

# Living the Gospel



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## **ST. ANDREW'S PARISH**

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Welcome home to St. Andrew



Invest in our Church's future by giving to ShareLife

Instruments of the Good Shepherd

Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. A hired man, who is not a shepherd and whose sheep are not his own, sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf catches and scatters them. This is because he works for pay and has no concern for the sheep." John 10:11-13

Today, on the Fourth Sunday of Easter, we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday. It is a day when we reflect upon the tender image of Jesus as the Shepherd of us all. It is also a day set aside to pray for more shepherds within our Church who will shepherd God's flock with the Heart of Christ.

Our Gospel passage comes from John 10 which, in part, is a commentary on the previous chapter that includes the long and detailed story of the healing of the blind man. Recall that Jesus healed this man who was blind from birth. He did this healing "so that the works of God might be made visible through him." As a result of this man's healing, the Pharisees cast the blind man out of the synagogue, not believing that Jesus' healing was from God. After the man was cast out of the synagogue, Jesus spoke with him again and he professed his deep faith in Jesus, the true Shepherd. The healed blind man said, "I do believe, Lord." Then he worshiped Jesus. Thus, the greater healing of this man was that he became a member of God's flock, accepting Jesus as his true Shepherd.

Our Gospel today is Jesus' commentary upon the actions of the Pharisees in contrast to His own. The Pharisees, as religious leaders, were not shepherds. They were "thieves and robbers" who came to "steal and slaughter and destroy." Jesus, however, came so that those who listened to His voice "might have life and have it more abundantly."

The Gospel passage quoted above explains why the Pharisees were not true shepherds. It was because they "work for pay" and have "no concern for the sheep." Think about that statement as it applies to the Pharisees and their treatment of this man who was blind from birth. First of all, the "pay" that these Pharisees worked for was their own self-importance—a fleeting and worldly reward. They saw themselves as the true teachers and interpreters of the Law and saw anyone who did not follow them as a threat. The Pharisees clearly perceived Jesus as such a threat to them. For that reason, they took their envy out on this humble and simple blind man. They were not shepherds to him. They did not encourage him, support him, point him to God or act in any way as an instrument of God's grace. Instead, they condemned this innocent and holy man out of their pride.

Though God shepherds us today through His sacred pastors, we are all called to participate in this shepherding of the Good Shepherd in our own unique way. We are called to lead those within our families, at work, at school, within our neighborhoods, social circles and in every other societal context. But too often we imitate these Pharisees by allowing our own selfishness and desire for self-importance to interfere with our ability to put others first and love them with the Shepherd's heart.

Reflect, today, upon the calling you have received to lay down your life for others in imitation of the Good Shepherd. In order to imitate this love in the Heart of Christ, we must love without seeking love in return. Laying our lives down is an act of sacrificial love that enables us to look only at the needs of those around us. Pride and selfishness must disappear, and the good of the other must become our only goal. Reflect upon how well you do this, and pray that the Good Shepherd will use you to shepherd those in your life who need it the most.

"mycatholic.life"

Your kindness and devotion enable St. Augustine's Seminary, along with the Office of Vocations and Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary, to provide an excellent formation for our seminarians as they pursue a life of service. This past year, you invested in our Church's future by supporting 58 seminarians at St. Augustine's Seminary and Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary.

This Sunday, April 21, we celebrate the 61st World Day of Prayer for Vocations. There has never been a better time to support and pray for our seminarians, wherever they may be on their journey. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, or at sharelife.org/donate.

Thank you for living the Gospel through ShareLife!



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.



The Knights of Columbus and St. Andrew's Parish declare Mr. Peter Bhatti and his wife Najma as "the Family of The Month".

Through his organization International Christian Voice, Peter has sponsored more than 180 persecuted Christian refugees to Canada under the Refugee Sponsorship Program. Peter is a strong advocate for Human Rights and Democracy. He has been invited to the House of Parliament, Ottawa, the US State Department and the United Nations to talk about the persecution of religious minorities. He is also an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist at our church.

IMPORTANT MEETING

Our pastor, Father George, cordially invites the leaders of the Altar Servers, Ushers, Lectors, Eucharist Ministers, St. Andrew's Youth ministries and the Liturgical and Social committees to a significant meeting. The meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 29th, 2024, commencing at 7:45 pm. We will convene at the Parish Hall. Your presence and input are greatly valued

St. Andrew's Parish Stewardship
Collection for April 14th, 2024
Sunday Offertory \$ 8,632.80

# 4th SUNDAY OF EASTER | APR 21, 2024 | ST. ANDREW CHURCH

## WEEKLY LITURGY ~ MASS INTENTIONS

† = For the soul of ♥ = Special Intention

### Saturday, April 20

8:30 am - † Peter Sen Agos, by Chapman and Salanio families  
5:30 pm - † Elizabeth Sahakyan & Brian Forester, by Sarah Mikha

### Sunday, April 21 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter World Day of Prayer for Vocations

8 am - Thanksgiving for Dwight Sylvester, by Alma and family  
9:30 am - *(Ital. Mass)* † Frank Falco, Vita Franco,  
11 am - For the people of the Parish  
12:30pm - † Carl DeSouza and Sebastian D'Souza, by family  
2 pm - *(Twi Ghana)*  
5:30 pm - *(Spanish Mass)*

### Monday, April 22

8 am - Thanksgiving for Romero Aquino and for the soul of  
Generosa Aquino, by family  
7 pm - *(No Intention)*

### Tuesday, April 23 - St. George and St. Adalbert

8 am - † Paul Sequeira, by Alex family  
7 pm - † Giovanna DiLillo (6 yrs death anniversary), by family

### Wednesday, April 24 - St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen

8 am - Special intention for Layla Mansur, by Eveline & parishioners  
7 pm - *(No Intention)*

### Thursday, April 25 - St. Mark

8 am - *(No Intention)*  
7 pm - † Florencio D'Souza, by D'Souza family

### Friday, April 26

8 am - † Consolata missionary father Antonio Bianchi who lived  
101 years, by St. Andrew's parishioners  
7 pm - † Joseph, Ludwina, Santan, Pontes and deceased members  
of Dias family, by Dias family

### Saturday, April 27

8:30 am - Thanksgiving for Arlene Morgan, by Alma and family  
5:30 pm - † Anna Schulte, by Layden family

### Sunday, April 28 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

8 am - † Fr. Peter Schiavinato, by family  
9:30 am - *(Ital. Mass)* † Marta & Luigi Della Posta and Luigi and  
Maria Narducci, by Giovanni Della Posta & family  
11 am - For the people of the Parish  
12:30pm - Thanksgiving for Rosario Alon and Symphony  
Arquelada, by family  
2 pm - *(Twi Ghana)*  
5:30 pm - *(Spanish Mass)*

This Sunday we welcome CATHOLIC CEMETERIES & FUNERAL SERVICES to our parish. Catholic Cemeteries are a vital part of the Catholic Church. Operated under the auspices of the Archdiocese of Toronto, each Catholic cemetery and funeral home reflects our Catholic beliefs.

If you have any questions, Frank Jannetta will be in the foyer and will be happy to speak to you. To learn more, focus your smartphone's camera on the symbol or visit [catholic-cemeteries.com](http://catholic-cemeteries.com)



The Knights of Columbus Mother Teresa Council are hosting a Mother's Day Breakfast on Sunday May 12th after the morning masses from 9am to 1pm at the parish Hall. The cost is \$8. The menu includes: Juice, tea, coffee, eggs, sausage, toast, pancakes, and fruit bowl.

Donations will also be accepted

Contact Marlon Cowan at [mcowan27@hotmail.com](mailto:mcowan27@hotmail.com) for tickets and further information

## Bundle Up

For the

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MAY 18-19, 2024



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The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be collecting **All Clothing** (any condition), all **Footwear** (any condition), **Bedding** (any condition), **Drapery/Towels** and **Toys** (new or nearly new). Please bring your donations to the Society's truck the weekend of May 18-19, placed in the church's parking lot.

**Items NOT ACCEPTED:** Books, Construction Material, Dishes, Furniture, Cassettes (Video/Audio).



Marylake

## LADIES RETREAT at MARYLAKE, KING CITY

Ladies please come and join us for a retreat at Marylake Retreat House, from Friday May 24<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, May 26, 2024. To register please call the Parish Office.

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