

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH BULLETIN

2547 KIPLING AVENUE ETOBICOKE, ONTARIO M9V 3A8

PHONE: (416) – 749 – 4391 FAX: (416) – 749 – 4372

STANDREWPARISH.OFFICE@GMAIL.COM STANDREWET@ARCHTORONTO.ORG

THE CONSOLATA MISSIONARIES HAVE BEEN SERVING THE ST. ANDREW'S COMMUNITY SINCE 2003

We are a parish that strives to experience God's grace and faithfully embody His love for one another by intertwining our cultures with His teachings! Our mission as followers of Christ is to synthesize the energies, talents and abilities of everyone of every age to fulfill our vision for a Christ-centered world. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit and our patron St. Andrew, may we beautify the mystery of faith by humbly denying ourselves to follow Christ. Amen

- OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday

9:30am - 1:30pm 2:30pm - 5:30pm

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil Sunday

8:00am (English) 9:30 am (Italian) 11:00am (English) 12:30pm (English)

2:00pm (Twi) 5:30pm (Spanish)

11:00am & 12:30pm

5:30pm

Children's Sunday Liturgy

- WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Monday to Friday Wednesday

Public Holidays

Saturday

8:00am & 7:00pm Iraqi – Rosary and Mass at 5pm 8:30am & 5:30pm 8:00am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday Wednesday Anytime by Appointment 8:00am & 4:00pm 7:30am

— ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT –

Tuesday & Thursday8:30am to 6:30pm1st Saturday Devotions9:30am to 10:00am

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND _ Home visits: Please call the Parish Office

OUR LADY CONSOLATA, PRAY FOR US

PARISH TEAM -

Fr. George Kibura Njuguna, IMC – Pastor <u>StAndrewsET@archtoronto.org</u> Fr. Timothy Kinyua Gatitu, IMC – Associate Pastor Rev. Mr. Joseph Owusu-Afriyie – Permanent Deacon Fr. Alex Osei CSSp – Ghanaian Community Mr. Martins Igbinoba – Parish Council Mr. Joseph Fragomeni – Finance Council

Ms. Carolina Chavez – Parish Office standrewparish.office@gmail.com

Ms. Sharanka Prince Yogarajah – Youth Coordinator sprince@archtoronto.org

BAPTISM (CHILDREN UNDER 7 YEARS OLD)

Baptisms are celebrated on the 2^{nd} Saturday of every month at 10:00am. Please contact the Parish Office at least 1 month in advance.

MARRIAGE

Couples planning to get married must contact the Pastor, at least **one year in advance**, to set the wedding date.

RCIA

Rite of Initiation of Adults into the Christian Faith. Interested in becoming a Catholic? Please contact the Pastor.

NEW PARISHIONER? BE MOST WELCOME!

Welcome to St. Andrew! We'd like you to know that we are here to support you and together come closer to Christ. Please introduce yourself to the Priests or any of the Ministers. Pick up a membership form at the entrance of the Church, complete it and submit it to the Parish Office.

Welcome home to St. Andrew Eternal Contemplation of God's Mercy

Saint Faustina writes in her Diary:

"My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come forth from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the First Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy" (*Diary* #699).

What will it be like to contemplate the love and mercy of God for all eternity? To some, this might not at first seem that appealing. Won't it become boring if all we do for all eternity is contemplate God's mercy? If that is a question that resonates with you, then the reason this idea initially lacks appeal is because you cannot fathom how fulfilling and glorious this will be. Jesus said, "My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity."

God willed that this Sunday, the eighth day of the Octave of Easter, be celebrated as the Feast of Mercy. By placing this Feast on the last day of the Octave of Easter, God is telling us that the message of this Feast reveals the ultimate purpose of our lives. Easter is the culmination of the perfect plan of redemption. And Divine Mercy Sunday is the culmination of that perfect plan. Therefore, nothing is more important than trying to understand the message this Feast presents.

By analogy, if you were given a new car but never drove it, the car would be of no use. Or if you won the lottery and the money simply sat in your account unused, what's the benefit? Or if you were gravely ill and were given a medicine that would cure that illness but you never took it, then you would remain ill. So also, if we believe in the death and resurrection of Jesus, but never allow the Mercy that is given by that act to transform us, then we have missed the point. The Divine Mercy is the point of life. It's the only thing worth seeking. It's the only source of satisfaction and fulfillment. It's the only cure for our ills. It's the only source of true riches. In three short words: It Is Everything!

When Jesus says that our eternity will be spent contemplating His Mercy, He doesn't only mean that this is something we will do after we die. True, the fullness of the revelation of His Mercy will be set before us when we enter into the Beatific Vision and contemplate God forever. But "eternity" includes today. It includes the here and now. Therefore, our contemplation of The Divine Mercy must be the single most important goal in our life today. When it is, everything else in life will fall into place in support of this goal.

In order to make the contemplation of The Divine Mercy the most important goal of your life, you must begin to understand it. That's why we were given this special day, this most solemn Feast of Mercy. Therefore, use this day as an opportunity to deepen your contemplation of this Gift. Begin by reading about God's Mercy as it was revealed to us through Saint Faustina. Try to spend time reading Jesus' words, His explanations, descriptions and revelations about His Mercy. As you do, if you find that it remains incomprehensible, don't worry. It is incomprehensible! However, since Jesus promised us that our eternity would be spent in contemplation of His Mercy, then we must believe that the more deeply we enter into that contemplation now, the more glorious our lives will become. If we can truly taste of this Mercy, gain a small glimpse of its grandeur, and comprehend even a small aspect of its meaning, then we will truly find much satisfaction in this endeavor.

Reflect, today, upon The Divine Mercy. As you do, humble yourself through prayer by admitting to God and to yourself that His Mercy is beyond what you will ever comprehend. Do this in prayer. Reading about God's Mercy is important, but it will only be through prayer that we begin our contemplation. And it will only be through this contemplation that we will begin to live the central purpose of our lives.

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As we wrap up the sacred season of Lent and embrace the glorious celebration of Christ's Resurrection—the cornerstone of our Faith—our hearts overflow with joy and gratitude!

A heartfelt thank you extends to each and every member of our Parish whose unwavering commitment has enriched our spiritual journey and fostered the thriving of our community. May God shower His blessings upon you abundantly for your selflessness and unity.

CONFESSIONS AT ST. ANDREW'S Will recommence following the Octave of Easter (after April 7th)



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, May 11, 2024 at 12:00 pm. (All schools)

CONFIRMATION ceremony will be on Saturday, June 15, 2024 at 10:00 am. (All schools)

More details are to follow in the coming weeks. If you have any questions - please do not hesitate to reach out to us by email on Flocknote.

SL ShareLife

Your ShareLife gift is a lifeline to families in need

Many individuals and families silently suffer from depression, anxiety, grief and trauma. ShareLife-supported Catholic Family Services agencies provide a lifeline to those dealing with mental health challenges.

"Your generosity allows us to assist some of the most vulnerable and marginalized members of our community. Without access to free support, they would be left alone and unable to get the help they need. Each donation impacts a life for the better. Thank you." – Elizabeth Pierce, Catholic Family Services of Durham

Thus far we have raised **\$14,641** toward our goal of **\$55,800**. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, or at sharelife.org/donate.



2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER – DIVINE MERCY | APR 7, 2024 | ST. ANDREW CHURCH



Liturgical Publications 3171 LENWORTH DR. #12 MISSISSAUGA, ON L4X 2G6 905-624-4422

