

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 9, 2025



ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

MASS INTENTIONS

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2025 (5:00 PM)



†Denzil & Paul Alley

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025 (9:00 AM)

†Giuseppe Di Lena & Catherina Cuzzetto

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025 (11:00 AM)

For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2025

NO MASS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025 (7:00 PM)

†Joseph, Teresa and Clinton Vaz Corera

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2025 (9:00 AM)

†Mathri Paul Thannikkotu and Special intentions of
Susanna Caldwell

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2025 (9:00 AM)

†Assunta De Jacolyn

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2025 (9:00 AM)

Special intentions of Mela de Cuna

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2025 (9:00 AM)

†Alberto & Stella Severin, †Giuseppe Di Lena & Catherina
Cuzzetto and Special intentions of Bern Wilson

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wed & Thurs - 9:30 am to 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

PASTOR'S BLOG

Last week I made mention of Fr Timothy Mikhail moving in as a resident here at St. Mary's. Over the past week, some of you have had a chance to meet him and talk with him. As I have been getting to know him over meals in the rectory, I figured (he agreed) that we could use this blog to let him introduce himself to you. So...here is Fr Timothy:

Hello and a blessed Sunday to you all!

My name is Fr. Timothy Mikhail, a priest of the Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, a self-governing Eastern Church in full communion within the Catholic Church. As of this past week, I have begun to live in residence here at St. Mary Star of the Sea parish, and I am so thankful to Fr. Michael, the staff, and parishioners who have thus far welcomed me with open arms!

Born and raised in the west end of Mississauga, I went to Divine Mercy elementary school, St. Aloysius Gonzaga high-school and later studied Eastern Christian theology at Sherbrooke University. After a brief time serving as a chaplain in the Canadian Armed Forces, I completed my Teacher's College studies at Niagara University; after which I taught in local schools for a while. In the summers, I worked in Mennonite woodshops. In 2015 I entered into the full communion of the Catholic Faith as an Eastern Catholic and in 2017 I completed my philosophy studies at St. Philip Neri Seminary in Parkdale, Toronto.

As I went out for a walk by the harbour the other day, I reminisced how more times than I could count, I had walked that same pier by Snug Harbour restaurant, not knowing what God had in store for me, years later! Who would have thought that I would be in residence and serving the beautiful little church of St. Mary Star of the Sea, which is truly a lighthouse of hope and a harbour of refuge for the Port Credit area. After I had recently entered into the Catholic Church, I had a profound experience of God's merciful love in the sacrament of reconciliation at Star of the Sea when a Salesian priest from the US was visiting and hearing confessions that summer day. It also planted one of the many seeds inspiring my vocation to the priesthood.

As our Melkite community in Mississauga and surrounding regions is slowly but surely growing, my bishop Milad has tasked me with caring for the spiritual and liturgical needs of our parishioners here in the city. Being in residence at St. Mary's will help us accomplish that mission. We are currently celebrating the Eucharist at St. Ambrose parish in Etobicoke at 5pm on Sundays. You are all more than welcome to visit us one Sunday and join us in prayer. Besides chanting our liturgical hymns, I enjoy attempting to play new instruments and learn new languages, working out, hiking, walking; as well as cycling and travelling to new places. I am truly looking forward to meeting you and getting to know you all one by one! May our Lady protect you.

Fr. Timothy

Thanks Father! Unfortunately, we won't get to see him too often on the weekends when he is serving his community; but, during the week he will be around.

Please continue to keep him (and us) in your prayers. His ordination prayer cards are at the exits of the Church. Please pick one up to remind you to pray for him.

Fr Michael

SSVP – AN OVERVIEW OF OUR WORK IN THE GTA

For 175 years, members of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul have been assisting Neighbours in Need in Toronto. The Greater Toronto Central Council consists of 114 Conferences (our group in St. Mary's is a Conference) attached to 11 Particular Councils, covering the Greater Toronto Area. Within these Conferences we have 1,400 Vincentians making 30,000 visits to Neighbours in Need each year. Imagine, 1,400 Vincentians out in pairs, on any given day or evening, bringing material aid, hope and friendship to persons in need in their local communities. Thank you for supporting our ministry by your giving ministry.

SSVP TAX RECEIPTS

The 2024 charitable tax receipts for donations to the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul of \$20 and over were mailed this past week. Tax receipts for donations less than \$20 are available upon request. If you are expecting a receipt and do not receive one, please leave a message at 647-628-2058 and someone will get back to you.

How to Donate to SSVP

You can use one of the SSVP envelopes found on the poor boxes or a regular envelope marked SSVP.

To donate online through Canada Helps, please visit <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/>, and search for "Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, St. Mary Star of the Sea Conference" or use the QR Code (also found on the poor boxes):



To donate by Interac e-Transfer, please direct your donation to the email stmarystar@ssvptoronto.ca, and use the Question 'Saint' and password 'Vincent'. Your ongoing generosity means the world to us. Thank you all for your support.

2024 TAX RECEIPTS

Tax Receipts for your 2024 donations to the Church are being processed and you should receive it in the mail on or before February 17, 2025.

THIS WEEK'S VOTIVE LAMP DEDICATIONS

TABERNACLE

In loving memory of Beniamino Iavicoli
In loving memory of Beniamino Iavicoli

SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Special intentions of Tessie Tesoro
In thanksgiving

BLESSED MOTHER

Special intentions of Louise Wilson
For the souls in purgatory

ST. JOSEPH

In thanksgiving

SSVP HELPLINE

**For assistance, please call:
647-628-2058**

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

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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.



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ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA YOUTH
MINISTRY SECOND ANNUAL

Pancake Sunday



FUNDRAISER

Flip for a Cause!

Sunday
March 2nd
(following all Masses)



**All proceeds will be going directly to the St. Mary
Star of the Sea Camp Stella Maris**



**Message for Marriage Sunday
7 February 2025
His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo
Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto**

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May Jesus and Mary be in your souls.

I am writing you in anticipation of *Marriage Sunday* which we will be celebrating on the weekend of February 8/9, 2025. Our annual celebration affords us the opportunity to not only reflect on the sacrament of marriage but also pray for couples, young and old, who have responded positively to the vocation of holy matrimony. We also remember those who are discerning marriage, those preparing to enter into this life-long calling, those who lead and accompany the preparation, those who are experiencing difficulties, and those who have experienced the loss of a spouse. I am grateful to all couples for their fidelity and witness to God's love in the world.

Marriage is first and foremost a gift from God (1Cor. 7:7). With this simple yet profound truth we recognize that it is far from being a mere impulse of nature, but a supernatural reality and one in which we see God's providential and life-giving plan for us. Pope Francis described marriage as "a precious sign, for 'when a man and a woman celebrate the sacrament of marriage, God is, as it were, 'mirrored' in them; he impresses in them his own features and the indelible character of his love. Marriage is the icon of God's love for us" (*Amoris Laetitia*, 121).

During this Jubilee Holy Year, Our Holy Father has asked us to consider what it means to be *Pilgrims of Hope* – men and women who are called to not only *live in hope* but *be signs of hope*. In the very fabric of marriage, we have a tangible sign of hope; namely the bond that is created between the couple. The sacramental bond, characterized by fidelity and permanence, is a symbol of the union between God and humanity. God is always faithful; his love is unconditional, generative and unchanging. Our hope is based in the certainty that nothing and no one will ever separate us from the love of God (cf. *Spes Non Confundit*, 3). Further, St. Paul compares the relationship between husbands and wives, to the relationship between Christ and the Church. Christ loves the Church so deeply that He gave Himself up for her, and this love is mirrored in the sacrificial, self-giving love that spouses are called to live out (cf. Eph. 5:25-32). Whether it is the Father's fidelity or Christ's sacrificial love, both are mirrored in marriage and serve as signs of hope interwoven by the grace of the Holy Spirit.



To those who have experienced the pain of a broken relationship or the loss of a spouse, know that you are close to my heart and in my prayers. You are not alone. There are programs and ministries available throughout the archdiocese to help those men and women who have endured these challenges and moments of great suffering. I hope that these resources will assist in accompanying those who have faced many difficult times, offering hope and light through the darkness.

As part of our Marriage Sunday 2025 celebrations, Bishop Ivan Camilleri will preside over a special Holy Eucharist to honour married couples, with special recognition for those celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+ wedding anniversaries during the course of 2025. The Mass will take place at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, 9 February 2025, at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica. All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their marriage commitment.

In closing, I would like to restate my sincere gratitude and esteem for all married couples throughout the archdiocese. I would also like to express my deep appreciation for all those who are engaged in marriage preparation and marriage enrichment programs throughout our archdiocese, and for all those who, in one way or another, provide ongoing support, inspiration, encouragement and hope to married couples. Your ecclesial service truly helps to foster healthy relationships and strong families infused with faith and commitment, so desperately needed in our day.

May the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph intercede bountiful blessings from the Lord upon you and keep you safe in his grace.