

Living the
Gospel

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email: stpaultheapostleal@archtoronto.org
Parish website: stpaultheapostleal.archtoronto.org

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



Fourth Sunday of Lent- March 30, 2025

“Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son,’ But the father said to his slaves, let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ *Luke 15:21-22a, 23b-24a*

First Reading + Joshua 5:9, 10-12
Second Reading + 2 Corinthians 5: 17-21
Gospel + Luke 15: 1-3; 11 - 32

Mass for the Intentions Week

Monday, March 31

NO MASS SCHEDULED

Tuesday, April 1

5:20pm+Marian Cenacle

6:00pm+HOLY HOUR

****6:15pm – 6:45pm + CONFESSIONS**

7:00pm+ (*Multiple Intentions Mass, RIP*)

Joan MEGRAW, Jack ELLIOTT, Vincenzina RUPOLO

Wednesday, April 2

8:00am+Pia RAGUSA, RIP – M/M Berberick

Thursday, April 3

8:00am+Souls in Purgatory – M/M Berberick

Friday, April 4

(*Mass at Immaculate Conception Church*)

12:10pm+Shirley-Ann Malbouf-Trumble, Per.Int-M/M Berberick

Followed by Adoration until Saturday morning Mass

7:00pm+STATIONS of the CROSS

Saturday, April 5

(*Sat. daily Mass at Immaculate Conception*)

9:00am+Joan MEGRAW, RIP- A Parishioner

5:00pm+Lou BIFFIS, RIP – M/L Fanelli

Sunday, April 6

(*9:00 am Mass at Immaculate Conception*)

9:00am+ Nicholas KRZYWONOS, RIP- D. Geronimo

10:30am+Jamine DANIEL, RIP – N. Daniel

6:00pm+For the People of the Parish

Saint of the week:

Dear Jesus, please help the Church more fully conform with your truth and will.

- *St. Hugh of Grenoble (1053-1152) Bishop, Feast Day- April 1*

From the desk of Father Norberto

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we journey through this Lenten season, we are reminded that Lent is not just a time of sacrifice but also a time of grace, renewal, and return. This Sunday, the Gospel presents to us the Parable of the Prodigal Son, a powerful story of repentance, mercy, and homecoming.

The prodigal son's journey is one that mirrors our own spiritual pilgrimage. He asked for his inheritance, left home, and wasted everything in reckless living. It was only when he found himself lost, hungry, and broken that he recognized his need for his father's love. In humility, he made the decision to return, saying, "**Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.**"

This moment of realization was not just about regret. It was about hope. The son believed that even after all he had done, there was still a place for him in his father's house. And indeed, as soon as he took that first step home, his father ran to meet him, embraced him, and restored him, not as a servant, but as a beloved son.

We, too, are like the prodigal son. So often, we stray from God's love, seeking fulfillment in things that do not satisfy. We waste the gifts He has given us, choosing paths that lead us away from Him. But no matter how far we have gone, the Father is always waiting. The journey of the prodigal son is a reminder that conversion is possible, that grace is available, and that hope is never lost.

Our Pilgrimage of Hope

As we prepare for the Jubilee, the Church calls us to embark on a Pilgrimage of Hope. What does this mean for us? It means that, like the prodigal son, we are invited to return to the Father, not in fear, but in trust. The road back may not always be easy. We may feel unworthy, ashamed, or uncertain but the Father's arms are always open.

A pilgrimage is not just about movement; it is about transformation. The prodigal son left home in pride but returned in humility. He left seeking independence but returned, realizing his need for the Father. Our Lenten journey and our preparation for the Jubilee should reflect this same movement of the heart - a turning away from sin and a turning toward God, full of hope that He will receive us with mercy.

The prodigal son did not know how his father would react, but he still chose to return. This is the essence of hope - trusting in God's love even when we do not fully understand it. In this Jubilee, we are called to deepen that hope, to believe that no matter how broken our world may seem, no matter how lost we may feel, God is still calling us home.

Let us walk this journey together, supporting one another as fellow pilgrims. Let us encourage those who feel distant from the Church to return, not with judgment, but with the same joy that filled the father when he saw his son coming home.

As we continue in this Lenten season, may we take inspiration from the prodigal son and embrace the grace of conversion. May our pilgrimage of hope lead us back to the heart of the Father, where we will always find mercy, love, and joy.

In Christ,

Fr. Norberto a. Eyule

MARCH 30, 2025



Serra's Vocation Seeds
Fourth Sunday of Lent - March 30, 2025

Like the forgiving father of Luke's Gospel, God welcomes us home in spite of our sinfulness, and calls us to a life of holiness. Where are you at home? Are you being called to a life as an ordained or a consecrated person? If God is calling you, to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email: vocations@archtoronto.org
www.vocationstoronto.ca



Consider joining our Parish ALPHA Team

Anyone interested - discover more about Catholic faith.
Learning & laughter - learn the why's of our faith at fun gatherings.

People meeting together - get to know others. Make good friends.
Help one another - small groups to discuss concepts from video talks.

Ask anything - a safe place where no question is too simple or too hostile

Consider Volunteering to make Alpha happen in our parish. Attend a lunch on **March 30th at 12noon** to explore how you can assist.

<https://alphacanada.org/catholic-context/>

ShareLife

4th Sunday of Lent - ShareLife Sunday - March 30, 2025

This weekend is ShareLife Sunday

ShareLife Sunday marks the first collection for our parish's annual campaign. But ShareLife is more than a parish collection. It is how we, as Catholics in the Archdiocese of Toronto, bring the hands of Christ to those in need. From children to seniors, and everyone in between, more than 40 ShareLife agencies are there each step of the way.

As a family of faith, we lift each other up from our lowest moments. Nick's life had an easy start – he came from a good home, where he was raised with a strong work ethic, and he welcomed a son. But living with a mental illness, he struggled more than some. Deep inside, he felt like something was missing, and he devastatingly fell into addiction. With your helping hand, he rose up through the DARE Program at Good Shepherd.

"By the grace of God, I am still alive," he proclaims. "I'd love to be able to give back what was so freely given to me. I am taking roles of service, giving back as much as I can. I was afraid I'd never be able to feel the way I feel. I am very grateful that I have been given this opportunity to be sober." Thanks to your support, he is no longer just surviving—he is thriving, with a heart full of hope and a future filled with promise.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

Holy Spirit Parish, Barrie is organizing a day trip by bus to Ottawa to participate in **March for Life on May 8**. The cost for roundtrip transportation is **\$65** per person.

Those who are interested can reach out to their Parish office directly either by phone **705-722-3771** or email holyspiritba@archtoronot.org.

The Stations of the Cross

During Lent we will pray The Stations of the Cross every **Friday from March 7th to April 18th** at **7:00p.m.** at St. Paul's

St. Vincent de Paul:

Beginning January 1, 2025, St. Paul's Conference of St. Vincent de Paul was requested to count the monthly donations and issue our own receipts to parishioners at year end. Previously your donations went through the church and then to St. Vincent de Paul so the church issued your receipt. St. Paul's St. Vincent de Paul Society, as a registered charitable organization, will provide you with a taxable receipt beginning this year and going forward. Please make your donation payable to **St. Paul's St. Vincent de Paul** or **St. Paul's SSVP**.

Thanks for your continued support.



ATTENTION ALL SQUIRES!



Check your emails for important information about the upcoming **April Convention in Ottawa**, which we are planning to attend.

Join us this Wednesday for a **Lenten Challenge Activity** as we come together in faith and fellowship!

Date: This Wednesday – **April 2nd**

Time: Meet at **6:30 PM** in front of **FRESHCO (Yonge & Industrial Parkway)** for a friendly **Lenten Challenge**. **Attire:** Wear **bright-colored clothes**, as we may be doing some walking. **Pickup:** We will return to the **Parish Hall** for pickup at **8:30 PM**.

Come ready for a meaningful and engaging experience! See you there.

For more information, contact:

Patrick Hayes, Councillor – 705-250-3472

LENTEN RETREAT

QUEEN OF APOSTLES RENEWAL CENTRE invites

men and women to our **2025 Lenten Retreat** on

When: SATURDAY APRIL 5TH, 2025.

Where: 1617 Blythe Road, Mississauga

Cost: \$50.00 and includes coffee/tea with muffins and a hot lunch.

Registration is at 8:30am and the retreat runs from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

A mass will be celebrated during the day.

Please email: office@qoa.ca or call us at **(905) 278 5229**.



Offertory envelopes



Can the owners of envelope numbers **132** and **328** please call the office or you may fill out a parish registration form and drop it with the offertory.

Your donations are NOT getting added towards year-end tax receipts as the office does not have your contact information.

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