

## Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary time

November 19, 2023



# ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

## MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2023 (5:00 PM)

Prov 31:10-13,19-20,30-31 | Ps 128:1-5 | 1Thes 5:1-6 | Matthew 25:14-30



†Stella & Alberto Severin

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023 (9:00 AM) [\[Click Here for Livestream\]](#)

†Alan Sr. & Alan Jr. del Puerto

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023 (11:00 AM)

For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2023

1Maccabees 1:10-15,41-43,54-57,62-63 | Psalm 3:2-7 | 1John 4:10b

NO MASS

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2023 (7:00 PM)

2Maccabees 6:18-31 | Psalm 34:2-3, 16-19 | Luke 17:7-10

†Mario & Caterina Fietta

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2023 (9:00 AM)

2Maccabees 7:1, 20-31 | Psalm 17:1bcd,5-6,8b,15 | Luke 19:11-28

†John David Keyser and Special intention of Clay Appleton

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2023 (9:00 AM)

1Maccabees 2:15-29 | Psalm 50:1b-2,5-6,14-15 | Luke 19:41-44

Special intention of Annamaria Piraino

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2023 (9:00 AM)

1Maccabees 4:36-37,52-59 | Psalm 1Chr 29:10bcd-12abcd | Luke 19:45-48

†Larry Ward

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2023 (9:00 AM)

1Maccabees 6:1-13 | Psalm 9:2-4,6,16,19 | Luke 20:27-40

†Charles Cerar, †Anselm Rodrigues, †Luciano Luigi Pasut and  
Special intention of Carmela Vassallo

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wed. & Thurs. 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Friday 9:30 am to 12:00 noon

## DAILY DEVOTIONS

(after Mass)

Tuesday – Sts. Anne & Joachim

Wed. – Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Thursday - St. Jude

Friday – Sacred Heart of Jesus

Saturday – St. Michael

Confessions: Sat. 9:30 to 10:30 am

## Support Your Parish:

1. Drop off or mail your regular weekly offertory contribution to the parish office.
2. Contribute to your parish offertory by credit card. You can make a one time or recurring contribution to your parish's offertory or other special funds.
3. Contribute through Pre-Authorized giving (PAG). You can obtain a form from the parish office or [click here](#) to download the form.
4. You can contribute to the offertory via on-line banking. Email [campaign@archtoronto.org](mailto:campaign@archtoronto.org)

## PASTOR'S BLOG

So I was struggling with what to write in this blog. I have a lot of mileage still left on the pilgrimage experience but I hear it's always good to keep the reader waiting for more. That and I need to save those spiritual experiences for homilies! In the dryness of ideas, I asked for suggestions from Adriene and Sam. In their youthful creativity, they provided me with topics on which I was able to write this blog (and next weeks) for your reading pleasure. Enjoy responsibly!

### **Idea 1: Samantha - "Why don't you write about a day in the life of Father Michael?"**

Samantha, that is a great idea. The last time I did one of these was way back in the COVID times. I choose not to re-read them because they would probably give me some form of PTSD. Now that I have settled into the rectory after the 8 month renovation last year, my usual day begins at 5:15am. Early bird gets the worm! By 5:30am, I am in the rectory chapel (St. Joseph's Chapel) for my morning meditation and breviary. This Holy Hour at the start of my day sets the day in the right course. From thanking God to listening to His Word in Sacred Scripture and meditating on that word for my personal and pastoral life is THE MOST important thing I can do for you and me. It's my lifeline, oxygen mask... time with Jesus is the best time of the day. Not a day goes by without this start.

After my Holy Hour, I shift gears to my workout. From Spiritual Exercises to Physical Exercises, a priest's tale! I grab an espresso, have my pre-workout beverage and prepare my intra-workout beverage and then go workout. This consists of weights, high intensity interval training (HIIT), walking and jogging. I have a pretty good plan in place that balances all of these methods of training. After my workout, I prepare my protein smoothie and then get ready for Mass.

After Mass and Benediction, well that's when the adventure of the day begins. From meetings to preparing homilies/talks/presentations, the day is pretty full. It is never a dull moment and keeps me on my feet. I joke around with people that on Sunday when I take off for my parents place, everything is in order. On Tuesday when I return to the office, everything is still pretty much in order. By Wednesday, there are fires everywhere that need to be put out. The Lord is good in all his ways and certainly knows how to keep me rooted in Him.

By 9pm, my last meeting is usually finished and then I unwind with a book (currently reading the late Cardinal Pell's prison journal) or watch something on TV. Who says priests only work one day a week?

### **Initial Idea: Fr Michael wanting to advertise for the Advent Retreat**

At the beginning of the month of November we celebrated the great feast of All Saints. One of those talks and presentations that I needed to prepare was for the CWL Peel Region Fall Recollection. The topic that I spoke about was the saints. In the book I was reading to prepare for the talk, it states, "Just as we aspire to be 'physically fit' and do all in our power to be so, the Saints are known to be 'spiritually fit.'" (What you should know about the Saints by Charlene Altemose, MSC)

It goes on to use this analogy of spiritual fitness to describe common characteristics of Saints like maintaining balance, priorities, diets etc... Effectively, if we are seriously living our Christian life and answering the universal call to holiness and desiring to be a saint, then we need to have a spiritual life that is more than just rolling along with no intention and no awareness. Hence, we invite you to join us for our Advent Retreat entitled "Lord, Teach us to Pray" with Dr. Josephine Lombardi. From those who have listened to her before, read her books or watched her movies, she is an incredible faith filled woman. She taught me in the seminary and they were classes that we looked forward to because they were engaging and insightful.

Adriene, Sam and I are praying that many of you will open your heart to this retreat. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. If you are afraid to go alone, invite a friend!

Next week, I will continue to plug the retreat as our registration closes on Wednesday November 29th but blog about Adriene's idea. From no idea to 1000 words I figured it best to break it up! LOL and it keeps the reader wanting more!

Fr Michael

## CHOIR

Join rehearsals from 7:30 PM to 8:00 PM on Wednesdays to rehearse for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses. Your commitment would be greatly appreciated for the several rehearsal nights and Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses the Choir sings at.

Email Jeff Glover at [jglover@archtoronto.org](mailto:jglover@archtoronto.org), or see him after the 5 PM Mass on Saturdays or 11 AM Mass on Sundays or leave a message at the parish office.

## THE SHEPHERDS' TRUST COLLECTION - THIS WEEKEND NOVEMBER 18/19

Envelopes available at the Church entrances.  
Please make cheques payable to St. Mary Star of the Sea.

The mission of The Shepherds' Trust is to help ensure that elderly and disabled priests are provided with sufficient financial resources to lead a dignified life after many years of ministry. Your generous gift will help our priests to maintain a modest but active and independent lifestyle in their retirement years. For priests who are ill or otherwise infirm, the Trust ensures they have access to nursing home facilities and medical care.

Thank you for your support of this important work.

## SSVP BUNDLE UP AND CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN

Thank you to our parishioners for your generous response in helping to fill the truck last weekend. We are also grateful to those who used the special SSVP Christmas envelopes last weekend. If you have not given, any donations towards our work will help us assist families at Christmas and throughout the year.

## CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

The Catholic Women's League is asking our parishioners for donations of new hats and gloves which will be given to women at Elisa House, a shelter for Women. The CWL gifts the women with over 25 care items that are delivered to the women for Christmas. The collection of hats and gloves will take place after each Mass on the weekend of November 18 and 19<sup>th</sup>.

Your generosity is much appreciated.

## CHRISTMAS CRAFT SALE – DECEMBER 2 & 3 FOLLOWING ALL WEEKEND MASSES

St. Mary Star of the Sea Craft Group has a wide variety of hand made "crafty" items offered for sale including Christmas, Baby layettes and blankets, Children's sweaters, hats and mitts, Adult knitted hats and scarves as well as a wide range of household gift items, and much more. There is something for everyone.

For more information, contact Anne at 905-891-1230.

## LEGION OF MARY BOOK BORROW – NEXT WEEKEND SUNDAY, NOVEMBER. 26

The Legion of Mary will have their monthly book borrow after the 9:00 and 11:00 am Masses next Sunday, November 26. Feel free to browse or borrow a book.

Kindly return any books you may have previously loaned.

## SSVP HELPLINE

**For assistance, please call  
647-648-2058**

Leave your name, number and a brief message and someone will get back to you at the earliest.

## THIS WEEK'S VOTIVE LAMP DEDICATIONS

### TABERNACLE

For all Souls

### SACRED HEART OF JESUS

For all Souls

### OUR BLESSED MOTHER

For all Souls

### ST. JOSEPH

For all Souls

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Registration for the sacrament of Confirmation is open. Please visit this link to register:

<https://stmarystarofthesea.ca/sacraments>

**Registrations close on Sunday, December 3rd.**

If you have any questions or would like more information please reach out to Samantha .

## SHARELIFE

### YOUR LOVE PUTS FOOD ON THE TABLE

Your year-end gift will double in value! From now until December 31, your contribution to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be matched up to \$500,000.

Through your unwavering support for ShareLife and its Food Security Grants, you ensure families can access meal programs and food banks throughout our archdiocese.

"We are so grateful ShareLife supporters are providing emergency funds to relieve the immediate challenges of families and individuals experiencing hunger," says Louise Coutu, Executive Director of the SSVP Greater Toronto Central Council.

Our parish has currently raised **\$90,469 (72%)** toward our goal of **\$125,000**.

Double the impact of your kindness by giving at the parish with a ShareLife envelope or anytime at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate)

Thank you for your generosity!

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**VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE**

Connect with us online! Scan the QR code to visit our parish website. If you are new to the parish, welcome! Register on the website.



# ADVENT RETREAT 2023

Please join us for our parish Advent retreat led by Dr. Josephine Lombardi from 9am to 2pm. The day will include a time for reflection, small group discussion, and fellowship. Lunch will be provided. Registration is required as we will be providing lunch, please fill out this form and return it to a parish staff member

Please note, there is no cost for the retreat however donations are welcome to cover the onset costs of the retreat.

Registration will close on Wednesday, November 29th.

Name:

Last Name:

Phone Number:

Email:

Dietary Restrictions/Allergies: