not only descended from David—He is God-with-us, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary. God does not abandon His people. He enters their story.

Matthew draws our attention to St. Joseph, a quiet, faithful man placed in an impossible situation. Discovering Mary’s pregnancy, Joseph could have acted out of fear, anger, or strict legalism. Instead, he chose mercy. And when God spoke to him in a dream, Joseph obeyed—promptly, silently, completely. Joseph trusted when Ahaz did not. Joseph relied on God, not on schemes. Joseph teaches us that righteousness is not loud or dramatic—it is faithful obedience. How often are we tempted, like Ahaz, to live as though God is not really with us? Christmas reminds us that even in uncertainty, God is present and at work.

There is a story of a little boy who wanted to buy a crippled puppy that a shop owner considered worthless. When told the dog would be put to sleep, the boy lifted his pant legs, revealing his own braces, and said, “Mister, you don’t know what love can do.” That is the Gospel. Jesus has worn our braces. He has carried our weakness. He has died our death—so that we might live.

Four days before Christmas, we are here because we trust—despite financial stress, family struggles, health concerns, and uncertainty. Like Joseph, let us listen to God in prayer and Scripture, and rely not on our own plans but on His mercy.

Let Emmanuel change us—and the world. If God is with us, why so much brokenness? Because God waits for entry. Christ still longs to enter our hearts, to transform bitterness into mercy, fear into compassion, and indifference into love.

What gift do we give Jesus this Christmas? More than anything else, He desires a heart filled with love, mercy, forgiveness, and compassion. That is what we need most—and what God longs to give.

### Christmas and New Year Mass Schedule

#### *Christmas Eve:*

Wednesday Dec 24th, 5:00 pm

#### *Christmas Day:*

Thursday Dec 25th, 10:00 am & 11:30 am

#### *New Year's Eve:*

Wednesday Dec 31st, 5:00 pm

#### *New Year's Day:*

Thursday Jan 1st 2026, 10:00 am

**First Friday Jan 2nd 2026, 9:00am**

***Eucharistic Adoration closing with Benediction 10:15am***



## Mass Intentions

**Saturday 20th December - 5:00pm**

†Adele Capirchio (1 Yr Anniversary) Requested by Victor Capirchio

†Ida & †Luigi Giorno Requested by the Mazzucco Family

**Sunday 21st December 2025**

**10:00am**

†Bonnie Ginko, † Michelle Miziolik, & †Adam Miasik

Requested by the Doplaga Family

**11:30am**

†Stefan Romanowski Requested by Gillian Hortareas

**Tuesday 23rd December**

Special Intentions of Anna Ondretti Requested by the Colevecchia Family

**Wednesday 24th December Nativity of our Lord (Vigil Mass):**

**5:00 pm**

**Thursday 25th December - Nativity of our Lord**

**10:00am**

Pat & Lisa Perl, and Intentions of the Perl Family  
Special Intentions of the Walsh Family

**11:30am**

Deceased Family & Friends of the Cioffi Family

**Friday 26th December - 9:00am**

Deceased Family & Friends of the Offi Family

## Sanctuary Candles



**Sacred Heart:** † Bob Kennedy Requested by The Kennedy Family

**Sanctuary:** McNamara Family Intentions

**St. Joseph:** † Steve Castrucci Requested by Kerry

## *Christmas Greetings*

Dear Friends,

At Christmas, God enters our world quietly—as a child, wrapped in love, laid in a manger. In that humble moment, heaven touches earth, and hope is reborn for all of us.



No matter what this year has held—joys or struggles, hopes fulfilled or hearts still waiting—Christ comes to meet us where we are. He comes to bring peace to our worries, light to our darkness, and new life to our faith.

May the newborn Jesus fill your homes with His gentle presence, your families with love, and your hearts with lasting peace. Let us carry the light of Bethlehem into our parish and beyond, becoming signs of God's tenderness to everyone we meet.

**Wishing you a blessed and joy-filled Christmas and a New Year filled with faith, hope, and peace.**  
With prayers and gratitude,

*Fr. Biju Kannampuzha CMI, Pastor*

## Our Lady of Peace Little Gift Shoppe!

Looking for something special?



We have rosaries, miraculous medals, baptismal garments, First Holy Communion & Confirmation Cards and lots of adorable religious treasures!—all lovingly blessed by Fr. Biju. Come have a look!

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

## *Children's Liturgy*

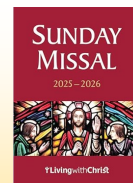
**11:30 AM Mass on Sundays**

Liturgy of the Word with Children is adapted to be relevant to the lives of young children (5-8 years)

**Parents, Please bring your children to the Parish Hall**

**BEFORE Mass**

**THERE WILL BE NO LITURGY ON SUNDAY DEC 28TH due to Christmas/ New Year's break. Liturgy will resume on Jan 4th 2026**



The 2025-2026 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.



## 2026 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Offertory Envelopes for the year 2026 are conveniently placed on the table at the rear of the church. Upon collecting your 2026 envelopes, please complete the card sticking out from the box, furnishing your full name, address, telephone number, and email address and leave it in the container provided. **To prevent any confusion, kindly refrain from using the 2026 envelopes until the beginning of the New Year.**

Take a moment to inscribe your name and address on the envelopes for the initial weeks of 2026, offering an additional way to verify your contact details. We encourage you to include the donation amount on your envelope, providing valuable assistance to the counters. If you currently do not use donation envelopes, we urge you to consider adopting them or explore the option of enrolling in a monthly-preauthorized giving plan. (PAG) Both approaches contribute to the financial stability of your parish while ensuring you receive a beneficial tax receipt annually. Your ongoing support is deeply appreciated. Thank you!



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