

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary time  
September 17, 2023



# ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

### MASS INTENTIONS



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023 (5:00 PM)

Sirach 27:30—28:7 | Ps 103:1-4,9-12 | Romans 14:7-9 | Matthew 18:21-35

†Julietta Furtado

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 (9:00 AM) **No Livestream this Sunday**

†Alan Sr. & Alan Jr. del Puerto

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 (11:00 AM)

For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

1Timothy 2:1-8 | Psalm 28:2,7-9 | Luke 7:1-10

NO MASS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 (7:00 PM)

1Timothy 3:1-13 | Psalm 101:1b-2ab,2cd-3ab,5-6 | Luke 7:11-17

†Seraphim Vuksani

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 (9:00 AM)

1Timothy 3:14-16 | Psalm 111:1-6 | Luke 7:31-35

Special intentions of Gianni and Dolores Contarin and

†Steven Jajou

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 (9:00 AM) 11:28-30

Ephesians 4:1-7,11-13 | Psalm 19:2-5 | Matthew 9:9-13

†Lawrence Mulhall

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 (9:00 AM)

1Timothy 6:2c-12 | Psalm 100:1b-2,3-5 | Luke 8:1-3

†Greg Krull

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2023 (9:00 AM)

1Timothy 6:13-16 | Psalm 113:1b-2,3-7 | Luke 8:4-15

Healing for Josephine Cancilla and †Vincenzo Racco

### 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

On the weekend of September 23/24, we have quite a few of overlapping events taking place at St. Mary's. In the local community of the Archdiocese of Toronto, it is the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time where we reflect on Stewardship. This year will be different as you will get to hear Archbishop Leo speak about Stewardship and his reflection on this aspect of parish life. Stay tuned for next week's blog where I will post his pre-recorded homily and notes for your personal reflection. We will also be hosting, at the 11am Mass, the opening for this year's 40 Days for Life prayer vigil campaign. I would like to use this week's blog on my own journey with the pro-life movement and its importance for us as Christians.

I was very fortunate in my life to have good influences in those formative years to help me know right from wrong. Whether it be at home with my parents, at school with my teachers or my parish priests, they all informed me about what is good and what is evil. My mom would be the first to tell you, this was a series of fortunate events because it could have gone the other way very easily with bad influences that could have been in my life. And it is from this foundation that I get filled with zeal when I see injustice in the world: unjust wars, abortion and euthanasia. These are just a few of the things that really grind my gears. The so-called social encyclicals since Pope Leo XIII's *Rerum Novarum* are really eye-opening and give the principals of social justice that we need to uphold church teaching; but for me in my conversations, those listed above were the issues that were most pressing and spoken openly about.

It was in high school that I learned the art of speaking about these items. While I went to a Catholic School, not all my classmates were of the same mindset as I was. The art of pro-life apologetics was a tricky but not as polarizing as they are today. We could get into good debates about the issue and we would remain friends after them. I think one of the most memorable debates that I had was with a good friend, Catholic, was pro-life but the approach we had differed. He was of the mindset of grassroots, change one heart at a time, I was more we need a law to criminalize these actions. We gave each other food for thought and I know that influenced me in the best sense of the Catholic "both-and".

University, on the other hand, was a different ballgame. I encountered a lot more hostility when it came to the pro-life issues, but I also found like-minded individuals. We were able to support each other and learn from each other. Pro-Life apologetics was a lot more refined and articulated, going more into the science of development of life in the womb and for my scientific mind, it was logical and rational. I was able to move out of a "this is what the Church teaches" mindset to a "science backed" argument which is much more credible in the university landscape. It was in this phase of my life that I began to get "out on the streets" for the pro-life movement with prayer vigils like "Life Chain" and the "March for Life".

When I entered into the seminary and subsequently became a priest, all of my past experiences and growth played a pivotal role in how I was to be a priest who promoted justice, supporting the woman in front of me who was in a "crisis pregnancy", helping fathers to understand their role as fathers and protect life when they are afraid of the consequences, being an instrument of God's mercy and forgiveness in the Sacrament of Confession, supporting the local pro-life causes and most importantly prayers for the conversion of hardened hearts. Pastorally speaking, this is what we are called to do as a Church. It is more than just politics, it is more than just a culture war, it is about an encounter with a person and being Christ to them, wherever they are at. It is not a popular position to have, but it is the one that will bring souls to Christ and to let Him do the work of healing.

I look forward to having the Opening Mass for the 40 days for life prayer vigil. May we all have that conversion of hearts to see the person in front of us, wherever they are at, and to love them as Christ loves us.

Fr Michael Simoes

## SHARELIFE

Many of our brothers and sisters grapple with the daily challenge of putting food on the table. In response to their urgent need, ShareLife has launched the Food Security Grants – dedicating over half a million dollars to combat hunger. Your compassionate support of our parish's ShareLife Campaign will make possible this bold action.

We have currently raised **\$87,410 (69.9%)** towards our suggested goal of **\$125,000**

Please support our fight against hunger at [sharelife.org/donate](https://sharelife.org/donate) or by giving at the parish with a ShareLife envelope. Thank you for heeding the Lord's call to feed the hungry in our community and beyond.

## SSVP – AUGUST SUMMARY

Calls for help have increased this year, and in August, our members made 38 visits, distributing \$3700 in gift cards and \$217 in bus tickets. We inform our Neighbours in Need that what we give is due to your generosity. We also encourage them to use the services of the Compass. Thank you for helping us.

## THIS WEEK'S VOTIVE LAMP DEDICATIONS

### TABERNACLE

In Thanksgiving  
For the Souls in Purgatory

### SACRED HEART OF JESUS

In Thanksgiving  
For the Souls in Purgatory

### OUR BLESSED MOTHER

In thanksgiving  
For the souls in purgatory

### ST. JOSEPH

In thanksgiving

## NEEDS OF THE CHURCH IN CANADA SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND SEPTEMBER 23/24

There will be a second collection next weekend for the Needs of the Church in Canada. Envelopes are available at all the entrances of the Church. Your gifts are used by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops to represent Canadian Catholics in national and international pastoral activity.

Thank you for your support of this important work.

## CELEBRATION OF THE SOLEMNITY OF ST. MICHAEL & CONFERRAL OF THE PALLIUM UPON THE MOST REV. FRANCIS LEO

**Friday, September 29, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.**  
**St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica**

The Archdiocese of Toronto celebrates the feast day of our archdiocesan patron, St. Michael, on Friday, September 29, 2023. All are welcome to join in a special celebration on that day at 5:30 p.m. at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond St.). Archbishop Francis Leo will celebrate Mass, with music from the world-renowned St. Michael's Choir School. As part of the celebration, the Apostolic Nuncio to Canada, the Most Rev. Ivan Jurkovič will confer the pallium on our archbishop, a symbol of his role as Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto and shepherd to the faithful.

Following Mass, there will be an informal reception with light refreshments in the St. Michael's Cathedral atrium and courtyard. Seating will be first come, first served. All are welcome to join in this special celebration for our archdiocese and archbishop!

## SSVP EHLPLINE

**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.



# Sacramental Preparation Update



## **First Reconciliation/First holy communion**

We will be hosting a Parents Information Session at the parish for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion on **Saturday, September 30th at 11am**. Please see the parish website for details and to confirm your attendance using the online form.

## **Confirmation**

We will be hosting a Parents Information Session at the parish for the sacrament of Confirmation on **Wednesday, October 4th at 7pm**. Please see the parish website or Instagram for details.

## **40 DAYS FOR LIFE**

40 Days for Life, takes place between Sept. 27th and Nov. 5th, each day from 7:00 am - 7:00 pm. Please join with 589 cities worldwide including 18 cities in Canada for a peaceful prayer vigil for pre-born children, on-site near the Mississauga abortion facility. 40 Days for Life Opening Mass will be held at St. Mary Star of the Sea on Sunday September 24th at 11:00 am. For more information go to the Right to Life Mississauga & Area website [www.righttolifemb.com/40daysforlife/](http://www.righttolifemb.com/40daysforlife/).

## **LIFE CHAIN**

On Sunday Oct. 1, Respect Life Sunday, the annual national Life Chain will also be taking place, in front of parishes and at key intersections in Mississauga & Brampton uniting with 300 sites across Canada to pray for our pre-born children, elderly and infirm. For more information, go to the Right to Life Mississauga & Area website

[www.righttolifemb.com/life-chain/](http://www.righttolifemb.com/life-chain/).

## **FOLLOW**

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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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