

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH BULLETIN

2547 KIPLING AVENUE
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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 5:30pm
Sunday
8:00am (English) 2:00pm (Twi)
9:30 am (Italian) 5:30pm (Spanish)
11:00am (English)
12:30pm (English)

Children's Sunday Liturgy 11:00am & 12:30pm

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Monday to Friday 8:00am & 7:00pm
Wednesday Iraqi – Rosary and Mass at 5pm
Saturday 8:30am & 5:30pm
Public Holidays 8:00am

CONFESSIONS

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

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday & Thursday 8:30am to 6:30pm
1st Saturday Devotions 9:30am to 10:00am

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Home visits: Please call the Parish Office

PARISH TEAM

Fr. George Kibura Njuguna, IMC – Pastor
StAndrewsET@archtoronto.org

Fr. Timothy Kinyua Gatitu, IMC – Associate Pastor
Rev. Mr. Joseph Owusu-Afriyie – Permanent Deacon
Fr. Alex Osei CSSp – Ghanaian Community
Mr. Martins Igbino – Parish Council
Mrs. Mina Moraes – 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 2nd 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.

OUR LADY CONSOLATA. PRAY FOR US

Welcome home to St. Andrew's

Removing the Obstacles to Grace

“Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.” [Luke 3:5–6](#)

These, the words of the prophet Isaiah, were spoken about the mission of Saint John the Baptist. John was to “Prepare the way of the Lord” and to “make straight his paths.” In prophesying this, Isaiah goes on to give this very descriptive image of John’s ministry. It would be one that levels mountains and valleys, straightens every winding road, and smooths out the rough terrain. In other words, John came to remove every obstacle to God, making it easy to encounter the Messiah.

How does John complete this mission? By calling the people of that time to the dry and empty desert where all the false allurements cease to exist. This is done by detachment from the many sins and temptations they faced. Their repentance was an act by which the people humbled themselves before God, admitted their sins and acknowledged their need for a Savior. This humble admission, coupled with the commitment to change their ways, prepared heart after heart for the grace and mercy that came through Christ the Lord.

Today, there are countless obstacles to grace that so many people encounter. Some have been drawn into the satisfactions of earthly riches and material comforts and find little need for God. Others have very little that this world can offer but are consumed with a desire for money and the passing comforts it promises. And still others are drawn into many other forms of sins and false satisfactions. But there are some who are like a dry and deserted desert, just waiting to soak up the gentle rain of God’s grace. These are those who have sought to detach themselves from the false promises of this world and remain “empty” and “dry” so as to be prepared for the abundance of grace when it comes. These holy souls have heeded the call to repentance and have humbly acknowledged their need for the Savior.

Reflect, today, upon whether or not your soul is like that dry and barren desert, detached from all the false and passing satisfactions of this world, and prepared to soak up the mercy and grace of God alone. Repentance brings forth detachment, and detachment prepares the soul for God. When one is truly detached and free from the many obstacles to God, then the road from God to your soul will be straight and easily traveled. Reflect upon your soul today and where you see unhealthy attachments. Repent with all your heart so that you are among those most fully ready for an abundance of the grace and mercy of God.

“mycatholic.life”



The Knights of Columbus Mother Teresa Council will host their annual *Christmas Caroling* event on Saturday, December 21st, featuring all the choirs. The event will take place at 7:00 PM, following the 5:30 PM Mass. Everyone is invited to attend and join in this joyful celebration.

WEEKLY LITURGY ~ MASS INTENTIONS

† = For the soul of ♥ = Special Intention

Saturday, Dec 7 - St. Ambrose

- 8:30 am - † Ray Track, by altar servant and her family
- † AT Mathew (death anniv.), by Jacob Mathew & family
- † Anthony TJ, by son Thoppil Varghese
- 5:30 pm - † For deceased members of the Mikha family, by Sarah Mikha

Sunday, Dec 8 - 2nd Sunday of Advent

- 8 am - Special intention of Victor and Marcellina Ofeimun, by family
- 9:30 am - (*Ita.Mass*) † Mr. Nicola Sardella, by Maria Sardella & family
- 11 am - For the people of the Parish
- 12:30pm - (*No Intention*)
- 2 pm - (*Twi Ghana*)
- 5:30 pm - (*Span.Mass*) † Ester Perez de Suarez (2 ½ años de fallecida), ofrecen sus hijos.

Monday, Dec 9 - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 8 am - John Takshun Leung, by family
- 10:30 am - Mass - Humber Valley Terrace
- 7 pm - Prayers for all members of Broadbelt family, by family

Tuesday, Dec 10 - Our Lady of Loreto

- 8 am - † Vincenzo Persanpieri, by Maria Persanpieri
- 7 pm - (*No Intention*)

Wednesday, Dec 11 - St. Damasus I

- 8 am - † Jane Sweeney (2 yrs. death anniversary), by family
- 7 pm - † Arleen Marie Duzon (4yrs death anniv.), by Jose and Jeffrey

Thursday, Dec 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

- 8 am - † Lydia & Arcadio Delos Reyes, by Delos Reyes family
- 7 pm - † Souls in Purgatory, by Broadbelt family

Friday, Dec 13 - St. Lucy

- 8 am - Prayers for healing to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, by family
- 7 pm - (*No Intention*)

Saturday, Dec 14 - St. John of the Cross

- 8:30 am - † Jane Sweeney, by friends
- 10 am - Infants Baptism
- 5:30 pm - † Elias Cowan and all souls in purgatory, by Cowan family

Sunday, Dec 15 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

- 8 am - † Milton and Mary Fernando, by family
- 9:30 am - (*Ita.Mass*) † In honour of St. Lucia, by Maria Della Posta and Martina Renzullo
- 11 am - For the people of the Parish
- 12:30pm - † Rosa Maria Peña, Oswaldo and Ernesto Ruiz, by Maria Ruiz and family
- 2 pm - (*Twi Ghana*)
- 5:30 pm - (*Span.Mass*)



From December 15-21, 2024, each parish in the Archdiocese of Toronto will be holding a Day of Confessions. At St. Andrew's, Priests will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation on **December 18th, from 4 pm to 7 pm.**



The Feast will be celebrated on Monday, December 9th.

**National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples
12 December 2024**

To mark the National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples, the Canadian Catholic Indigenous Council (CCIC) recalls the profound sorrow expressed by Pope Francis, during his Penitential Pilgrimage to Canada in July 2022, for the catastrophic effects of the residential school system on Indigenous communities, as well as the journey of reconciliation and healing we have embarked upon together. Two years later, the Pope's words still compel us to recognize this painful legacy and walk alongside the Indigenous Peoples in a spirit of repentance, solidarity, and hope. We contemplate the Holy Father's words: "The Church is the house where we conciliate anew, where we meet to start over and to grow together". This vision of the Church as a "living body of reconciliation" has guided us in our ongoing commitment to justice and healing. In this spirit, we reaffirm our pledge to work for healing and reconciliation, and to reflect on our efforts since the Holy Father's visit to Canada in 2022.

Together we pray:

O God, Creator and Father of all,
with humility and hope, we, your children, acknowledge the relationship in You of all living things.

For this we thank You and praise You.

We call on You, Great Mystery, our God who comes to us
in Jesus Christ, Your Son
- our Lord, teacher, prophet and brother -
to open our minds and hearts as we continue to walk the difficult,
yet critical journey of reconciliation and healing.

In our world of such blessed diversity,
we see so many struggles and obstacles to oneness and unity.

We implore You to heal our brokenness and division. Show us in Jesus the way to unity
among the multiplicity of Your peoples in our world.

We also pray that You will guide and lead us in the Truth,
and show us how to be a people who walk with You. May we be a people of Respect,
Humility, Courage, Honesty, and Compassion
- as we find Your Wisdom on the Spirit-led journey that supports deep healing and fosters
renewed relationships.

Lord, make us channels of Your Peace, Hope, and Love!
+Amen



At Newediuk Funeral Homes, we appreciate that your recent loss may make the Christmas Season painful. What was once a joyous time may now seem unbearable. Yet it can also be a special time to honour the memory of your loved one.

We invite you, your family, and friends to join us for our:

**"Twenty - Seventh Annual
Celebration of Life"**

It is an uplifting community service offering you the opportunity to reflect, share and connect so as to find comfort and strength during the Christmas Season.

Saturday December 14, 2024 – 3pm

**Newediuk Funeral Home, Kipling Chapel
2058 Kipling Avenue
(North of Rexdale Boulevard)
Etobicoke, Ontario**

Please call 416-745-7555 to RSVP



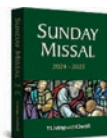
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

- KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST -

Christmas has become a secular holiday for many, particularly children. In response, the Knights of Columbus have launched a poster contest. This program allows youth to engage their creative talent and imagination while understanding the true, spiritual meaning of Christmas. Entries must include a slogan reflecting the topic and an original visual image.

There is no limit to the number of posters each contestant may submit. Each poster should be the original work (including concept, layout, slogan and any visual images) of a single person. Poster should be approximately 11x17 inches.

Kindergarten to grade 8 students can enter. Deadline to submit posters is Sunday, December 15th. For more information contact Robert 416.275.5020.



Sunday Missals are now available for \$10.00. You can get your copy at the Parish Office (during regular hours) or at the entrance of the Church (before or after weekend Masses).

SAVE THE DATE
FRIDAY DECEMBER 13 | 6:30 PM

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Presents
Annual Turkey Roll & Bingo Family Night!
A Family fun-filled evening with food, prizes and caroling!
Price \$12 / \$6 for children 12 and under.
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BINGO

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HELP SUPPORT PARISH BUILDING FUND.

**St. Andrew's Parish Stewardship
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