Defender of the Faith

ST. JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

800 YEARS OF ST. FRANCIS' DEATH 1226 — 2026

300 Balmoral Drive, Brampton, Ontario, L6T 1V6

APRIL 12, 2026 — 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

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
Custodian: Lourdes (Lulu) Pasion

Office Hours:

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays:
9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 2 - 5:30 p.m.
Wednesdays:
12 - 4 p.m. and 5 - 8 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+ / *stjohnfishercwl2026@gmail.com*

Society of St. Vincent de Paul:
905-790-2479 / *stjohnfisherssvp@gmail.com*

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing.
John 20:27

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

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MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, April 13th - 9 a.m.
Tuesday, April 14th - 9 a.m. – Maria Lourdes Aguirre ✞ – Richard "Dick" Armstrong ✞
Wednesday, April 15th – 9 a.m. – Alice Andal Romano ✞ – Armando & Justina Erramuspe ✞
Thursday, April 16th - 9 a.m. – Carmelina Vaze Coelho ✞
Friday, April 17th - 9 a.m. – Wayne Rebeiro ✞
Saturday, April 18th - 9 a.m.

Thank You FOR GIVING GENEROUSLY

Offertory:

Good Friday:	$ 5,816.10
April 5th Regular Collection:	$ 7,217.45
Easter Offering:	$ 9,306.25

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 75, 399, 443, 616, 620, 636, 638 please contact the office. We need your information (name, address, telephone, email) for our records.

THROUGH SHARELIFE, YOU PROVIDE SAFETY TO THOSE IN NEED: Your kindness makes it possible for refugees to create a sanctuary here in Canada, providing hope and new beginnings to our brothers and sisters in need. Like Hetvi, who came to Canada seeking refuge but found her hope shattered by her husband's control and abuse. Isolated and desperate, her cries for help initially went unheard. Because you care, she found solace through Catholic Crosscultural Services (CCS), a Catholic Charities agency you support through ShareLife. Here, she received housing support and counselling in her native language, as well as financial and legal assistance, food banks, childcare, and healthcare.

The Office for Refugees of the Archdiocese of Toronto is another agency you support through ShareLife, facilitating critical care for refugees. Director Deacon Rudy Ovcjak says: "On behalf of the thousands of refugees who have been forced to flee their homes and native lands, and who now find refuge in Canada—a land of freedom and peace—I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for your incredible kindness and generosity. Your unwavering support allows our office to sponsor hundreds of refugees each year, the majority of whom are Christians fleeing persecution for their faith in Christ."

The second ShareLife Sunday of the year is April 26th. Thus far we have raised $22,908.85 toward our goal of $49,000. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at *sharelife.org/donate*.

The ***Knights of Columbus, St John Fisher Council*** will be holding its **MEMBERSHIP DRIVE** at all weekend masses on *April 18th & 19th*. Knights will be at the entrance of the Church to answer your questions. Men 18+ are welcome! We look forward to speaking with you!

WALK THROUGH THE MASS Series:

Fr Liborio will be giving a series of sermons on the Gift of the Mass. These sermons will be given during the homily period on the following Weekend Masses:

- *Feb 28/Mar 1 – General Introduction to the Mass Available to view on our parish website*
- *Mar 14/Mar 15 – Part One: Introductory Rites*
- April 11/ Apr 12 – Part Two: Liturgy of the Word
- Apr 25/Apr 26 – Part Three: Liturgy of the Eucharist
- May 2/May 3 – Part Four: Concluding Rites

CANADIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS ON BILL C-218: NO "MAiD" FOR MENTAL ILLNESS

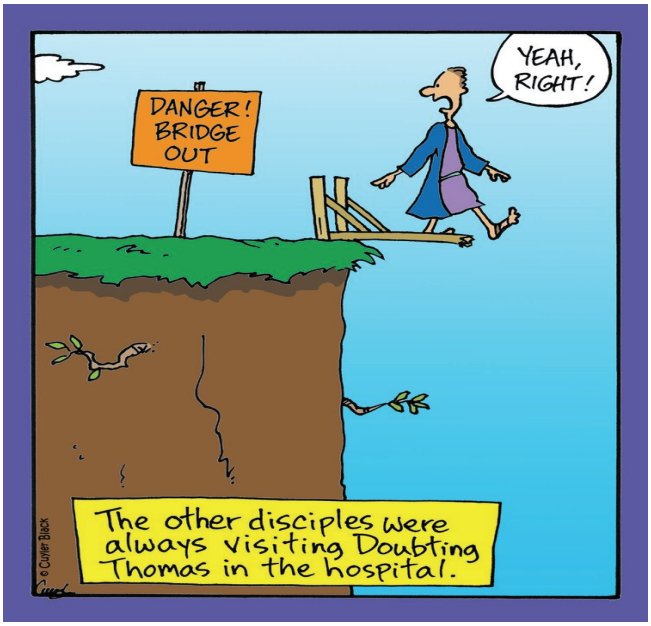
The Permanent Council of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) has issued a statement strongly supporting Private Member's Bill C-218, which seeks to prevent persons whose sole medical condition is mental illness from accessing euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide ("MAiD"). You can read the full statement here: *https://www.cccb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/2026-02-04-Statement-by-CCCB-PC-Support-of-Bill-C-218-2.pdf*

Please consider visiting: ***HelpNotHarmCanada.ca*** and email your Member of Parliament. This simple action helps ensure that our elected officials hear the concerns of Canadians who believe in compassionate mental-health care and the dignity of every person.

"As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

Will you respond to God's call to be sent as priest, deacon, sister or brother? If God is calling you,

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



Pastors' CORNER

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This weekend we focus on Part 2 of the Mass: ***The Liturgy of the Word*** is the second of four parts of the Mass, and follows the Introductory Rites, which I spoke about on the March 15th weekend. The Liturgy of the Word, along with the third Part called The Liturgy of the Eucharist, forms a vital unity and together these two comprise *one single act of worship* as the faithful are nourished at the *table both of God's word and of Christ's Body*. This section invites the assembly to encounter Christ through His living Word, proclaimed under the action of the Holy Spirit.

God speaks to us in many ways. But He primarily speaks to us through His sacred Word that is contained in Sacred Scripture (i.e. the Bible). Since we have become a very visual world, it is often difficult to calm ourselves and focus on the words that someone reads aloud to us. This is why it is good for many of us to close our eyes when we are hearing the Word of God proclaimed to us. There can be many distractions around us, even in the church, that closing our eyes enables us to focus all the more.

The Liturgy of the Word can be broken up into these parts:

- ***The First Reading:*** This reading is taken from the Old Testament which tells the story of the growth of the early Church. During Easter it is taken from the *Acts of the Apostles.* The first reading often has the same theme that will appear in the Gospel reading.
- ***The Responsorial Psalm:*** This is taken from one of the 150 psalms attributed to King David. The psalms were for the Jewish nation, poetry – it expresses the full gamut of our human experience (i.e. suffering, praise, hope, joy, lament, sorrow, etc.).
- ***The Second Reading:*** This reading is taken from the New Testament – it is mostly taken from one of the letters of St Paul to the Christian communities that he has visited and are trying to live out the *Good News*. The second reading does not often have the same theme that will appear in the Gospels, and this is why most preachers do not focus on the second reading in their homilies.
- ***The Gospel Acclamation:*** As we stand to prepare to hear the *Gospel*, we have an acclamation that leads us to hear His Word as spoken by Jesus.
- ***The Gospel:*** The Church has a 3-year cycle of readings for our Sunday celebrations (i.e. Year A, B and C). Each year we read from one of the Gospels. In Year A, we read mostly from the Gospel of Matthew. In Year B, we read the Gospel of Mark and chapter 6 of the Gospel of John. In Year C, we read the Gospel of Luke. The Gospel of John is read during the Easter season in all three years). The importance of this reading is enhanced by our gesture of *standing*.
- ***The Homily:*** This is the time that an ordained minister (i.e. Deacon, Priest or Bishop), having reflected on the readings during the week, shares his thoughts of how we all might grow in our faith through the Words we have heard. Since most of us do not have the time during the week to reflect on the readings we will hear on Sunday, we rely on the homilist to help us understand what is applicable in our lives and the message that God wishes for us. This is not the most important part of the Liturgy of the Word. And yet, many people judge the whole Eucharistic celebration by the homily. I encourage you all to see it as only one piece of the greater celebration we call the Eucharist.
- ***The Creed:*** More on this part in next weekend's Pastor's Corner.
- ***The General Intercessions (Prayers of the Faithful):*** At this point we bring our various needs to the Lord with simple prayers that we offer for the Church, the community, the sick and the dying, etc.

Silence is an integral part of moving in sequence during the Liturgy of the Word. Silence allows the hearer to incorporate God's Word into their lives.

The Church teaches that Christ is truly present in four ways in the celebration of the Mass: ❶in the person of the Celebrant, ❷in the People of God gathered, ❸in the Word proclaimed from Sacred Scripture, and finally in the most real sense, ❹in the Eucharistic species of Bread and Wine. When Sacred Scripture is read in the church, God Himself speaks to His people.

The Liturgy of the Word is a *meal* nourishing our spiritual life. In the Gospel of Matthew, we read *"Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God"* (Mt 4:4). To receive the fulness of this spiritual meal, we need to be present when the readings are proclaimed – ***we need to be on time for Mass***. The Liturgy of the Word also demands ***attentive listening***, free from distractions. But this is not as easy as it sounds. There can be so many distractions when we are participating in the Liturgy of the Word that we need to be extra diligent in ensuring that we are as focused on the Word proclaimed as we can be. We should not rely on the homily as the *Coles Notes* of the Readings proclaimed. We need to try to be actively engaged in the whole of the Liturgy – this is accomplished by participating in the silence that permeates throughout this liturgy, by joining in song and proclaiming those parts that rightly belong to the people of God.

All of us need to do our part and this especially is true for the assigned Readers (Lectors) who must be well-prepared to proclaim the Word of God. Not everyone can or should be Readers of the Word, because not everyone has the *gift or talent* of proclaiming the Word.

On a final note, it should become our practice that as individuals or families, we review and reflect on the upcoming Sunday readings so that when we come to Mass, we are all the more prepared to receive Christ in the Word proclaimed, whose living voice even today speaks to the faithful as Jesus Christ did 2000 years ago.

CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN! Fr. Liborio

Do you have gifts and talents that you can share with our parish? Join a parish ministry today! Volunteer what you can, when you can and as often as you can.
No contribution is too small.
Training and support will be provided.
We especially need: **Lectors, Ushers, & Sacristans**.
Call or email the office to sign up!

The 29th National March for Life will be held on ***Thursday, May 14th*** in Ottawa. The day will begin with Mass at St Leonard's church at 5:45 am. The bus will leave right after Mass and return at about 9 pm. This event is organized by the Knights of Columbus and sponsored by St Leonard's Parish. Tickets for the bus are $45 (non-refundable) and can be purchased at the parish office (905-846-5385).
Please call ahead to make sure tickets are available.
Need more Info? Joe: 647-281-9212 / *joeresendes19@gmail.com*

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/

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