

## TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025



# ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

## MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2025 (5:00 PM)



Special intentions of Marilyn Fernandes

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025 (9:00 AM)

†Alan Sr & Alan Jr Del Puerto

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025 (11:00 AM)

For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

NO MASS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2025 (7:00 PM)

†Horace & Shirley Crage

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025 (9:00 AM)

†Benaimino Iavicoli and Claudette Faucher, Pushpa Lobo, Ann Fernandes and Louise & Bern Wilson

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2025 (9:00 AM)

Special intentions of Pushpa Lobo

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2025 (9:00 AM)

Special intentions of Ann Fernandes

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025 (9:00 AM)

†Susan Appelhof and Special intentions of Pushpa Lobo and Pat Fisher

## 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)

## PASTOR'S BLOG

*Tempus Fugit!* Time flies! It is unbelievable how fast summer came and went. Now we are into September, many of you have returned from vacation, children are back to school and we at St. Mary's begin a new pastoral year. So, what I would like to do in this blog is recap what happened in August and then we can look forward to what is happening in September.

### **Looking Back**

*Ferragosto* - The Roman Holiday. I think the pilgrimage to Italy effected me a lot, so much so that I did what most Italians do during the first few weeks of August and that is take a vacation! Honestly, one of the best vacations that I have had in a long time. And I did absolutely nothing. I watched the world turn, I read my summer book, I ate great food prepared by my brother priests and had great conversations about life, faith and ministry as priests. I could not have asked for a better more relaxing time away. And while it was super hot with a fire ban on, being by the water and jumping in for a cool down did the trick.

The tough part about any vacation is you have to come back to the work reality. Going away for a week usually leaves me with a return week of appointments, and this year was not any different. But, through those appointments, I had something else to look forward to and that was EdgeCamp, an overnight camp for children in middle school. 250 children, teen leaders, youth ministers and adults gathered for 5 days of faith and fun. Going up for the full week makes a big difference because the children get to see me, know me and I get to share the faith with them in unexpected ways. I will let Sam share her highlights next week, but I will share a few:

### **Confessions**

On Monday and Tuesday, we had about 4 priests hearing confessions from after breakfast to before supper. What an amazing time of grace for the children to encounter the mercy of God. I am hearing confessions, so I am not able to say anything. But just seeing the joy in the children's faces after unburdening themselves to the Lord is priceless.

### **Sharing the Faith**

When I was not hearing confessions, I was able to attach myself to one of the activity groups that had a St. Mary's contingent. It was at rock climbing where I probably injured myself (See picture below...and I took the easy route!), but had a great time just talking about Scripture. One of the girls said she loved to read the Old Testament (the children's edition). So I asked her what is her favourite story, and she said the Exodus. Well, I had a great conversation with her about the Exodus...Moses...the Passover...the Law...and how it all fits into what Jesus did as the New Moses giving us a New Passover and a New Law. There was also a little conversation about King David...and why one of the psalms begins with *Have Mercy on me O Lord...*

Also, I enjoy the activities at camp... here is Fr Seamus, the pastor of Merciful Redeemer and I on a giant swing...

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QmcWngF75cOYBxKwJrKo4i54mCTmfIAx/view?usp=sharing>



### The Power of Adoration

During camp, we have two opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration, on the first night and then on the last night. The first night is to set the tone for the week with catechesis and time with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. The last night of Adoration is the close out our time together with catechesis to bring everything together and then to pray. But adoration on this night also has a procession of the Blessed Sacrament through the space. And it was beautiful. Many children have a personal and profound encounter with Jesus as the Holy Spirit is moving within them. One such story is a little girl. She was struggling with forgiveness with one of her peers. But as Jesus walked by her, she heard clearly, "You need to forgive her...you need to pray for her." So she did. And the relief and peace she felt was expressed in tears of joy.

Now, this is a really bold statement, but this was probably one of my best summers at St. Mary's. Usually there is some construction or a project that occupies my thoughts while away. This time, nothing. And it is not that we were not busy, we had summer camp in July. So, it was good and refreshing. Much needed as we hit the ground running in September.

### **Looking Forward**

Our September begins with our backpack drive and blessing of the backpacks (September 6/7 after all Masses) as we send our children back to school. We want to pray for their safety and protection. We want to pray for all parents that the Holy Spirit guide them as they are the first educators of their children. Finally, we want to pray for all educators and administrators that they are able to help with the intellectual and human formation of our children.

On Saturday September 13th at 10am, we have the annual Mass of the Faithful departed at St. Mary's cemetery on Dickson Rd. As I have mentioned in the past, walking through the cemetery is walking through a history book of Port Credit and St. Mary Star of the Sea. So many familiar last names who helped build this community and now we do them the service of praying for them. All are welcome to join us at the cemetery for this Mass. Please spread the word to those who do not receive our weekly communications.

On Saturday September 20th at , the Legion of Mary will be hosting the living rosary. A great opportunity to pray the rosary in a way that helps everyone be involved. I especially would invite families with children to come out...a tangible way to teach them to say the prayers of the rosary.

Finally, to close out our September is our parish feast day Mass and Parish Potluck kickoff. Saturday September 27th is the feast day of St. Mary Star of the Sea. So, our regular 9am Mass on that Saturday will be more solemn and festive. On Sunday September 28th following the 11am Mass will be our annual parish potluck. There will be more details to come in the following weeks. So, please join us for both these events as we ask Our Lady to intercede for us, aiding us to become the lighthouse of Port Credit, a harbour of refuge and beacon of hope.

...Told you we are hitting the ground running...thank God for the *Ferragosto*.

PS: Tuesday 9 September is International Buy a Priest a Beer Day. Thank you in advance. LOL (Yes! It is a real thing: <https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/international-buy-a-priest-a-beer-day/>)

Fr Michael

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FIRST RECONCILIATION & FIRST COMMUNION 2026

Registration for First Reconciliation and First Communion 2026 are now open. Please visit the parish website for the complete Information Package and registration details. Registration closes on Saturday, October 4th. A mandatory Parents' Information Session will be held on Saturday, October 4th, 2025, at 11:00am in the parish hall. Please confirm your attendance using the website. For any questions, please reach out to Adriene at [aadona@archtoronto.org](mailto:aadona@archtoronto.org)  
<http://stmarystarofthesea.ca/first-holy-communion>

## MASS AT ST. MARY'S PORT CREDIT CATHOLIC CEMETERY

Join us for the Mass for the Faithful Departed at St. Mary's Port Credit Catholic Cemetery (2099 Dickson Road, Mississauga) on Saturday, September 13, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

Together, we will remember and pray for our loved ones who have gone before us in faith. All are welcome. Mass will be held rain or shine.

For more information, please contact Assumption Catholic Cemetery at 905-670-8801.

## SSVP - AUGUST SUMMARY

Dear Parishioners, during the month of August, our members made 22 home visits to Neighbours in Need. We distributed \$2,420.00 in grocery gift cards and \$168 in bus tickets. We also assisted a NIN apply for an Ozanam Fund scholarship.

Thank you for supporting our work.

### 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, 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: 647-628-2058

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

## SHARELIFE

Thus far we have raised **\$65,110.14 (59%)**  
toward our goal of **\$110,000**

We ask you to share your blessings through the parish using a ShareLife envelope available at all the exits of the Church or at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate).

**Make cheques payable to St. Mary Star of the Sea**

Thank you for your generosity!

## THIS WEEK'S VOTIVE LAMP DEDICATIONS

### TABERNACLE

Special intentions of Pushpa Lobo  
Special intentions of Ann Fernandes

### SACRED HEART OF JESUS

In thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus  
For the souls in purgatory

### BLESSED MOTHER

In thanksgiving to Mother Mary  
For the souls in purgatory

### ST. JOSEPH

In thanksgiving

### ST. ANNE

For the souls in purgatory

### ST. JUDE

In thanksgiving

# SECOND ANNUAL BACKPACK DRIVE AND BACKPACK BLESSING!



## SEPTEMBER 6/7 WEEKEND

OUR SECOND ANNUAL BACKPACK DRIVE WILL HELP TO PROVIDE BACKPACKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO STUDENTS! DONATED ITEMS CAN BE BROUGHT TO MASS THE WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 6/7 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 course a backpack!



*Second Annual*

# PARISH FAMILY POTLUCK

*Bring a dish to share | Enjoy Fellowship | Celebrate the  
feast day of our Parish! | Bring your own lawn chair*

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup> 2025**

Following the 11am Mass

Please let **Samantha** know what you will be bringing either in person at Mass or by e-mail ([SCameron@archtoronto.org](mailto:SCameron@archtoronto.org)). If you would like to volunteer please contact **Adriene** ([AAdona@archtoronto.org](mailto:AAdona@archtoronto.org))

# Bundle Up

For the

## Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



*We are collecting your donations at*

### St. Mary Star of the Sea

11 Peter Street South, Mississauga

*On*

**September 27 - 28, 2025**



**We DO NOT ACCEPT**  
appliances, baby or regular furniture,  
books, mattresses, dishes,  
construction material or video tapes  
For more information visit  
[www.ssvptoronto.ca](http://www.ssvptoronto.ca)



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If you are new to the parish, welcome! Register on the website.

