

## TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 25, 2024



# ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

### MASS INTENTIONS



#### TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 2024 (5:00 PM)

Special intention of Jean Ropp

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2024 (9:00 AM)

†Alan Sr & Alan Jr Del Puerto

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2024 (11:00 AM)

For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2024

NO MASS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2024 (7:00 PM)

Special intentions of Laura Bodner

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2024 (9:00 AM)

†Bernard Fernandes and †Adela Ranis

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 2024 (9:00 AM)

Special intentions of Diya Lim & family

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2024 (9:00 AM)

Special intentions of John Sanchez and family

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 2024 (9:00 AM)

†Weena Lejarde and Special intentions of Silka Torres and family

### 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**

Well, it has been a few weeks since I last wrote to you in a pastors blog. The reason for that is well, not much is going on in the life of the pastor. But, given this weekend's readings I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all those who are living out their vocation to marriage in good times and bad, in sickness and in health. In these weeks, I have celebrated the anniversary of a couple celebrating 60years of marriage, and prayed with a couple who are celebrating 50years of marriage. In the midst of these milestones, we also remember all the couples who are just recently married and living out heroically their vows. This really is a true testament and witness to God's love in this crazy, chaotic world.

We know statistics about getting married these days...and the more tragic statistics about getting married in the Church. In times like these, it takes a great intention to swim up the stream and get married in the Church. Over the last few years, it has been a grace to see LPA Adriene and her fiancé Adrian live out this intentionality. And so, I figured, you have heard a lot about the feminine genius from Adriene...I would like to turn over to the masculine genius and let Adrian share about his journey and vocation to marriage.

## **LPA's Fiancee's Blog**

**Hello everyone!**

You're probably used to receiving reflections from Fr. Michael Simoes or wedding updates from your lovely LPA Adriene. But today, you're hearing from the other Adrian—the guy Adrian (Adriene's fiancé)! I'm honoured to have this opportunity, given by Fr. Michael, to share a bit of my own personal reflection as I prepare to enter into marriage, and share a part of my heart with you all during this exciting time!

**Twenty. More. Days.**

In just twenty days, Adriene and I will become husband and wife. It's surreal to think this is actually happening, and to be completely honest, it hasn't fully hit me yet! Maybe it's the whirlwind of wedding planning, preparing our future home, or just the busyness of work. But as the days go by, I am increasingly aware of the gravity of this decision, this union, and I am more and more affirmed that Adriene is truly my vocation.

As a young Catholic man, I, of course, contemplated Holy Orders and whether that was my vocation. My heart has always been drawn to serving Christ in any capacity—whether through youth ministry, music, hospitality at my local parish, or even being drawn to lend a helping hand to those I see in need. This desire to serve led me to seriously consider if the Lord was calling me to priesthood. At a different season in my life, I believed God was preparing me for this, a greater act of service to Him. Naturally, my thoughts turned to the priesthood. However, it soon became clear that He was, in fact, preparing me for the vocation I am so sure of now, the vocation of marriage, and more specifically, being married to Adriene.

Marriage and Holy Orders are both sacraments of service, each designed to reflect and extend Christ's love in unique ways. While Holy Orders calls a man to serve the Church through priestly ministry, marriage calls a man and a woman to serve each other, their family, and the broader community through the love they share. In marriage, a husband and wife enter into a covenant that

mirrors Christ's relationship with the Church. Just as a priest offers his life in service to the Church, spouses offer their lives to one another. This mutual self-giving is a living testament to the love of Christ, who laid down His life for His bride, the Church. In this way, marriage becomes a sacramental sign of God's love—not only for the couple but for the world.

As Adriene and I prepare to enter the sacrament of marriage, I find myself reflecting more and more on the feast day of our wedding, The Exaltation of the Cross, September 14<sup>th</sup>, and how the cross is the perfect example of sacrificial love and service, the perfect example of love poured out without reservation. The cross teaches me that true love is not about self-interest, but about giving oneself entirely for the good of the other. As I reflect on this in these final days before marriage, I am striving to imitate that same self-giving love and service within my own relationship. Just as Christ gave everything for His bride, the Church, I am called to give everything for my future wife—not just in these moments leading up to our wedding, but throughout all the years that follow, to serve her, to provide for her, to love her and honour her all the days of my life. This is the love that sustains a marriage, and I pray for the grace to live it out daily.

With that being said, As we prepare to begin this new chapter, I ask you to keep us in your prayers. Please pray for Adriene as she steps into her role as a wife, and for me as I embrace my role as a husband. May we both uplift each other and keep Christ at the center of our lives and our marriage. Your prayers mean the world to us as we embark on this journey together.

In Christ,

Adrian Gill

## THIS WEEK'S VOTIVE LAMP DEDICATIONS

### TABERNACLE

In thanksgiving  
For the souls In purgatory

### OUR BLESSED MOTHER

For those who have no one to pray for them  
For the souls in purgatory

### SACRED HEART OF JESUS

For those who have no one to pray for them  
For the souls in purgatory

### ST. JOSEPH

In Loving Memory of Weena Lejarde

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2025

If your child will be preparing to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation, First Communion or Confirmation next year, registration and enrolment will begin in the fall.

Mark your calendars! We are planning ahead and have set dates for the preparation programs. Please see the schedules attached. Note that there is a faith formation series for parents that are scheduled for the fall.

To receive more information about registration and updates, kindly fill out the forms on our parish website to join our emailing list. More information will be sent out in the fall.

For First Reconciliation/First Holy Communion: <https://stmarystarofthesea.ca/first-holy-communion>

For questions pertaining to First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion, contact Adriene at [aadona@archtoronto.org](mailto:aadona@archtoronto.org)

For Confirmation: <https://stmarystarofthesea.ca/confirmation> For questions pertaining to Confirmation, contact Samantha at [scameron@archtoronto.org](mailto:scameron@archtoronto.org) Please click [here](#) for the calendars.

## SHARELIFE

**Thus far we have raised \$53,572 (50%)  
toward our goal of \$108,000**

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope or online at [sharelife.org/donate](https://sharelife.org/donate). Thank you for your generosity.

## SSVP HELP LINE

**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

## MISSION COOPERATIVE PROGRAM COLLECTION

### THIS WEEKEND AUGUST 24/25

The Archdiocesan Mission Cooperative Program (MCP) plays an important role in connecting the parishes of the Archdiocese of Toronto with the Catholic Church in other parts of the world. Through this appeal, our local Catholic community learns about the mission works of the Church and will have the opportunity to offer their financial support. The Mandate of the MCP is to provide education for missionaries and food and medical aid for the poor. A second collection will be taken up at all the Masses, this weekend of August 24/25. Envelopes for this collection are placed at all the exits of the Church. Please make cheques payable to 'St. Mary Star of the Sea'. Thank you for your generosity! For more information about the mission, please see Fr Vigil's mission appeal from last weekend: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0K7hywvetAU>

### CWL Soap Drive

The CWL is doing a Soap drive for Dr. Simone of Canadian Food For Children. Soap is needed for the less fortunate people, not only does it keep oneself clean but helps curb the spread of diseases, provide proper hygiene and gives confidence when one is cleaned. We kindly request you to bring in your donations of ONLY soap bars on the weekend masses of September 7/8 & 14/15. Boxes will be left at the exits of the church where you can place your donations of soap bars.



Please watch your step...

# WE ARE OPEN

**WHILE FRONT STEPS ARE UNDER  
CONSTRUCTION**

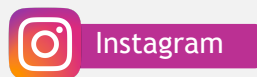
### ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA PARISH VISION

*The mission of the Church, following the Great Commission of our Lord to his apostles, is to make disciples, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

*Given that mission, the vision of St. Mary Star of the Sea parish is to invite the parish family to know and receive the love and fullness of life that is offered by Jesus Christ and to share His love and life with others as His disciples.*

### JOIN OUR PARISH FAMILY!

If you are new to our parish, welcome! Register on our website by scanning this code.





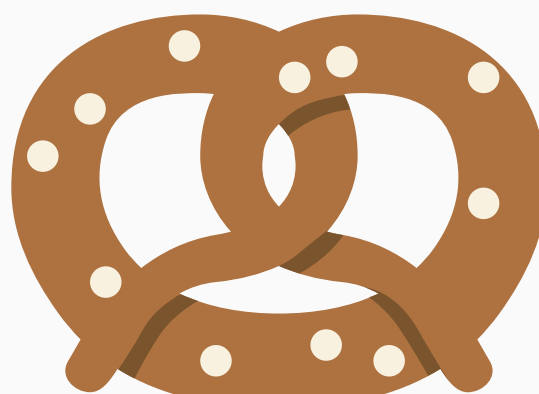
ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA PARISH  
Food | Fellowship | Fun!

# PARISH FAMILY POTLUCK

SUNDAY, SEP 29TH  
(following the 11am mass)



Please inform a parish staff member of what  
you plan to bring for the potluck





# FIRST ANNUAL BACKPACK DRIVE AND BACKPACK BLESSING!



## SEPTEMBER 28/29 WEEKEND

THIS YEAR ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA PARISH IS HOSTING A BACKPACK DRIVE TO PROVIDE BACKPACKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO STUDENTS AT OUR PARISH SCHOOLS! DONATED ITEMS CAN BE BROUGHT TO MASS THE WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 28/29TH TO BE BLESSED!

ALL YOUTH ARE WELCOME TO BRING THEIR OWN BACKPACKS TO BE BLESSED AS WELL!

### Requested Items:

- Pencils
- Black or blue pens
- compass
- protractor
- Small box of crayons and/or coloured pencils
- Notebooks
- Looseleaf paper
- highlighters
- 12" ruler
- pencil case
- and of couse a backpack!