

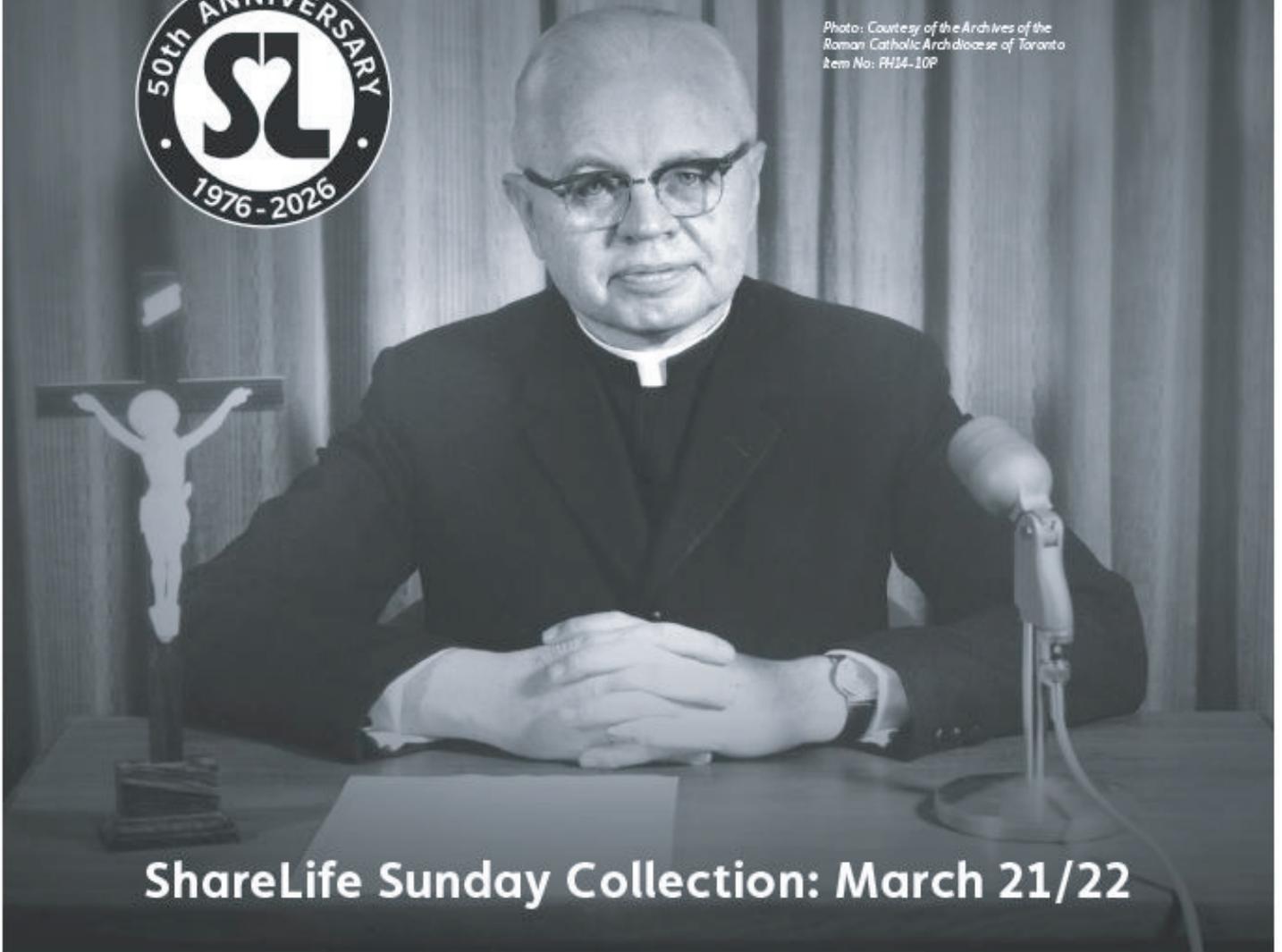
Living the Gospel



"We believe that every human being is unique and priceless. We hold that human life must be respected at every stage of its development from the first mysterious moment of conception to the declining days of advanced age."

– Archbishop Philip Francis Pocock,
A Declaration on Behalf of Life, March 19, 1976

*Photo: Courtesy of the Archives of the
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Immaculate Conception: 4791 Conc Rd 5, Adjala, Alliston ON L9R 1V1
email: stpaultheapostleal@archtoronto.org

Parish website: stpaultheapostleal.archtoronto.org

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



5th Sunday of Lent ~ 22nd March 2026

When he said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth.

Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

John: 11:43-44

First Reading + Ezekiel 37:12-14
Second Reading + Romans 8:8-11
Gospel + John 11:1-45

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, March 23

NO MASS SCHEDULED

Tuesday, Mar 24

5:20pm+Marian Cenacle

6:00pm+HOLY HOUR

6:15pm+ CONFESSIONS

(7:00pm- *Multiple Intention Mass-Per. Int.*)

Steve & Marie Charbonneau, Greg and Jeannie Gillis

Wednesday, March 25

8:00am+Ugo Napoleone – S. Russo and Family

Thursday, March 26

8:00am+Michael SZYDLIK, RIP-C. Skelton

Friday, March 27

(Mass at Immaculate Conception Church)

12:10pm+ (*Multiple Intention Mass- RIP*)

John & Paul PENDERGAST, Colleen BUTLER

7:00pm+STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Saturday, March 28

(Daily Mass at Immaculate Conception Church)

9:00am+Fr Stan Witczak, Per. Int.

5:00pm+Eugene DEVEREAUX, RIP – Devereaux Family

Sunday, March 29

9:00am+Scott O'LEARY, RIP – O'Leary Family

10:30am+John ORR, RIP- C. Orr

6:00pm+ FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

From the desk of Father Norberto

My dear parishioners,

As we journey ever deeper into the sacred season of Lent, we arrive now at the Fifth Sunday - a moment when the horizon of Easter begins to come into clearer view. The readings this Sunday invite us to reflect on a powerful and hope-filled theme: *new life*. Even as we continue our Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, the promise of renewal quietly stirs beneath the surface.

In the Gospel, we encounter a scene marked by both sorrow and hope. Jesus approaches a situation that seems final, unchangeable, even hopeless. Yet, in the face of what appears to be an ending, He reveals the heart of God: a God who brings life where there was death, hope where there was despair, and possibility where there seemed to be none. This is not only a story about what Jesus did long ago; it is a living message about what He continues to do in our lives today.

Lent often asks us to confront parts of ourselves we might prefer to ignore - habits that bind us, wounds that have not healed, or fears that keep us from fully trusting God. These can feel like sealed tombs in our lives, places where light struggles to enter. Yet the message of this Sunday is clear: no tomb is too sealed, no situation too far gone for God's transforming grace.

New life in Christ is not merely about a future promise; it begins now. Each time we choose forgiveness over resentment, generosity over selfishness, or faith over fear, we participate in that new life. Each act of love, no matter how small, becomes a sign that God is still at work, renewing the face of the earth - and renewing us.

However, this new life often requires something from us. Just as the stone had to be rolled away in the Gospel story, we too are invited to cooperate with God's grace. What stones might we need to move? Perhaps it is the stone of pride that prevents us from asking for help, or the stone of doubt that keeps us from trusting in God's promises. Maybe it is the stone of complacency that has settled into our spiritual lives. Whatever it may be, the Lord gently calls us to take part in our own renewal.

As we draw closer to Holy Week, this is a time to ask ourselves: where is God inviting me to new life? What in my heart needs to be awakened, healed, or restored? These are not always easy questions, but they are essential if we are to fully experience the joy of Easter.

Let us also remember that new life is not something we experience alone. We are part of a community of faith, called to support one another on this journey. When we encourage someone who is struggling, when we listen with compassion, or when we pray for one another, we become instruments of God's life-giving presence.

The Fifth Sunday of Lent reminds us that God is never finished with us. No matter how long we have carried burdens or how deeply we may feel stuck, the Lord continues to call us forward. His voice speaks into the quiet places of our hearts, saying, "Come out," inviting us into freedom, into light, into life.

May we have the courage to respond. May we trust in the God who makes all things new. And as Easter approaches, may we open our hearts ever more fully to the gift of new life that only Christ can give.

With prayerful blessings,

Fr. Norbert Eyule

Saint of the Week:

The Church is that one wherein the true word of God is preached, which Christ left to His Apostles, which the same Church hath always observed, the doctors preached, and Martyrs and confessors witnessed. This is the Church I believe to be true.

- *Saint Margaret Clitherow (1555-1586), Martyr, Feast Day March 26*

Fifth Sunday of Lent - March 22, 2026

“Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” Do you believe that your plan is God’s plan? If God is calling you to serve him as a priest, deacon, brother or sister contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

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

The Stations of the Cross

During Lent we pray The Stations of the Cross every **Friday at 7:00p.m.**
February 20th - April 3rd
at St Paul’s Church

Muffin Sunday

The next Knights of Columbus Muffin Sunday will be **March 22** in **Fr. Bennett Hall** following the **1030 mass**. Come out and enjoy fresh baked muffins, tea, coffee, hot chocolate and juice. Donations to offset costs and help projects gratefully accepted. Hope to see everyone there.

Parish Free Skate – March 22, 2026

The 150th Anniversary Committee is hosting a **free skate event** on **March 22nd from 2–4 PM** at the **Nottawasaga Inn Arena**. All parish families are warmly invited to come out, enjoy an afternoon on the ice, and help strengthen our Church community. Bring your skates, your smiles, and your parish spirit. We hope to see you there!



Please join us for our Parish Mission

What Loving Looks Like: Looking Back, Looking Forward
March 29 and 30, 2026, From:7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

As St. Paul’s Parish celebrates its centennial, it is also celebrating a century of Christian generosity and service to the Alliston area. By listening to the voice of our Holy Father, Pope Leo, and some of the great figures of our Catholic tradition, we are invited to renew our commitment to being the hands and feet of Jesus in our local community for the century ahead. Combining prayer, music, spiritual input, and discussion, this mission will offer us an opportunity to reflect on our proud history—and to plan for an equally proud future!

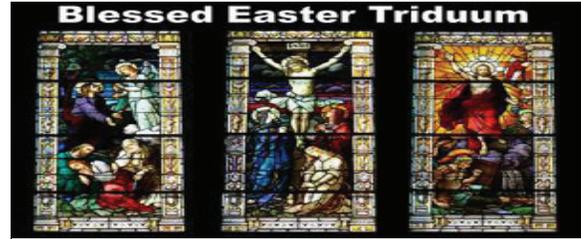
Murray Watson is a Catholic Biblical scholar and interfaith educator, whose studies took him to Rome, Jerusalem, and Dublin. Today he serves as the Adult Faith Formation Animator for the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board, based in Barrie.

Holy Week & Easter Schedule

CONFESSIONS

Tuesdays at 6:00p.m. - 6:45p.m. and
Saturdays at 4:00p.m.- 4:45p.m.

EASTER TRIDUUM



Holy Thursday – April 2

No Morning Mass

7:30 p.m. + Mass of the Lord’s Supper
Eucharistic Adoration until 1200 midnight

Good Friday – April 3

No Noon Mass

3:00 p.m.+ Commemoration of The Lord’s Passion
7:00 pm + Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday – April 4

No Morning Mass

12:00 noon+ Blessing of the Easter Foods at
Immaculate Conception Church

Easter Vigil + 8:30 p.m. – April 4

{The greatest celebration in the Church Year}

Easter Sunday – April 5

9:00 a.m. + Immaculate Conception Church
10:30 a.m.+ St. Paul’s Church
6:00 p.m. + St. Paul’s Church

The Divine Mercy Novena

The Divine Mercy Novena begins on **Good Friday, April 3rd** and concludes on **April 11th**. This nine-day devotion was revealed by Jesus to **St. Faustina Kowalska**, inviting the faithful to immerse themselves in His boundless mercy. Each day of the novena is offered for a different group of souls, bringing them before the merciful Heart of Jesus. We invite you to join us, beginning **Good Friday**, following the **3:00 pm service**, as we pray together the **First Day of the Novena** and will continue each day till **April 11th**.

****Additional mass will be celebrated on Monday, April 6th at 9:00am, at St Paul’s Church. ****

Come Celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday April 12th.

You are invited to a special **Divine Mercy Sunday Service** as we gather to pray and accept the boundless mercy of God.

2:30 PM – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

3:00 PM – Chaplet of Divine Mercy (The Hour of Mercy)

3:20 PM – Benediction

3:30 PM – Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament

All are welcome to join in this beautiful and powerful time of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

*“The greater the sinner, the greater the right he has to My mercy.”
“Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet.”
— St. Faustina Kowalska*

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