SAINT MARGARET, QUEEN OF SCOTLAND, PARISH

222 RIDLEY BOULEVARD, TORONTO, ONTARIO M5M 3M6

OFFICE: 416-485-7781 FAX: 416-489-4183

6-485-7781e-mail: stmargaretofscotland@archtoronto.org-489-4183website: stmargaretofscotland.archtoronto.org

Parish Hall Address: 2134 Avenue Rd.



PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Fr. Andy MacbethPastorRev. Fr. Gerardo V. Laguartilla, C.PP.S.Associate PastorRev. Mr. Robert KinghornPermanent DeaconCheryll VaronaOffice ManagerRichard KitchenCustodian

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 12noon; 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Evening Receptionist:** Monday & Wednesday 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

BULLETIN DEADLINE - Monday 12 noon in writing

SCHOOLS IN THE PARISH

St. Margaret's	416-393-5249
Loretto Abbey	416-393-5510
Toronto Catholic District School Board	416-222-8282
or	www.tcdsb.org

Parish Mission Church - St. Eugene's

13 Regina Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M6A 1R2 416-485-7781 • steugeneschapelto.archtoronto.org

SUNDAY MASSES:SaturdaySunday10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES: Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. Wednesday 7:00 p.m., Friday 12 noon

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

By appointment BAPTISM - By appointment

SUNDAY MASSES: SATURDAY SUNDAY

4:30 p.m. 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:00 noon

WEEKDAY MASSES:

MONDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY WEDNESDAY 8:20 a.m. 7:00 p.m.

416-485-7781

416-485-7781

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

By Appointment

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

The Archdiocese of Toronto requires that you contact your parish priest at least one year in advance of the planned date of your wedding and that you participate in a Catholic marriage preparation course.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

It is highly recommended that parents contact the parish office at least two months in advance of the birth of their child. Parents are obligated to participate in our baptismal preparation program. Baptisms generally take place on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of each month at 1:30 p.m.

VISITATION OF THE SICK

Please notify the Rectory Office when a member of your family is seriously ill and/or would like to receive Communion or the Sacrament of the Sick.

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS PASTORAL COUNCIL Peter Remedios, Chair 416 FINANCE COMMITTEE Joe Longpre (Vice-Chair) ALTAR SERVERS 416 LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

(Sunday 10:30 a.m.)	Priscila Domanay 416-485-778				
LECTORS					
	Cherie Zuzarte	416-485-7781			
COMMUNION MINISTERS					
	Diane Dibacco	416-485-7781			
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL		416-342-7590			
PARISH HOME CATECHISM PROGRAM (P.H.C.P.)					
	Anna Di Carlo	416-788-0899			
RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (R.C.I.A.)					
	Parish Office	416-485-7781			
SENIORS GROUP					
	Miriam Hastings	416-483-7659			
MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY (Ushers)					
	Parish Office	416-485-7781			
BAPTISMAL PREPARATION					
	Parish Office	416-485-7781			
CATHOLIC CEMETERIES 416-733					

PARISH MEMBERSHIP ... Welcome new parishioners! To be a registered member of our parish is to have a sense of belonging to a Community of Faith. Please introduce yourself/family to the pastor and register as soon as possible.

All parishioners especially those who live outside our parish boundaries are expected to complete a Parish Registration form and use Sunday Offertory Envelopes. This will greatly assist the Parish Team when parishioners request sacraments, funerals or letters of reference. **N.B.** Please notify the parish office if you change your address or family information.



THOUGHTS FOR SOWING

FEEDING, WATERING, CARING

See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. James 5:7

I remember when I was a young child of about five years old. I was helping my father plant a small vegetable garden in our backyard. The day after we planted the seeds, I ran to the garden, expecting to see young sprouts. I needed to learn that growth would come, but only with time, water and sunlight.

Waiting for our faith in God to grow to fruition can feel a lot like waiting for those young plants to germinate and reach toward the sun. We need the daily food of prayer, sacrament and community to urge us upward. But growth is a hard and sometimes painful thing for which to wait. We cannot rush the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives, but we can learn to savor the intimacy of being fed, watered and cared for.

Creator God, master gardener of my soul, nurture me.

Steve Givens From: <u>Living Faith</u>

ര<u>ംMASS INTENTIONS</u>ഹ

<u>Monday, February 7th – 8:20am</u> THANKSGIVING MASS Requested by Dorothea Addun

> Wednesday, February 9th – 7:00pm ⊕ALMA PECILE Requested by Pia Gambin

Thursday, February 10th – 8:20am

For PANTANO FAMILY Requested by Ingrid Holle

Friday, February 11th – 8:20am TERESA LEHMAN Requested by friend

LOOKING AHEAD

Sun. Feb. 6	5 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
	Guest homilist: Fr. Michael Lehman, CSB			
Fri. Feb. 11	WORLD DAY OF THE SICK (see Holy Father's			
	message)			
Sun. Feb. 13	6 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
	Homilist: Deacon Robert Kinghorn			
	• ANNUAL "MARRIAGE SUNDAY" throughout the			
	Archdiocese.			
Sun. Feb. 20	7 TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME			
	Guest homilist: Fr. Michael Lehman, CSB			
Mon. Feb. 21	FAMILY DAY HOLIDAY			
8:20am Mass at St. Margaret's				
 Parish office Closed for holiday 				
Thurs. Feb. 2	4 Celebration of FIRST RECONCILIATION			
	scheduled for 7:00pm, postponed till later date			
Sun. Feb. 27	8 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			

Homilist: Fr. Andy Macbeth

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

Pope Francis has launched the Synod on Synodality: a two-year global process of listening to the faithful that will help the Church reflect on how we can do God's will in the world today. This synod is of great importance to the Holy Father and it cannot succeed without parishes encouraging people to participate.

To help parishes engage the faithful and solicit their feedback, the Archdiocese of Toronto has created a number of resources that you can use including:

- An online survey that provides a forum for people to share their thoughts: <u>www.archtoronto.org/synodality</u>
- A video featuring Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto, that explains the synod and asks people to participate: Synodality Video

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A GIFT TO YOUR PARISH

Our Parish is where we are married and bring our children to be baptized. It is where we come to be fed in the Holy Eucharist, be reconciled with God and the world, and hope to leave this world on our final journey to meet the God that we love.

WEEKLY	FINANCIAL	REPORT	<u> – January 30, 2022</u>
Offertory	\$3,734.00	PAG	\$953.75
Budget	\$8,300.00	(\$3	3,612.25)

YOUR 2021 TAX RECEIPTS

As last year our <u>2021 income tax receipts</u> are being <u>mailed through</u> <u>an Archdiocesan Program</u>. As of <u>Feb. 14</u>th, these will be mailed out to all who made donations of \$75 or more. For <u>those below</u>, this threshold of \$75, <u>you may contact the parish office directly</u>, and have your receipt mailed. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Cheryll, our office manager, during our regular business office hours.

MARRIAGE SUNDAY 2022 A Celebration of Marriage

As part of Marriage Sunday 2022 celebrations, **Bishop Robert Kasun**, **CSB**, will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples celebrating **milestone anniversaries** (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+) in **2022**. The Mass will take place at **2:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 13**, **2022 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto)**. Due to social distancing measures, cathedral attendance is limited to pre-registered couples celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries and a maximum of one guest per celebrant couple. Registration is now open. Given the limited attendance at the cathedral, we encourage milestone celebrants to register early. Those who are not able to register may join the celebration via livestream Mass here: <u>www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live</u>. The broadcast will begin at 2:15 p.m. Please visit <u>www.archtoronto.org/marriage</u> to register and to access resources for parishes and couples.

HOW DO WE WALK TOGETHER AS CHURCH? EMBRACING POPE FRANCIS' NEW CALL TO SYNODALITY

Wednesday, Feb. 16th – 11:00am A virtual event sponsored by Novalis Publishing

Join authors Moira McQueen and Massimo Faggioli for a robust conversation on the topic of Synodality and how the faithful at all levels can participate in Pope Francis' call to synodality and contribute to a rich reflection on a vibrant future for the Catholic Church. Moderated by Christopher White. Sponsored by Novalis Publishing. **COST: Free • REGISTER:** <u>https://bit.lv.RegisterSynodality</u>

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE THIRTIETH WORLD DAY OF THE SICK February 11, 2022

"Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful" (Luke 6:36). Standing beside those who suffer on a path of charity

Dear brothers and sisters,

Thirty years ago, Saint John Paul II instituted the World Day of the Sick to encourage the people of God, Catholic health institutions and civil society to be increasingly attentive to the sick and to those who care for them. [1]

We are grateful to the Lord for the progress made over the years in the particular Churches worldwide. Many advances have been made, yet there is still a long way to go in ensuring that all the sick, also those living in places and situations of great poverty and marginalization, receive the health care they need, as well as the pastoral care that can help them experience their sickness in union with the crucified and risen Christ. May the Thirtieth World Day of the Sick – whose closing celebration, due to the pandemic, will not take place as planned in Arequipa, Peru, but in Saint Peter's Basilica in the Vatican – help us grow in closeness and service to the sick and to their families.

1. Merciful like the Father

The theme chosen for this Thirtieth World Day of the Sick, "Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful" (Lk 6:36), makes us first turn our gaze towards God, who is "rich in mercy" (Eph 2:4); he always watches over his children with a father's love, even when they turn away from him. Mercy is God's name par excellence; mercy, understood not as an occasional sentimental feeling but as an ever-present and active force, expresses God's very nature. It combines strength and tenderness. For this reason, we can say with wonder and gratitude that God's mercy embraces both fatherhood and motherhood (cf. Is 49:15). God cares for us with the strength of a father and the tenderness of a mother; he unceasingly desires to give us new life in the Holy Spirit.

2. Jesus, the mercy of the Father

The supreme witness of the Father's merciful love for the sick is his only-begotten Son. How often do the Gospels relate Jesus' encounters with people suffering from various diseases! He "went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people" (Mt 4:23). We do well to ask ourselves why Jesus showed such great concern for the sick, so much so that he made it paramount in the mission of the apostles, who were sent by the Master to proclaim the Gospel and to heal the sick (cf. Lk 9:2).

One twentieth-century philosopher suggests a reason for this: "Pain isolates in an absolute way, and absolute isolation gives rise to the need to appeal to the other, to call out to the other". [2] When individuals experience frailty and suffering in their own flesh as a result of illness, their hearts become heavy, fear spreads, uncertainties multiply, and questions about the meaning of what is happening in their lives become all the more urgent. How can we forget, in this regard, all those patients who, during this time of pandemic spent the last part of their earthly life in solitude, in an intensive care unit, assisted by generous healthcare workers, yet far from their loved ones and the most important people in their lives? This helps us to see how important is the presence at our side of witnesses to God's charity, who, following the example of Jesus, the very mercy of the Father, pour the balm of consolation and the wine of hope on the wounds of the sick. [3]

3. To touch the suffering flesh of Christ

Jesus' invitation to be merciful like the Father has particular significance for healthcare workers. I think of all those physicians, nurses, laboratory technicians, the support staff and the caretakers of the sick, as well as the numerous volunteers who donate their precious time to assist those who suffer. Dear healthcare workers, your service alongside the sick, carried out with love and competence, transcends the bounds of your profession and becomes a mission. Your hands, which touch the suffering flesh of Christ, can be a sign of the merciful hands of the Father. Be mindful of the great dignity of your profession, as well as the responsibility that it entails.

Let us thank the Lord for the progress that medical science has made, especially in recent times; new technologies have made it possible to prepare therapies that are of great benefit to the sick; research continues to make a valuable contribution to eliminating old and new pathologies; rehabilitation medicine has greatly expanded its expertise and skills. None of this, however, must make us forget the uniqueness of each patient, his or her dignity and frailties. [4] Patients are always more important than their diseases, and for this reason, no therapeutic approach can prescind from listening to the patient, his or her history, anxieties and fears. Even when healing is not possible, care can always be given. It is always possible to console, it is always possible to make people sense a closeness that is more interested in the person than in his or her pathology. For this reason, I would hope that the training provided to health workers might enable them to develop a capacity for listening and relating to others.

4. Centres of care as "houses of mercy"

The World Day of the Sick is also a good occasion to focus our attention on centres of care. Down the centuries, showing mercy to the sick led the Christian community to open innumerable "inns of the good Samaritan", where love and care can be given to people with various

kinds of sickness, especially those whose health needs are not being met due to poverty or social exclusion or to the difficulties associated with treating certain pathologies. In these situations, it is children, the elderly and those who are most frail who most often pay the price. Merciful like the Father, countless missionaries have combined the preaching of the Gospel with the construction of hospitals, dispensaries and care homes. These are precious means whereby Christian charity has taken visible shape and the love of Christ, witnessed by that of his disciples, has become more credible. I think especially of people in the poorest areas of our planet, where it is sometimes necessary to travel long distances to find treatment centres that, albeit with limited resources, offer what is available. We still have a long way to go; in some countries, access to adequate care remains a luxury. We see this, for example, in the scarcity of available vaccines against Covid-19 in poor countries; but even more in the lack of treatment for illnesses that require much simpler medicines.

In this context, I wish to reaffirm the importance of Catholic healthcare institutions: they are a precious treasure to be protected and preserved; their presence has distinguished the history of the Church, showing her closeness to the sick and the poor, and to situations overlooked by others. [5] How many founders of religious families have listened to the cry of their brothers and sisters who lack access to care or are poorly cared for, and have given their utmost in their service! Today too, even in the most developed countries, their presence is a blessing, since in addition to caring for the body with all necessary expertise, they can always offer the gift of charity, which focuses on the sick themselves and their families. At a time in which the culture of waste is widespread and life is not always acknowledged as worthy of being welcomed and lived, these structures, like "houses of mercy", can be exemplary in protecting and caring for all life, even the most fragile, from its beginning until its natural end.

5. Pastoral mercy: presence and proximity

In the past thirty years, pastoral health care has also seen its indispensable service increasingly recognized. If the worst discrimination suffered by the poor – including the sick, who are poor in health – is the lack of spiritual attention, we cannot fail to offer them God's closeness, his blessing and his word, as well as the celebration of the sacraments and the opportunity for a journey of growth and maturation in faith. [6] In this regard, I would like to remind everyone that closeness to the sick and their pastoral care is not only the task of certain specifically designated ministers; visiting the sick is an invitation that Christ addresses to all his disciples. How many sick and elderly people are living at home and waiting for a visit! The ministry of consolation is a task for every baptized person, mindful of the word of Jesus: "I was sick and you visited me" (Mt 25:36).

Dear brothers and sisters, to the intercession of Mary, Health of the Infirm, I entrust all the sick and their families. United with Christ, who bears the pain of the world, may they find meaning, consolation and trust. I pray for healthcare workers everywhere, that, rich in mercy, they may offer patients, together with suitable care, their fraternal closeness.

To all I cordially impart my Apostolic Blessing.

Francis Rome, Saint John Lateran, 10 December 2021, Memorial of Our Lady of Loreto.

CHUCKLES FROM THE PEWS

Have You Heard The One About

Every ten years, the monks in the monastery are allowed to break their vow of silence to speak two words.

Ten years go by and it's one monk's first chance. He thinks for a second before saying, "Food bad." Ten years later, he says, "Bed hard."

It's the big day, a decade later. He gives the head monk a long stare and says, "I, quit."

"I'm not surprised," the head monk says. "You've been complaining ever since you got here."



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