Prince of Peace Parish

Founded 1983 265 Alton Towers Circle, Scarborough, Ontario M1V 4E7 Phone: 416-291-9422 | Fax: 416-291-7841 Email: parish.office@princeofpeacesc.ca Website: https://princeofpeacesc.archtoronto.org/

OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm (closed 12pm-1pm) Friday 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Saturday & Sunday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Weekday Masses

Weekend Masses Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am, 10:00 am, 11:30 am & 1:00 pm Monday-Saturday: 8:30 am Wednesday & 1st Friday: 7 pm Confessions Saturday: 9:00 am - 9:45 am 4:00 pm-4:45 pm (First Friday Confessions-see below)

PASTOR

Fr. Efren Alvarez Pelayo fr.efren@princeofpeacesc.ca

Associate Pastor Fr. Martin Lugo Tapia fr.martin@princeofpeacesc.ca

DEACONS

Rev. Mr. Terence Rebello Rev Mr. Thomas Aquino

SECRETARY

Fatima Sequeira fatima@princeofpeacesc.ca

SACRAMENTS COORDINATOR-OFFICE ASSISTANT Joan Turco joan@princeofpeacesc.ca

ACCOUNTANT

Rene Ng rng@archtoronto.org

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Dan Christante dan.christante@gmail.com Tom Mitrovski tom@princeofpeacesc.ca

HOUSEKEEPING Geneveve Macariola-Amini

> **CARETAKERS** Jessie Guinto

New Parishioners

To become a member of our parish, visit the parish office in person.

VOLUNTEER SCREENING

Contact the office or our volunteer coordinator Hsiu Hau at screening@princeofpeacesc.ca

BAPTISM

Contact the parish office 3 months before the desired date of Baptism.

FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION PREP

In normal times, these programs run from September to June. Look for bulletin announcements.

R.C.I.A

The Christian Initiation of Adults is for those wishing to learn more about how to become Catholic. Please contact the parish office for further information.

MARRIAGE

Contact the parish office at least one year in advance of the desired date.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The date of our Mass of anointing is published in the bulletin. For home visits, call the parish office. From the hospital, ask for a priest directly at the nursing station.

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS

Following the 7pm mass there is exposition, adoration (confessions during adoration) and Benediction at 8:30pm.

MASS OF ANOINTING

Second Wednesday of every month at 12:00 noon.

VISITING MINISTRY Currently no visits for Holy Communion

are available.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY Postponed until further notice.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Fion Lee—Grand Knight GK9144@ontariokofc.ca

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Meet on the 2nd Monday of every month. For assistance, donations or to join call 647-234-0265.

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every Month.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

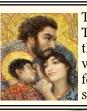
Prince of Peace	416-393-5416
Our Lady of Grace	416-393-5372
St. Marguerite Bourgeoys	416-393-5381
St. Rene Goupil	416-393-5408
The Divine Infant	416-393-5414
Fr. Michael McGivney	905-472-4961
Francis Libermann HS	416-393-5524

Feast Of The Holy Family

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 30 5:00pm Mass Sunday, December 31 8:30am Mass 10:00am Mass 11:30am Mass 1:00pm Mass **New Years Eve** 5:00pm Mass Pro Populo Monday, January 1 8:30am Mass 10:00am Mass 11:30am Mass 1:00pm Mass Tuesday, January 2 8:30am Mass + Maria Rosa De Carvalho Manuel Vallesteros Wednesday, January 3 8:30am Mass +Martha Massey Kalyani Selvaraj 7:00pm Mass **+**Eva Oufi Akram Khayat Thursday, January 4 8:30am Mass **+**Sr. Maria Gorette Harold Massey Friday, January 5 8:30am Mass Ong Ang Ko Alex Alphonso 7:00pm Mass Amelia Barroso Rev. Victor Jeyasingham Saturday, January 6 8:30am Mass Francisco Alphonso Muttiah Jeyabalan

SANCTUARY LAMP JANUARY 1-6 For the Health of: Efren Cantos In Thanksgiving By: Elvina Issacson For the Eternal Rest of: Cecil David Manipula, Inez Steaman, Lucy Aquino



Today's readings speak to us about living as a family and a community. They confirm that both require work, generosity, patience and openness to the unexpected. We look to the Holy Family as a model for ourselves, and we learn, with some relief, that Jesus' parents were as challenged and confounded as we often are. We can be like them because they were like us in so many ways.

A Christmas Wish

As we welcome the birth of our Saviour this Christmas, I am acutely aware of the challenging times that surround us. Yet, in the midst of these trials, we find ourselves drawn to the profound message of Christmas....

At its core, Christmas is a celebration of the birth of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ. In times of turmoil, His message becomes

all the more relevant. The world may be engulfed in conflict, but Christmas reminds us that there is a greater power at work, a power that transcends the chaos of our human

existence. Let us reflect on the angels' proclamation of "Peace on Earth, goodwill toward all." The Christmas story teaches us that true peace is not merely the absence of conflict but the presence of justice, compassion, and love. It challenges us to be ambassadors of peace in our communities, advocating for reconciliation and understanding.

As we navigate through these challenging times, let the Christmas message serve as a guiding light. Let us be beacons of hope, agents of peace, and vessels of love. The darkness may seem overwhelming, but remember, it is in the darkest night

that the stars shine the brightest.

In the spirit of Christmas, let us pray for the courage to be instruments of change in a world thirsting for healing. May the love that was born in a stable in Bethlehem be reborn in our hearts, bringing comfort to the afflicted, strength to the weary, and hope to the despairing.

May this Christmas be a time of renewal, a season of transformation, and a celebration of the enduring light that darkness cannot overcome. On behalf of our pastoral team and office staff, Merry Christmas to all the parishioners and friends of Prince of Peace parish.



New Year 's

Mass Schedule

December 31 + New Years Eve 5:00pm

January 1 + New Years Day 8:30am, 10am,

11:30am, 1:00pm Regular Weekday Mass Schedule returns Tuesday, January 2, 2024.

PRAYER GROUP Attention, we are taking a Christmas break and we will be returning on **January 11, 2024** at **7pm** in the parish hall.

ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING

Next session for new altar servers, children and youth: **January 6** from **12:30-2:00pm** in the church. Contact Fr. Martin: fr.martin@princeofpeacesc.ca



THANK YOU



As we reflect on the success of this year's Nativity Christmas Eve Play, we want to express our deep-

est gratitude to those who participated and helped us weave a tapestry of love and faith. Your contributions have enriched our worship, deepened our sense of community and allowed us to experience the Christmas story in a truly meaningful way. May the blessings of the newborn King be with you and your families throughout this coming year.

MONTHLY MASS OF ANOINTING



In the month of **January 2024**, the Mass of Anointing will be on **January 17** at **12:00pm**.

PRAYING FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The week of prayer for Christian Unity will be celebrated around the world **January 18** -25 on the theme "You shall



love the Lord your God... and your neighbour as yourself." (Luke 10:27) Join Archbishop Francis Leo on **Sunday**, **January 21**, 2024, at **4 pm.** at St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Cathedral, Markham.

PIANO OR KEYBOARD DONATION

Our current Yamaha keyboard in the parish hall is no longer useful for us

due to its size and repairs needed. We are looking for anyone in our community to help us acquire a replacement. If you or someone you know is willing to donate a piano or full size keyboard, we assure you that it will be put to excellent use. Conversely, if anyone is able to fix the baby grand keyboard and wishes to take it, we are more than happy for you to bring it home.

SING PRAISES TO THE LORD!

As we continue to grow and strengthen our faith community, we are excited to announce the implementation of "Journeysongs," a new



hymnal, to enhance our liturgical celebrations and worship experience. To make this endeavor more meaningful and reflective of our collective spiritual journey, we propose a unique opportunity for parishioners to dedicate one December 31, 2023 or more hymnals in memory of a loved one, in thanksgiving for blessings re-

one, in thanksgiving for blessings received, or for any other approved dedication. This initiative allows us to come together as a community, not only to sing but also to pray for and remember those who hold a special place in our hearts. Each time a dedicated hymnal is used, parishioners will see the special dedication. Let us come together in prayer, remembering and celebrating the lives and intentions of those commemorated. By participating in this initiative, you contribute to the spiritual tapestry of our parish, making our liturgies more engaging and more participatory, more personal and interconnected. We believe that the "Journeysongs" hymnals, enriched with your dedications, will become a powerful symbol of our shared faith and community bonds.

This Christmas, consider making a meaningful gift by participating in this initiative. To find out more about next steps, please email the parish office to receive more detailed information.

LIVING THE GOSPEL

If you've been one of our parish's generous **SchareLife** heroes in 2023, thank you. Because of you, a neighbour is healing from trauma, or is thriving as a young mother, or isn't going hungry – among the many lives your kindness has transformed. There's still time to join our incredible chorus of heroes. If you give at sharelife.org/donate by December 31, you will receive a 2023 tax receipt. Thus far we have raised **\$81,315.** (76%) toward our goal of **\$106,800.** Thank you for your generosity.



As we stand on the verge of a new year, our hearts are burdened with the weight of the challenges that surround us. The world is gripped by wars, and the realities we face may seem hopeless at times. Yet, in the midst of uncertainty, we gather as a community of faith, seeking solace, strength, and the light of God's unwavering love. The passage of time leaves its mark on every sphere of our lives. We ourselves get older, our families change, people move on, either through death or when someone leaves to earn their living or study in another part of the country or even the world.

Change is inevitable and necessary for us all to move forward and grow. With best wishes for your spiritual and temporal welfare, I pray that this new year will bring peace and health to you all...... Fr. Efren

VOCATIONS

By Baptism we are God's holy family. Pray today for the grace to live faithfully your vocation as a single, married, ordained or consecrated person. If God is calling you to do this as a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. McCarthy: 416-968-0997

vocations @archtoronto.org.

Stewardship

It is through meditating on the Holy Family that we begin to learn how we are

called to live in our own homes. The Holy Family had to work, cook meals, clean the house, and wash their clothes and every other regular activity that we too perform, yet they did all these ordinary things with extraordinary love. We too should look to be stewards in our own homes by using our time and gifts to serve our family members with great love and sacrifice.

2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Offertory envelopes are ready for pick up in the Parish Office during regular office hours. We ask that you **do not**



use envelopes from previous years as those numbers might have been reassigned to someone else. If you did not use envelopes in 2023, we ask that you visit the office to get a new box of envelopes.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION Regular Offertory December 23-24 \$ 11,742 Christmas Collection \$ 18,452 The Weekly Average Operating Expense in 2022 \$11,848

> Thankyou for your support.

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PICK OF THE WEEK

New Year's Resolutions: What's your resolution this year? Dr. Tim Gray welcomes Dr. Scott Hefelfinger, Assistant Professor of Theology in the Augustine Institute Graduate School of Theology,

to celebrate one year of the Augustine Institute Show!

The Holy Family: We are excited to announce our series of FORMED Now! Christmas and New Year special episodes. In these episodes, professors from the Augustine Institute Graduate School will lead us in reflections throughout the season!





Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus: Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp as we celebrate the feast of The Most Holy Name of Jesus with this litany prayer of the Holy Name.

BULLETIN ADVERTISING



If you are a business owner, we invite you to consider advertising your business in our parish bulletin, available weekly at Mass and virtually through our parish website.

This is a valuable, effective, local and affordable method to promote your business to our congregation. The most common sizes are displayed below but we do have other options. Please call the parish office if you wish to place an ad in our bulletin. Our bulletin is printed from September to June on a weekly basis and is available on our parish website. As an exam-

ple, we have posted these past advertisements that were previously in our parish bulletin. We hope this will provide you with an idea of how your advertisement might appear in our parish bulletin.



Call us at 416-291-9422 Email us at: parish.office@princeofpeacesc.ca