

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT / B

This Sunday is called “Laetare Sunday” in the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite since its mood and theme is one of hope and rejoicing that Easter is near. In the Ordinary Form this Sunday is not different from the other Sundays of Lent even though the entrance antiphon for the day still begins with the Latin word “laetare” and the vestments worn by the celebrant are rose-colored, not violet. The day is important because it is the day of the second scrutiny in preparation for the baptism of adults at the Easter Vigil.

CALL TO ACTION: OPEN ONTARIO TO WORSHIP

Taken from a letter from Cardinal Thomas Collins: *I have been providing updates to you throughout this period of pandemic. We have also been working closely with the Government of Ontario to ensure that restrictions are respected as we collectively fight a virus that has, thus far, taken the lives of more than 22,000 Canadians. I do not believe that our elected officials and medical officers of health consciously intend to suppress religious freedom; I realize that they are in an extremely difficult position. We do, however, ask to be treated equitably. In recent days, it is becoming more difficult to believe that is happening. It is now appropriate for us to respectfully amplify our concerns. I am asking you to take two minutes to write to your Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP). A copy of your letter will also be shared with Premier Ford.* <https://www.aplacetoworship.ca>

The province has relaxed restrictions in Grey (Lockdown) regions, with retailers permitted to operate at 25 per cent capacity. Yet places of worship, regardless of whether they seat 100 or 1,000 people, must remain at a hard cap of 10 people. Next week, a funeral at St. Michael’s Cathedral (capacity 1,500) will be capped at 10 people, while around the corner dozens can enter the local liquor store and thousands will visit the Eaton Centre. This makes no sense.

I encourage all of you, whether you are in the Grey Zone (Toronto and Peel Regions as of March 8) or an area where churches can open at greater, but still greatly limited capacity, to respectfully request that any restrictions for places of worship use a percentage of capacity as opposed to an arbitrary number. This is an interfaith initiative with participation from many faith communities.

500 YEAR ANNIVERSARY MASS IN HONOUR OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE PHILIPPINES

Please join the Filipino faithful of the Archdiocese of Toronto for the **virtual Inaugural Mass celebrating the 500th Year Anniversary of the Arrival of Christianity in the Philippines, on Tuesday, March 16 at 11:00 am.**

It can be viewed online at: www.ph500toronto.com, on Facebook: [@500yocto](https://www.facebook.com/@500yocto) or on YouTube: [Gifted to Give – Toronto 2021](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UGdoBi3TymM). It was on March 16, 1521 when Christianity first came to the Philippines, making it the only predominantly Catholic nation in Asia. The faithful of the Archdiocese of Toronto is in unity with Filipino communities worldwide in celebrating this significant moment. We encourage you to follow, join, and share in this momentous occasion.

FROM MAYOR JOHN TORY: ONE YEAR LATER

Taken from a memo from Mayor John Tory: *Sunday, March 21st marks one year since the first death in Toronto from COVID-19. Since then, more than 2,600 people have lost their lives in the city as a result of COVID-19. We also join in mourning the many across Canada and throughout the world who have lost their lives from COVID-19.*

To commemorate this anniversary, we will be honouring all those that have died from COVID-19 and those that have been affected by this pandemic. We will also be honouring all the front-line workers who continue to risk their lives every day to help those in need. In addition, Mayor John Tory is inviting all Torontonians on the evening of Sunday, March 21st to use the power of light to honour those who have lost their lives as a result of this virus. You may wish to turn on a porch light, a balcony light, or simply place a light in your window. May God bless you and your families.

ST. BRIGID’S OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER MONDAY – FRIDAY: 10:30 AM – 12:00 NOON SATURDAYS: 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

St. Brigid’s Church will be open for Private Prayer every Monday to Friday from 10:30 am to 12:00 Noon and on Saturdays from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. We will be adhering to the 10-person limit mandated by the Province of Ontario and the Archdiocese of Toronto.

HOLY COMMUNION SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY DURING THE LOCKDOWN

We would like to invite the faithful to take part in Holy Communion services every Sunday morning at 8:30 am, 9:00 am, 9:30 am, 10:00 am and 12:00 pm. We will be adhering to the 10-person limit mandated by the Province of Ontario and the Archdiocese of Toronto. **Please contact the Parish office to sign up.**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - LIVESTREAMED EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT - 7:00 PM

Please join us on our **Facebook Page live every Friday evening at 7:00 pm**, throughout the Lenten season as we pray the Stations of the Cross in both English and Italian.

Praying the Stations of the Cross is a powerful way to contemplate and enter into the mystery of Jesus’ gift of himself to us. **The next service will take place on Friday, March 19th:** <https://www.facebook.com/stbrigidchurch>

If you would like to follow the **Stations of the Cross** on YouTube, you may do so by clicking: www.youtube.com/watch?v=UGdoBi3TymM

CONFESSIONS THROUGHOUT LENT SATURDAY, MARCH 20 - 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Our regional Bishop, Most Reverend Robert Kasun will be hearing Confessions at our Chapel on Saturday, March 20th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. We are adhering to the 10-person limit mandated by the Province of Ontario and the Archdiocese of Toronto. **Please contact the Parish office to sign up (416) 696-8660.**

March 14, 2021 – “Even when you were dead in your trespasses, by God’s grace you have been saved.”

MASS IN HONOUR OF ST. JOSEPH

We will be celebrating a Mass in honour of **St. Joseph** on **Friday, March 19th at 12:00 Noon**. The Mass will be livestreamed through our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/stbrigidchurch and will be uploaded to our YouTube Channel.

PRAYER CARDS IN HONOUR OF ST. JOSEPH

“We must be convinced that, in consideration of his great merits, God will not refuse St. Joseph any grace he asks for those who honor him.” ~ St. Alphonsus Liguori

In honour of the Year of St. Joseph, we are offering prayer cards that can be returned to the Church with your special intention(s) stated on the back. All intentions will be prayed over at every Mass until December 8th of this year. Prayer cards can be picked up at the Church during daily private prayer, or by contacting the Parish office (416) 696-8660.

HOLY WEEK 2021 UPDATE

Due to the current grey zone restrictions imposed by the Province of Ontario, there will still be no public Masses until at least March 21st. Despite all the lockdown measures, we will continue to livestream our Sunday Masses at 11:00 am as well as our Holy Week Masses and services.

HOLY WEEK LIVESTREAMING MASS SCHEDULE:

Mass of the Lord’s Supper <i>Homily: English & Italian</i>	Thursday, April 1 at 7:00 pm
Stations of the Cross	Friday, April 2 at 11:00 am
Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion <i>Meditation: English & Italian</i>	Friday, April 2 at 3:00 pm
Easter Vigil <i>Homily: English & Italian</i>	Saturday, April 3 at 7:00 pm
Easter Sunday <i>Homily: English & Italian</i>	Sunday, April 4 at 11:00 am

ADORIS ANGELUS / ADORER ANGELS

Many years ago, our altar was adorned with two beautiful angels. Unfortunately, they were removed due to damage and were never replaced. Recently, we were presented with an opportunity to purchase two angels at an exceptionally low cost to our Church. In the past, many of you have expressed an interest in bringing back the two angels to the altar and in helping us with the associated costs. If you would like to make a donation to assist us in purchasing these two angels, we invite you to contact the Parish office. Your donation will be eligible for a tax receipt.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

The regular collection for the week ending on March 7th was **\$2,680.00**. Please remember **St. Brigid’s Parish in your last will and testament**. Don’t forget to ask us about **Pre-Authorized Giving (P.A.G.)**.

QUARTA DOMENICA DI QUARESIMA/ B

«Avere la vita eterna» non indica solo la promessa di una beatitudine dopo la vita terrena, ma la partecipazione alla

vita divina già fin d’ora. Nel «dare», cioè nel consegnare il Figlio alla morte, il Padre manifesta la sua straordinaria passione per l’uomo: una verità questa, che ha ancora la forza di capovolgere le nostre visuali e, forse, di scandalizzare.

COLLETTA SETTIMANALE

La colletta regolare di 7 Marzo e’ stata **\$2,680.00**. **Per favore, ricordate la nostra parrocchia nel vostro testamento. Avete mai pensato che la vostra parrocchia puo’ essere “il terzo figlio della carità” nel vostro testamento?**

MASS INTENTIONS / INTENZIONI DELLA MESSA

FR. CARLOS WILL CELEBRATE ALL MASSES PRIVATELY, EVERY DAY, FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

Saturday, March 13th

9:00 a.m. Special Birthday Blessing for Rosa Puopolo Spizzirri
5:00 p.m. For all the Living & Deceased Members of our Community

Sunday, March 14th ~ Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m. **Mass Pro Populo ~ Mass For All Parishioners**
9:45 a.m. +Francesco & Adelina Casciaro, req. by Rosa Visconti
11:00 a.m. *Special Blessing for Healing for Merle Mondro, req. by Sylvia & Steve McDonald*
Special Blessing for Healing for José Rodriguez, req. by Ignacio Uriarte
For all the Deceased Members of the Tela Family
+Giuseppe, Felicia & Carlo Tela, req. by Maria Tela Selvaggio & Family
+Vicki D’Andrea, req. by Maria Tela Selvaggio & Family
+Rosalba De La O, req. by Nick & Bruna Amabile
+Carmela Volpe, req. by the Galati Family
+Frank & Mary Harris, req. by Peter & Theresa Buchner

Monday, March 15th

12:00 p.m. +Fr. Amedeo Nardone, req. by the Parish

Tuesday, March 16th

12:00 p.m. Special Blessing and Prayers for Fr. Ed Curtis, req. by Paul & Nancy Crawford

Wednesday, March 17th ~ St. Patrick

12:00 p.m. +Alicia de Travesedo Blanco, req. by Ignacio Uriarte

Thursday, March 18th ~ St. Cyril of Jerusalem

12:00 p.m. **St. Brigid’s School Mass**
+Antonio & Angelo Cornacchia, req. by Gilda Cornacchia
For all the Deceased members of the Romano & Dwyer Families, req. by Lisa & Brian Dwyer

Friday, March 19th ~ St. Joseph

12:00 p.m. **Mass in Honour of St. Joseph will be livestreamed**
In Honour of St. Joseph, req. by the Calo Children
7:00 p.m. **Stations of the Cross (livestreamed)**

Saturday, March 20th

9:00 a.m. Special Blessing for all Families
5:00 p.m. +Robert James, Santiago Quintana & Paul Strabec, req. by Maria Quintana-James

Prayer to St. Patrick: May the Strength of God pilot us. May the Power of God preserve us. May the Wisdom of God instruct us. May the Hand of God protect us. May the Way of God direct us. May the Shield of God defend us. May the Host of God guard us against the snares of the evil ones and against temptations of the world. May Christ be with us! May Christ be before us! May Christ be in us, Christ be over all! May Thy Salvation, Lord, always be ours, This day, O Lord, and evermore. Amen.