

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 16, 2025



# ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2025 (5:00 PM)



For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025 (9:00 AM)

†Alan Sr & Alan Jr Del Puerto

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025 (11:00 AM)

†Giovanni (John) De Zen

MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025

NO MASS

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025 (7:00 PM)

†Lourdes Blas Manankil

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2025 (9:00 AM)

†Alberto & Stella Severin, †Jean Greco and Special intentions of Pope Francis and Vincent & Maria Ghisleni

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2025 (9:00 AM)

Special intentions of Steve Pereira

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2025 (9:00 AM) STATIONS OF THE CROSS 7 PM

Special intentions of Susanna Caldwell

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025 (9:00 AM)

Special intentions of Pope Francis, Mitchell Graham and Bern Wilson

### EUCARISTIC 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](mailto:campaign@archtoronto.org)

## SHARELIFE SUNDAY - MARCH 30, 2025

Our 2025 parish goal is \$110,000

**Through your support of ShareLife, you extend the hands of Christ to those in need:** the poor, the vulnerable, and the marginalized in our community. Because you care, more than 40 agencies provide strength to people of all ages in their weakest moments. You've been there for young parents as they worried about their next meal, isolated seniors yearning for companionship, teenagers seeking guidance in a confusing world, refugees longing to rebuild their lives, and people with special needs striving for dignity and acceptance. Thank you for living the Gospel through your compassion.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope or at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate).

## SSVP – TURNING DEBT INTO HOPE

As you are probably aware, Pope Francis has declared this year a year of Jubilee, with the theme, Pilgrims of Hope. We who believe in Jesus are called to bring hope to the world. The origin of the tradition of jubilee comes from Leviticus (ch. 25). God told Moses that every fiftieth year was to be set aside for the return of the absent members to their households, the restoration of land to its owners, the release of slaves, and the forgiveness of debts.

In his invitation letter to mark the 2025 Jubilee, Spes Non Confundit ("Hope does not disappoint", Rom 5:5), Pope Francis reminds us that "hope should be granted to the billions of the poor who often lack the essentials of life" and that "the goods of the Earth are not destined for a privileged few but for everyone." Inspired by this profound call to justice, Caritas Internationalis, together with faith-based and civil society organizations, invites all people of goodwill to join our campaign, Turn Debt into Hope. Together, we urge decision-makers to prioritize people and planet over mere profit. Unsustainable and unjust public debt strips nations of the resources needed to invest in health, education, climate action and the futures of their young people, locking entire generations into cycles of poverty and inequality. This compels us to demand debt justice for communities crushed by unjust and unpayable debts.

As members of Saint Vincent de Paul who work with the poor in our community, we stand in solidarity with those who work to end poverty in our world. We encourage all parishioners to sign the petition found on the Development and Peace or Caritas website, calling on public, private and multilateral creditors, as well as political leaders, to act with courage and compassion in dealing with unjust and unsustainable debts. <https://devp.org/en/campaign/turn-debt-into-hope/act-debt-2025/>

### 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.

To donate by Interac e-Transfer, please direct your donation to the email

[stmarystar@ssvptoronto.ca](mailto: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.



## 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.



## I love my Catholic Moms Group.com

LOVE. LAUGHTER. MOMENTS OF GRACE.

Calling all moms! Join us for our next Mothers group meeting:

Thursday March 20th at 7:30

St Joseph's room.

Topic: "Growing closer to God as a family takes time"  
Come and be part of a supportive community of women and grow deeper in your faith as a mom, wife and daughter.

Email us your questions and suggestions and to be added to our email notifications.

staroftheseacatholicmomsgroup@gmail.com

Regular meetings: 1st Saturday of the month @10 am and 3rd Thursday at 7:30pm.

## THIS WEEK'S VOTIVE LAMP DEDICATIONS

### TABERNACLE

Special intentions of Kathleen Lobo  
Special intentions of Eileen Lobo

### SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Special intentions of Ettore Binotto  
Special intentions of Ettore Binotto

### BLESSED MOTHER

Special intentions of Bianca Cavarzan  
Special intentions of Bianca Cavarzan

### ST. JOSEPH

In thanksgiving

## DEVELOPMENT & PEACE



**"Another heartfelt appeal that I would make... is directed to the more affluent nations. I ask that they acknowledge the gravity of so many of their past decisions and determine to *forgive the debts* of countries that will never be able to repay them. More than a question of generosity, this is a matter of justice."**

— Pope Francis (*Spes non confundit*, §16)

This year as part of the Jubilee 2025, we are called to be Pilgrims of Hope. Celebrated every 25 years, a Jubilee is a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation that invites us to come back into right relationships with God, with one another, and with all of Creation. This tradition is inspired by the biblical year of jubilee, a time when debts were cancelled, slaves were set free and the land was allowed to rest (Lev. 25, Deut. 15).

Development & Peace along with the bishops of Canada are responding to Pope Francis' call to join the Jubilee global Catholic campaign, Turn Debt into Hope by inviting us to sign a petition asking to:

- Cancel unjust and unsustainable debts
- Prevent further debt crises by tackling the root causes of indebtedness
- Establish a multilateral debt resolution mechanism within the United Nations.

Sign this petition at: [devp.org/debt](http://devp.org/debt).



**Providing post-abortion help and healing in a confidential and non-judgmental way**

Project Rachel at St. Mary's Refuge is offering a weekend retreat, May 2-4, 2025, for women who have been hurt by abortion. You can speak with someone who understands and cares, and have a chance to begin the healing from loss and grief.

Phone 289-691-6840,  
or e-mail [ProjectRachel@stmarysrefuge.org](mailto:ProjectRachel@stmarysrefuge.org).

## ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA PARISH

# ST. JOSEPH FEAST DAY FOOD DRIVE

**MARCH 15/16 AND 22/23 WEEKEND**

**All donations will be going directly to Canadian Food for Children**

### Most Needed Items:

Iodized Salt, canned fish and canned meat & soap bars



### DROP OFF LOCATION

11 Peter Street S, Mississauga, ON L5H 2G1  
Bins in front of the St. Joseph Statue in the Church

# SUMMER CAMP



ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA PARISH

**WEEK 1: JULY 7-11  
WEEK 2: JULY 21-25**

Join us for a summer of faith, friends and fun!

**DAILY MASS • CRAFTS • SPORTS & GAMES  
• OUTDOOR FUN!**

**JOIN US THIS  
SUMMER!**

Contact me for more  
information!

**REGISTRATION : \$150/CAMPER**

With discounts for siblings

**SCAMERON@ARCHTORONTO.ORG**

## PASTOR'S BLOG

### Errors and Omissions

It was pointed out to me that I made a mistake in last weeks blog. I fact checked and sure enough, I was wrong. It should be Blessed Carlo Acutis, not Carlos.

Also, it looks like the end of my blog was cut off. Here is the picture that captured my experience in Assisi:



## Florence

The best way to describe the next portion of the pilgrimage was a move from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance Period travelling from Assisi in the region of Umbria to Florence in the region of Tuscany. The connection between the two cities is St. Francis of Assisi and the Franciscan order who in their ministry came to help the poor in the city of Florence. Just think that as pilgrims we drove in a coach bus where St. Francis walked in cheaply made sandals or barefoot.

One of the blessings of being in Florence was my sister, Maria, joining us for our time in the city. It was a week off for her school in Brussels, so the timing was perfect. We walked from the coach bus drop off point to the market square in front of the Basilica of Santa Croce, one of the monumental Franciscan churches. We had some free time before we met our local guide, so Maria and I went for lunch to catch up. Following a delicious lunch, we walked over to one of the best gelato spots and for the first time I had an Affogato (origins in Florence) - espresso with gelato. (I went with pistachio gelato...cant go wrong LOL)

We then met up with our local guide and got an overview of the city's history. This was followed by a tour of the basilica. With an engineering background, it was fascinating to hear about the building, the style of architecture which I was not familiar with "Florentine Baroque" which softens the traditional Baroque style which was more common in that era. While in the basilica we also went to the tombs of two very important people, Galileo and Michelangelo.

As a priest with an engineering background, the story of Galileo is always one that interests me - he desired to be a loyal son of the Church and hold onto his scientific principles. Faith and science both seek the truth while asking different questions - never opposing one another but working together. The second person, Michelangelo, would be the person who would dominate the rest of my thoughts and prayers throughout the day. Because I am not an art history major I decided that before going on the pilgrimage and while on it, to learn more about him - historically and spiritually. Bishop Robert Barron named him one of his "Pivotal Players" and put together an hour long documentary on his life, so that was a good resource. While we did not get to see the sculpture "The David" (the museum is closed on Mondays) we would get to see many other pieces of art that he was commissioned for in Rome. It is with Michelangelo, his mentors and contemporaries that we see the shift in artwork from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance - a humanism that comes forth in his art - the form and structure of his sculptures that makes things come alive in a new way.

After our tour of the Basilica of Santa Croce, we went for a walking tour of the city learning more about its history and arrived at the *Duomo*, the Cathedral of Florence - Santa Maria del Fiore. Much of what we learned about this marvelous building and Cathedral was done on the outside especially staring up (Note: my neck hurt on this pilgrimage from looking up a lot...) and seeing the dome and the artwork on the outside.

Across from the Cathedral was the baptistery, that had its own beauty, especially with the intricate work of art done on the bronze doors.



When we had finished just standing, looking and listening to all that could be said about these beautiful buildings, we walked to the Basilica San Marco where we would offer Holy Mass. I was asked by one of the pilgrims how do I prepare a homily for a day like we had. We really do not have much time to sit down and prepare a homily with walking all day, listening to historical facts from local guides, anecdotes, and chatting with pilgrims. But the daily homily on pilgrimage is a good reminder that we are pilgrims, not tourists and everything that we see through the historical and geopolitical lens also has a spiritual lens which is important for our salvation. So the homily writes itself if you are paying attention to the Holy Spirit. In Florence at the Basilica of San Marco, it was clear to preach on the need for beauty. While Michelangelo and other artists like Giotto worked on their forms, "The David" being this perfect sculpture of a man - balanced, harmony, proportioned - it is only a glimpse of the beauty of God and how He creates and re-creates. We are his masterpiece and everyday he wants us to be transformed into Him.



This was only day 1 of Florence. Next week I will go into day 2 in Florence and our day in Siena.

### **Reminder - St. Joseph Food Drive**

By way of reminder, this weekend is the first weekend for our St. Joseph's Food Drive as we collect items for Canadian Food for Children (Dr. Simone's charity). Please see the poster in our email for items to bring. Thank you in advance for your contributions.

Fr Michael

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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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