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 19, 2026 — 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

**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:**

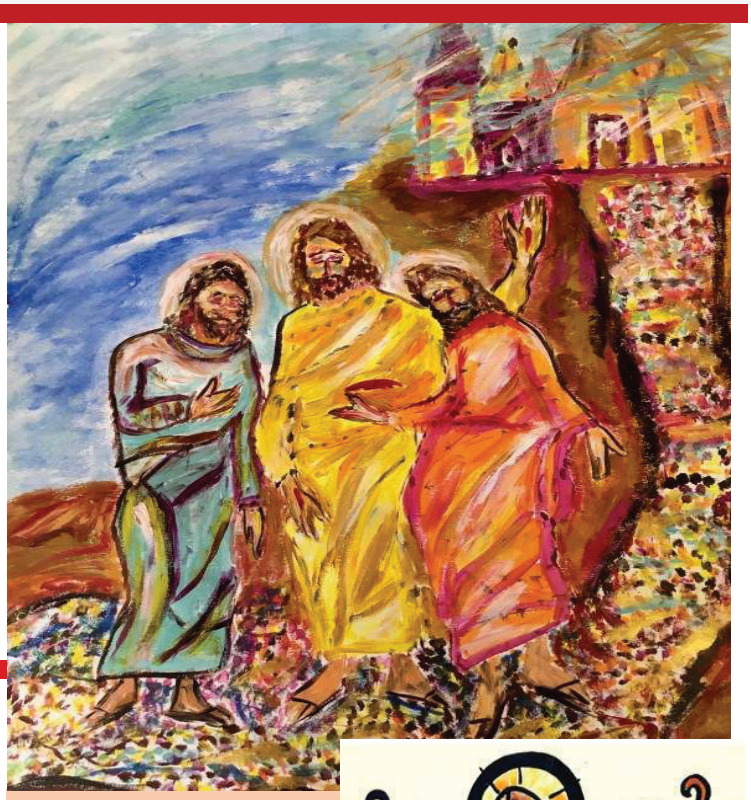
Monday to Saturday: 9 a.m.

**Confessions:**

Saturday: 4 – 4:45 p.m.

**Eucharistic Adoration:**

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.



**Stay with us,**
**O Lord, Jesus Christ**
**Night will soon fall.**
**Then stay with us,**
**O Lord, Jesus Christ**
**Light in our darkness.**
Luke 24:29; Lamentations 4:15
Taize

**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*

**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 20th - 9 a.m.** – Rose Mauro ✞

**Tuesday, April 21st - 9 a.m.** – Fr Philip Jones & Fr Ernest Ezeogu ✞

**Wednesday, April 22nd – 9 a.m.** – Zelia & Rony Cooper (SI)
– Helmtrud Krampert ✞
– Beryl Hope ✞

**Thursday, April 23rd - 9 a.m.** – Estella Glyn Williams ✞

**Friday, April 24th - 9 a.m.** – Lucrezia & Joseph Sgro ✞

**Saturday, April 25th - 9 a.m.** – Ethel de Rozario ✞
– Stella Postma ✞
– Deceased members of the Lefko Family ✞

Thank You FOR GIVING GENEROUSLY

**Offertory:**

| | |
|---|---|
| April 12th: | $ 4,756.25 |
| Building Fund: | $ 2,679.00 |

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 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 HELPED TARA REBUILD HER LIFE:** Tara's childhood was anything but safe. Conflict and fear filled her days, and as she grew older, home became unbearable. She waited, hoping things would change, but she had to leave once she became a teenager. Because of your warm heart, Tara found safety at Covenant House Toronto, a Catholic Charities agency you support through ShareLife. After a short stay in the crisis shelter, she moved into the Rights of Passage (ROP) program, determined to rebuild her life.

You gave Tara the strength to take charge of her future—adding her name to waitlists for affordable housing and taking steps to stand on her own. In the meantime, she balanced multiple part-time jobs while staying in school, saving every dollar she could. With your caring support, she connected with a counsellor to begin working through the challenges that had forced her to leave home. Today, she's living independently and building the future she once thought was out of reach.

**ShareLife Sunday special collections are taking place next weekend on April 26.** 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*.

SIGN UP **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/*

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

**Archdiocese of Toronto's Volunteer Appreciation Week:**
***Ignite Volunteerism*** - April 19 – 25

This celebration coincides with National Volunteer Week, observed across Canada and organized by Volunteer Canada. Our volunteers do more than contribute; they inspire our entire community to answer the call and put faith into action. This year's theme, Ignite Volunteerism is reflected in Isaiah 6:8
*"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" "Here am I," I said; "Send me!"*

By answering God's call, our volunteers do more than meet a need — they ignite a spirit of service that reflects His love.

**THANK YOU** for your tireless work as Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Choirs, Collection Counters, Ministry Leaders, to the faith-affirming efforts of Catechists, and Baptismal Preparation teams, and so many other volunteers.

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!*

serve — Being God's hands and feet

**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*
- *Mar 14/Mar 15 – Part One: Introductory Rites*
  *Available to view on our parish website*
- *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

**HELP NOT HARM: TAKE ACTION TO SUPPORT BILL C-218**
**WRITE YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT TODAY!**

You're invited to visit **HELPNOTHARMCANADA.CA** where you can e-mail your Member of Parliament (MP), asking for their support of Bill C-218 (The Right to Recover Act), which would amend the Criminal Code to prevent Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) from being provided when mental illness is the sole underlying condition. Without this change, MAiD will be available for those suffering from mental illness alone beginning in March 2027.

Chances are you know someone struggling with mental illness: a family member, friend, or colleague. As Catholics and Canadians, we are called to offer care, hope, and protection, not death, to those who are suffering and most vulnerable.

**Visit HelpNotHarmCanada.ca today and ask your MP to support Bill C-218.**

*Visit our website regularly to stay up to date.*
***www.stjohnfisherbr.archtoronto.org*** StJohnFisherBrampton

## Pastors' Corner

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In last week's bulletin I wrote about ***The Liturgy of the Word*** and its various parts. In this issue, I will provide more details about the part called ***The Creed***.

In the *Liturgy of the Word*, after the homily, we stand and recite the *Creed*. There are two versions we can use at Mass: the ***Apostles' Creed*** and the ***Nicene Creed***. At most Masses we use the Apostles' Creed.

### The Apostles Creed:

According to Church tradition, the Apostles' Creed was formulated by the 12 Apostles on the day of Pentecost. With so many people converting to the Christian faith, the Holy Spirit *(who Jesus promised would guide the Apostles into all truth, John 16:13)* saw it necessary that there be a common profession of the faith, or creed, to unite the Church. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Apostles' Creed is the oldest Roman catechism and carries its authority from the chair of the foremost apostle, Peter *(CCC, 194)*. The Apostles' Creed is also Trinitarian, beginning with the first Person of the Trinity, ***God the Father***, moving to the redemption of mankind through the second Person of the Trinity, ***Jesus Christ***, and then to the work of the third Person of the Trinity, ***the Holy Spirit***. Therefore, the Apostles' Creed is also a baptismal seal: the profession of faith to which we are entrusted on the day of our baptism *(CCC, 197)*.

### The Nicene Creed:

The Council of Nicaea met in 325 A.D. in a town in Turkey named Nicaea. Here the bishops composed a Creed to clearly state the beliefs of the Church and to reject many of the false understandings that were being taught. This prayer is called the Nicene Creed and it is a summary of what Christians truly believe. The Nicene Creed states the truths that the Church had been teaching since the time of the apostles.

Last year, we celebrated the 1700th anniversary of that important moment in the Church when this creed was produced. In November, Pope Leo XIV when to Turkey and to the archaeological site of what was then Nicaea. The Pope went to Nicaea and with the Eastern Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople, they prayed for unity amongst the Christian faith and they together recited the Nicene Creed. This was a wonderful moment that showed the desire of the Church to be united as one. We need to pray for Christian Unity, so that there may be one flock, shepherded by our one Lord Jesus Christ.

**Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!** Fr. Liborio

Do you recognize Christ in your life? Does your heart burn in his presence? How are you being called - as a priest, deacon, brother or sister? If God is calling you, Contact Fr. Matthew McCarthy, Vocations Director, ArchToronto 416-968-0997/ **vocations@archtoronto.org** / *www.vocationstoronto.ca*

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*

## Catholic Cemeteries Pre-Planning Seminars

Planning ahead is one of the most thoughtful and compassionate decisions you can make for your family. Join us for an informative seminar designed to help you understand your options and make confident, faith-informed decisions.

Learn about: ▸Funeral and burial options ▸Planning in advance to ease burden on loved ones ▸Catholic teachings on cremation ▸Flexible payment options (including 0% financing options)

❶Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery & Funeral Home (Woodbridge)
***April 25th at 9 am*** - Register: 905-851-5822 ext 1

❷Assumption Catholic Cemetery & Funeral Home (Mississauga)
***May 2nd at 9 am*** - Register: 905-670-8801 ext 1

**What Are Serra Clubs?** We promote the priestly and consecrated life. Without priests, no Eucharist and the Sacraments. Here in the GTA, we co-host (with St Augustine's Seminary) the Annual Ordinandi Dinner, hold the Annual Bishop's Altar Servers Award ceremony, among many other Serra Club activities. Serra International is the only Association aggregated to the Pontifical Work for Priestly Vocations instituted by Pope Pius XII. Hence, great spiritual benefits can be gained by being a Serra Club member.

We meet every 4th Saturday of the month after the 9:15 am Mass at St Anne's Church, 115 Vodden St. E., Brampton. Interested? Contact Carlos: *carlq7@gmail.com* or 416-409-1384

## Life-Giving Wounds: A Healing Retreat for Adult Children of Divorced or Separated Parents

The Life-Giving Wounds retreat invites participants to move through the broken image of love that appeared to them in their parents' relationship to their deepest origin and identity as God's beloved, capable of great love.

***Next retreat: Fri May 15 @ 6 pm to Sun May 17 at 3:30 pm***

St Augustine's Seminary (2661 Kingston Rd., Scarborough) **ages 18+**

Cost: $325 per person ($225 for students), includes meals, lodging and retreat material. Limited subsidies are available if cost is a concern. Please contact lgwtoronto@proton.me. For university/college students, contact your campus minister for more information. Space is limited. To register, visit: bit.ly/LGW-TO-Retreat-Register2026.

## Break & Breathe Online Caregiver Support Group

for those who are currently caring for a loved one.

This free, 6-week group program provides a safe, welcoming, and non-judgmental environment to connect with others who truly understand the challenges and rewards of caregiving.

***Wednesdays, from May 13th - June 17th from 1-2:30 pm***

*What to expect:* ▸Learn coping skills to manage emotional responses to external and internal stressors. ▸Gain access to community resources, information for planning and navigating social & healthcare systems. ▸Find relief in a supportive and non-judgmental space.

For info or to register, contact:
Yan Yan Woo at *ywoo@cfstoronto.com* / 416-921-1163 ext 2249

**Saturday, May 23rd**

Come out to be a voice for the voiceless in Canada's largest city! Alissa Golob will share her experience going undercover to expose late-term abortion across Canada. Join hundreds of other pro-lifers to stand up for the rights of our youngest neighbours in the womb. Gathering rally at 10 am, and then a march through downtown Toronto. Workshops will follow at 1:30 pm. Registration is required for the workshops. *torontomarchforlife.ca*

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*Welcomes St. John Fisher Parishioners*

980 Central Park Dr.
North Gate Plaza
905-793-1093

**Dr. Rick Thompson • Dr. Greg Thompson**
**Dr. Onkarpreet Araich**
*Developmental, Rehabilitative & General Optometry*
470 Chrysler Dr., Unit 3, Brampton 905-793-2020 familyoptometry.ca

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