



Defender of the Faith
ST. JOHN FISHER
 CATHOLIC CHURCH



300 Balmoral Drive, Brampton, Ontario, L6T 1V6

March 9, 2025

1st Sunday of Lent

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS! ST. JOHN FISHER IS A PARISH COMMUNITY THAT BELIEVES IN THE GOOD NEWS THAT JESUS CHRIST IS ALIVE AND IN OUR MIDST. WE INVITE YOU TO CONSIDER BEING PART OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY. TO REGISTER, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH DURING OFFICE HOURS.

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Liborio Amaral
Deacon: Dcn. John Coletti
 Secretary: Rose Jose
 Bookkeeper: Josephine Balbidades
 Custodian: Lourdes (Lulu) Pasion

Office Hours:

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays:
 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 5 p.m.

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 5 p.m.
 Sunday: 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. & 12 p.m.

Daily Mass Schedule:

Monday to Saturday: 9 a.m.

Confessions:

Saturday: 4 – 4:45 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration:

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Baptism:

Please call the parish office to inquire about baptisms.
 Baptismal instruction required.

Marriage:

Archdiocesan policy requires making arrangements one year prior to the date of marriage. Preparatory course is required.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):

Those interested in joining our Catholic Faith are asked to reach out to the pastor via the Parish Office.

Knights of Columbus Council 10402:

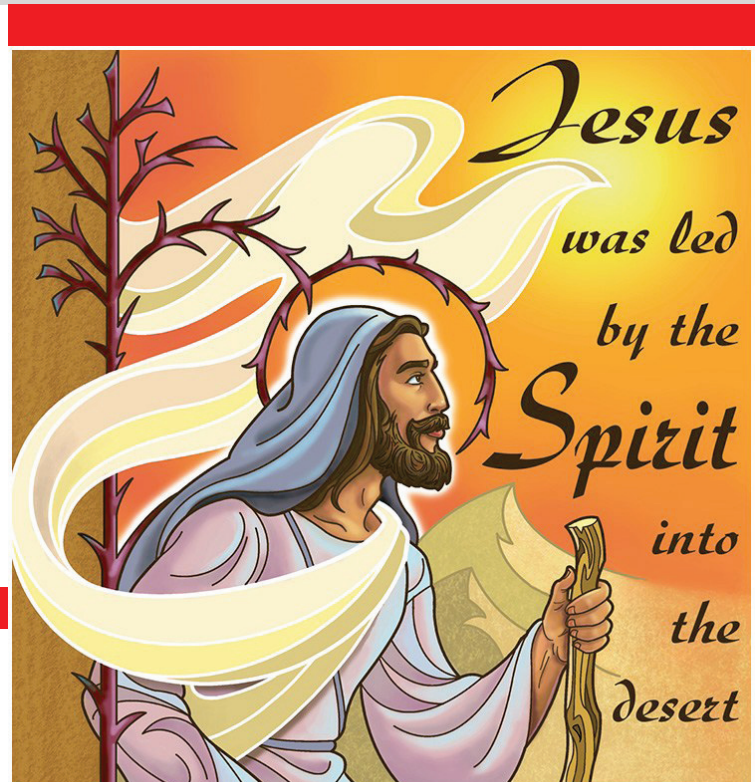
Men 18+ / knightsofcolumbus10402@gmail.com

Catholic Women's League:

Women 16+ / stjohnfisherawl@outlook.com

Society of St. Vincent de Paul:

905-790-2479 / stjohnfisherssvp@gmail.com



One does not live by bread alone,
 but by every word
 that comes forth
 from the mouth of God.

Matthew 4:4

Toronto Vocations Office

Fr. Matthew McCarthy, Vocations Director,
 416-968-0997 / vocations@archtoronto.org /
 www.vocationstoronto.ca

Our Parish Schools:

St. John Fisher / 330 Balmoral Dr / 905-793-8900
 St. John Henry Newman / 698 Balmoral Dr / 905-792-2268
 Georges Vanier / 28 Finchgate Blvd / 905-792-2251

Parish Telephone: 905-793-6610 / Fax: 905-793-7721 **Parish Email:** stjohnfisherbr@archtoronto.org

Parish Website: www.stjohnfisherbr.archtoronto.org **Parish Instagram:** StJohnFisherBrampton

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 10th - 9 a.m. – Anthony Pinto †

Tuesday, March 11th - 9 a.m. – Adelino Garcia †

Wednesday, March 12th – Bernie Bulaong †
 – Oscar Co †
 – Elizabeth Watson (SI)
 – Shirley Digby (SI)

Thursday, March 13th - 9 a.m. – Quang Trinh †

Friday, March 14th - 9 a.m. – David Miles †

Saturday, March 15th - 9 a.m. – José Amaral †
 – Dion Balbesino †

Thank You

GIVING
GENEROUSLY

Offertory:



March 2nd: \$ 6,365.60
 Building Fund: \$ 3,160.00

We thank all of you who regularly give your weekly offering using envelopes. *Please remember to write your name on the outside of the envelope every week, and especially if you are a new registrant to our parish or just new to using envelopes.*

We want to make sure that the envelope number matches the name so we can allocate the donation to the correct person. Thank you for your cooperation!

ATTENTION! If you are using Envelope Boxes 52, 92, 188, 260, 282, 292, 440, 441, 463 please contact the office. We need your information (name, address, telephone, email) for our records.

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION! We continue to expand our database to be able to communicate with parishioners more easily.

Parishioners are asked to email their contact information to stjohnfisherbr@archtoronto.org. Please include:

❶ Name(s) ❷ Mailing Address ❸ Email Address ❹ Phone Number

Thank you for your cooperation!



The 5 pm Saturday Choir welcomes new singers.

We practice at 4:15 pm before the mass.

And, if you are an advanced piano player (Grade 6 piano or higher) and are interested in learning what's needed to play for mass, we welcome you also!

Please contact Michelle: 416-828-8071 (call/text).

OLD PALMS: If you have old palms at home, please consider giving them to the church so that we can burn and use them for our yearly Ash Wednesday celebrations. Please bring them to the main entrance of the church (i.e. the Narthex) and place them in the basket on the side table.

1 CROSS + 3 NAILS = 4GIVEN



The Season of Lent



JOIN US ON FRIDAYS DURING LENT:

- ▶ Mass at 9 am
- ▶ Confessions available from 6-6:45 pm
- ▶ Mass at 7 pm
- ▶ Stations of the Cross at 7:30 pm

The Knights of Columbus, St John Fisher Council

Lenten

Soup & Fellowship



will be hosting a **LENTEN SOUP FRIDAY** on March 14th at 8 pm (after Stations of the Cross).

A modest vegetable soup with a bun/crackers will be served.

Lift Jesus Higher Rally: Power from On High

Saturday, March 29th / 9 am-5:30 pm www.ljhr.ca

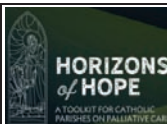
Tickets: \$49 adults, youth \$25

Metro Toronto Convention Centre (north building)

Bus from St John Fisher, boarding at 6:30 am / Cost \$15

For tickets & bus reservation, please contact:

Mary Reghelini 416-882-7330 or Lorraine Carvey 647-855-8980



You are invited to join us to explore 4 modules of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops' (CCCC) Horizons of Hope (HOH) series.

It intends to share the truth about the

Palliative Care Approach with participants through scripture reflection and sharing of theological and medical perspectives.

Please save the dates and plan to join us:

May 6th, 7th, 13th & 14th / St John Fisher Hall @ 7 pm

Further details for registration will be coming soon in March.

The Archdiocese's Office for Refugees is excited to launch the **2025 REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM FOR PARISHIONERS.**

This initiative supports parishioners in sponsoring family members who have been forced to flee their homeland because of war, violence, or persecution and who need resettlement. If you are a parishioner interested in sponsoring a family member, *please contact the parish office to schedule a meeting with the pastor.* Please note that interested parishioners will be asked to provide the necessary funds required by Immigration Canada for sponsorship. The Refugee must currently reside outside of their Country of Origin/Citizenship.

SECURITIES AS A CHARITABLE GIFT OPTION:

One of the most financially sound ways to support the Archdiocese of Toronto is a gift of securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds). When you donate these and other publicly traded securities to a registered charity, you pay no capital gains tax and receive a tax receipt for the full amount of the gift. It means a great tax break for you and more significant support of your Parish and various archdiocesan charities.

You can find all the information and forms you will need here:

<https://www.archtoronto.org/en/offices-and-ministries/social-justice-outreach/development-and-sharelife/home/gifts-of-securities/>

Or email: development@archtoronto.org.



Sign Up to receive the Weekly Bulletin and other special alerts emailed directly to your inbox.

<https://stjohnfisherbr.archtoronto.org/en/contact-us/sign-up/>

Visit our website regularly to stay up to date.

www.stjohnfisherbr.archtoronto.org StJohnFisherBrampton





Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,
During this season of Lent, the church invites us to use the three Pillars of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving to help us grow in holiness – so that we can become SAINTS.

A few months ago, I received a note from one of our Sacramental candidates in their weekly envelopes. The note said the following (I have changed some words so that the identities of the people involved remain unknown):

Dear Father, I don't have any money to give this week, but I can share my act of kindness. This week at school there was a student who had been really unkind to me. We used to be great friends. When school started, this friend dumped me for a new group of friends. Those friends are now treating this person badly because this person was encouraging the group to bully others. I know this friend of mine has changed and I pray that God helps this person to find kindness in their heart. Anyway, at recess I noticed that this person was alone, so I walked over to the person and tried to keep the person company, because feeling alone is horrible. I opened my heart and was kind to someone who was mean to me.

What a wonderful note this was in sharing the importance of *loving your enemies* and helping those who are alone. This young student teaches us what it means to grow in faith and follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ. I thank this student for this note, because this student taught me the true gift of forgiveness and love for those who have not been nice to us. May we all learn this lesson as well.

BLESSINGS, Fr. Liborio



Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert for 40 days of prayer and fasting. Are you open to being led by the Holy Spirit into the life-commitment God has prepared for you?

If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, Contact Fr. Matthew McCarthy, Vocations Director, ArchToronto 416-968-0997/ vocations@archtoronto.org / www.vocationstoronto.ca

HIGH SCHOOL COME & SEE DAY RETREAT

Saturday, March 29th – 9 am – 3 pm

hosted by the Office of Vocations at St Augustine's Seminary.

The Office of Vocations is hosting a high school day retreat for high school men, in grades 11 & 12. This retreat is designed to help young men cultivate a deeper prayer life & relationship with the Lord. Seminarians will offer reflections on practical aspects of faith. This retreat will offer opportunities for communal prayer, Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration & socializing. Lunch will be provided.

Register online at: www.vocationstoronto.ca/hscomeandsee.

For more info, contact: vocations@archtoronto.org

HAPPY MARCH BREAK TO ALL OUR STUDENTS!

We would like to wish all our students a happy and restful **March Break**. Don't let this week pass by without finding time to have fun with other friends and family. It would be a shame to fill this week with TV, or computer games. On behalf of Deacon John, our parish staff and myself, I wish you all a blessed and safe **March Break**.



– Fr. Liborio

A DAY WITH MARY is a new archdiocesan event. It will be celebrated on Saturday, May 31, the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We will gather from all corners of the Archdiocese, at Villanova College in King City to participate in Mass and pray the Rosary. Our devotion to Our Lady will grow deeper through a keynote address for the adults and children's catechesis for the kids. Consider joining the Cardinal Archbishop and so many others who love the Blessed Mother. More information will follow in the coming weeks. *Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us!*



YOUR LOVE IS A GUIDING LIGHT DURING LENT:

Maria, a 64-year-old newcomer to Canada, arrived seeking a fresh start but found herself struggling to find both stable employment and affordable housing. Through your support of ShareLife, she received personalized guidance at Catholic Crosscultural Services that helped her secure both a job and a home. She found stability and peace of mind, giving her the strength to embrace her new life. Now, she's a guiding light for seniors, helping others access the support that changed her life. This Lent, you can walk the same path as a testament to resilience and the transformative power of community.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

MARTYRS SHRINE SPRING GALA – Wed June 11th / 5:30-9 pm

@ Bellvue Manor, 8083 Jane St, Vaughan

His Eminence, Frank Cardinal Leo, will join in this unique and interactive evening as we journey to various Pilgrims of Hope stations, learn about a variety of Shrine pilgrimages and sample appetizers from different countries. This immersive experience will conclude with an elegant dinner. Tickets \$200.

<https://martyrs-shrine.com/spring-gala/> / 705-526-3788 / 855-526-3788
communications@martyrs-shrine.com

REDEMPTORIS MATER MISSIONARY SEMINARY: Come and celebrate with us at the 23rd **Annual Fundraising Dinner** in support of the formation of future priests for the Archdiocese of Toronto. An evening full of excellent food, open bar, live entertainment, experiences of seminarians and the raffle draw (main prize \$1,500 Air Canada voucher).

Paramount EventSpace, 222 Rowntree Dairy Rd., Woodbridge
Friday, May 2nd / Hors d'oeuvres @ 6 pm / dinner @ 7:30 pm
Tickets: <https://rmms23dinner.eventbrite.ca> OR www.rmms-toronto.org.
More info: Fr Tomasz Skibinski 416-264-9477 ext. 1.

1155JOBS.CA - CATHOLIC CHARITIES' ONLINE JOB BOARD

Are you seeking meaningful employment or volunteer opportunities within Catholic agencies? Look no further! Catholic Charities' online job board connects passionate individuals with rewarding positions in Catholic organizations across the archdiocese. **Diverse Opportunities:** Explore a wide range of job and volunteer openings in social services and in our parishes. **Supportive Network:** Join a network of dedicated professionals and volunteers who are driven by faith and compassion. **Opportunity** to share your job postings within the Catholic community. www.1155jobs.ca Info? hkandiah@ccat.ca

Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.
Be with me, Lord, I pray.



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