

OUR LADY OF SORROWS PARISH

An Ever-Growing Beacon of God's Love, Hope and Joy for All

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:30 am - 4:00 pm 3055 Bloor St W, Etobicoke ON M8X 1C6 416-231-6016 | office@sorrows.ca | www.sorrows.ca



Mass Schedule

Weekdays (Monday to Saturday): 9:00 am

Saturday Vigil: 5:15 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 9:30 am*, 11:00 am, 12:30 pm *Children's Liturgy of the Word (ages 4-10 yrs.)
Rosary is prayed Monday to Saturday at 8:25 am

Adoration

Mondays 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

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Monday: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Saturday: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Reconciliation

By appointment - call the parish office

April 27, 2025

Fr. Chris Cauchi, *Pastor*Angelica Chacon, *Family Life Minister*Gordon D. Mansell, M. Mus, *Music Director*

Call the office for info on:

Sacrament of Baptism - Families must be registered, regularly attending Mass, supporting the good works of the church and involved in parish life. Parents are invited to attend a baptism preparation session every third week of the month.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) - This program is for adults interested in joining the Catholic Church.

Sacrament of Marriage - Parishioners must be registered and regularly attending Mass. Please contact us one year prior to your requested wedding date.

Pastoral References - You must be a registered parishioner, attending Sunday Mass regularly, participating in the sacramental and pastoral life of the Church community, be serving in a parish ministry (e.g. lector, catechist) on an on going basis, and be in good canonical standing within the Church.

Society of St Vincent de Paul 647-770-4805

Our Lady of Sorrows School www.tcdsb.org

Archdiocese of Toronto www.archtoronto.org

Catholic Cemeteries www.catholic-cemeteries.com



Franciscus Jorge Mario Bergoglio 13.III.2013 — 21.IV.2025

Today, the second Sunday of Easter, the Gospel (cf. Jn 20:19-31) tells us that, by believing in Jesus, Son of God, we can have eternal life in his name (v. 31). "To have life": what does it mean?

We all want to have life, but there are various ways of having it. For example,

there are those who reduce existence to a frenetic race to enjoy and possess many things: to eat and drink, to enjoy themselves, to accumulate money and things, to feel strong and new emotions, and so on. It is a path that at first sight seems pleasurable, but which does not satisfy the heart. Today the Gospel says that this fullness of life, to which every one of us is called, is realized in Jesus. It is he who gives us this fullness of life. But how can one gain access to it, how can one experience it?

This is the way to "have life" every day: it is enough to fix one's gaze on the crucified and risen Jesus, encountering him in the Sacraments and in prayer, recognizing that he is present, believing in him, letting oneself be touched by his grace and guided by his example, experiencing the joy of loving like him. Every encounter with Jesus, a living encounter with him, enables us to have more life. Looking for Jesus, letting ourselves be found — because he looks for us — opening our heart to the encounter with Jesus.

However, let us ask ourselves: do I believe in the power of the Resurrection of Jesus, do I believe that Jesus is risen? Do I believe in his victory over sin, fear and death? Do I let myself be drawn into a relationship with the Lord, with Jesus? And do I let myself be prompted by him to love my brothers and sisters, and to hope every day?

(Pope Francis, Regina Caeli, April 7, 2024; https://bit.ly/431LpuG)



ECULINKS Etobicoke We are called to do justice. Make your voice heard on April 28, 2025

Social justice evokes a sense of community that helps brings change through faith, service, and shared

values. It is our faith journey that offers a model of renewal, a life of accomplishment, celebration and meaning. As you prepare to vote in tomorrow's election, think about your vote through your faith journey as you are choosing the future for our country. For information. more visit www.eculinks.ca

New Young Adult Ministry First Gathering on Friday, May 9!

Are you between the ages of 18 and 39 and looking for a place to connect, grow in faith, and build community with other young adults? Join us for the launch of our Young Adult Ministry on Friday, May 9 at 7:00 pm in the parish meeting room located in the church basement. There'll be time to get to know one another, share ideas for the future of this ministry, and enjoy delicious complimentary baked goods. RSVP with the parish office to help us plan. Come and be part of shaping something new!

Volunteer Appreciation Week

Volunteers Make Waves



In alignment with Volunteer Canada's National Volunteer Week from April 27

to May 3, the Archdiocese of Toronto celebrates the invaluable contributions of our volunteers and the profound impact they have through their dedication and service. Their collective efforts resonate throughout our parish communities, creating ripples and sparking waves of positive change.

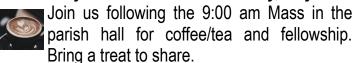
We give recognition to our wonderful OLS volunteers who serve in our parish ministries, church and community and generously share their unique gifts and talents. THANK YOU!

"Rivers of living water will flow from within him." — John 7:38

Following the death of Pope Francis

Our Catholic family worldwide mourns the death of our spiritual father, Pope 3 Francis. May we honour his legacy and be loving missionaries of mercy, sharing the light of Christ in abundance. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Francis. May Pope he rest in peace. Visit www.archtoronto.org/popefrancis

Monthly Coffee Social — Thursday, May 1



Spiritual Resilience in Challenging Times Monday, May 12, 10:00 to 11:30 am, Parish Hall

Join us for a special session on finding strength through faith with Dr. Ann Sirek-physician, theologian, and resilience expert. Through Scripture and guided meditation, discover how memory, imagination, and spirituality can bring hope in hard times. Free event. All are welcome! Registration required. Call/text Anne Marie at 416-559-9455.

St. Vincent de Paul Mother's Day Appeal

Help brighten Mother's Day with a donation of \$25 PC food cards, or cash/cheques made out to Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Please place your donation in an envelope marked Society of St. Vincent de Paul and drop it in the collection basket, rear entrance box after weekend Masses, or the parish office mail slot. Tax receipts available for gifts over \$25—please include your name, address, and original gift card receipts.

Catholic Gifts for All Ages May 17 & 18, Parish Hall

After all Masses, the Daughters of St. Paul are selling excellent selection of Catholic resources for children, youth & adults, including for Communion & Confirmation. Call the Sisters at 416-781-9131 for special requests. Cash, debit/Interac, Mastercard and Visa will be accepted.

The Handicraft Holy Land Christians will also be selling religious items crafted in the Holy Land to help the neediest Christian families living there. More information at www.HolyLandChristians.ca.



The OLS Finance Council presents the attached **Annual Financial Report for 2024**. We invite you to take some time to review this report.

First and foremost, thank you to everyone for your generous donations in 2024

- Your commitment to support the parish, both in terms of regularly contributing to the offertory collection from week to week but also for your contributions to special collections, is truly gratifying.
- In an environment where we are all dealing with uncertain and challenging economic circumstances, we offer particular thanks to those who have generously increased their level of giving. We continue to be laser-focused on efficiency and are committed to stretching the value of every dollar received through careful stewardship and thoughtful spending.

Key points of the report include:

- Receipts were up 12% over 2023.
- Of particular note was the parish's response to special collections, and in particular to ShareLife where \$510,870 was raised in 2024, exceeding our parish goal. It is heartwarming to see the ongoing generosity of the parish to help our neighbours in need.
- Disbursements increased by 21% over 2023 due to:
- Increased costs relating to the delivery of additional parish programs and services. We are providing many **more programs** than we have done previously, and parishioner participation in these important programs is growing, as is detailed below.
 - Costs in 2024 for the repair and waterproofing of the church building's exterior of \$103,814.

Your donations designated for parish use support two main areas:

- **Programming**: allowing us to offer more high quality, high impact programs to the parish community. This gives parishioners opportunities to further develop their relationship with God, as well as opportunities to live out our baptismal promises.
- Maintenance: Caring for our beautiful church building can sometimes be daunting, given its age. Your support allows us to be proactive, rather than reactive, in ensuring that the building remains in good condition, to support the ministry of the parish. During 2024, the most urgent building-related items were related to repairing and waterproofing the church building's exterior -- following the plans outlined in the Building Committee's 2023 Report.

In addition to regular ongoing maintenance, the November 2024 Building Committee Report sets out the capital projects that are on the horizon. With an ongoing focus on repair, prevention and security, the projects under consideration in 2025 are:

- Complete a review of our existing mechanical heating and cooling systems at our church, which were installed in 1996.
- Replace the existing alarm system in the rectory and offices which has been exhibiting signs of failure. This will support effective and compliant burglar, fire and carbon monoxide detection.
- Assess the state of the church sound system and other parish communication channels.

The list of projects as outlined above is not a small one. As such, the need for your generosity continues.

Parish Life:

The attached report summarizes our financial results, but more importantly, your contributions support our parish's sacramental and faith development. This past year, **participation in our spiritual programs has grown significantly**. Weekly Mass attendance remains steady at about 1,020 people, reflecting our parish's deepening spiritual engagement.

2024 STATISTICS

104 Baptisms (61 in 2023)

107 Confirmations (77 in 2023)

97 First Communions (78 in 2023)

40 Weddings (19 in 2023)

53 Funerals (54 in 2023)

17 in RCIA (6 in 2023)

106 in Alpha (63 in 2023)

113 in Bible Study (80 in 2023)

54 in Religious Ed for Children

30-70 each Sunday in - Liturgy of the Word with Children (same in 2023)

60 in Totus Tuus Summer Camp (56 in 2023)

NEW & ONGOING INITIATIVES IN 2024

- Regular pastoral visits to OLS School to support the faith education of our youth
- "Pray and Play" Moms' Group
- Children and Youth Choir
- Family Movie afternoons
- Couples' Nights
- Mental Health Awareness Presentations
- Volunteer Appreciation Events
- Fundraising Dinner for St. Francis Table & OLS Ministries
- Christmas Concert for Out of the Cold

Thank you for your support of these initiatives, both by participating and by volunteering.

Dedicated volunteers are vital to our ability to offer these new programs and initiatives. Please consider what time you can commit to volunteer and what talents you can share with the broader community at OLS.

God bless,

Fr. Chris Cauchi & the Parish Leadership Team: John McVeigh, Martin Riley & Cynthia Wujek.

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish 2024 Financial Report to Parishioners

General Parish Operations | For the year ended December 31

Receipts	2024	2023	% Change
Total Receipts	1,825,748	1,634,988	12%
Offertory and Other Parish Collections	1,025,347	947,689	
Baptisms / Funerals / Marriages	41,255	32,570	
Mass Offerings / Intentions	17,130	15,180	
Bequests & Legacies	3,705	-	
Donations towards specific expenses	41,342	18,218	
Parish Programs (Sacramental Preparation, Youth, Faith Formation)	32,870	31,210	
Sundry (Bulletin Advertising, Articles, Candles, Admin, Social) *	89,331	70,547	
Rental and Interest Revenue	158,664	153,094	
Rebates & Grants	11,952	12,988	
Special Collections - See Schedule 1 (not retained by parish)	404,152	353,492	
* Includes Family of Faith subsidies of \$21,602 in 2024; \$14,010 in 2023			

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Receipts in excess of Disbursements

30,219

145,611

SCHEDULE 1

Special Collections	2024	2023	% Change
Special Collections Total	404,152	353,492	14%
ShareLife (See Schedule 2)	238,261	191,307	
Shepherds' Trust	32,103	26,713	
Society of St. Vincent de Paul	47,812	37,014	
Canadian Food For Children	13,956	9,884	
Evangelization of Nations	7,492	6,882	
Needs of Church in Holy Land	14,747	13,180	
Marygrove Camp	10,485	9,398	
Needs of Canadian Church	6,148	6,456	
Canadian Missions	11,373	8,774	
Pope's Pastoral Works	5,315	6,912	
Mission Co-Op	7,433	9,742	
Humanitarian Relief	55	21,740	
St. Francis Table (2024 dinner net proceeds)	4,000	-	
Healing & Reconciliation	4,972	5,490	

SCHEDULE 2

ShareLife CAMPAIGN Report	2024	2023	% Change
Total ShareLife Campaign	510,870	493,632	3%
Donations through OLS Parish	238,261	191,307	
Donations through Archdiocese	272,609	302,325	

Capital Report	2024	2023
Total Receipts	164,098	128,138
Roof / Maintenance / Building Funds	164,098	128,138
Total Disbursements	164,164	96,456
Church Roof Project	123,115	96,456
Church double door ***	19,170	
Rectory door	21,879	
*** Remaining payment of \$35,601 will be made in 2025		

God bless,

Fr. Chris Cauchi & the Finance Council: Mary Lombardo, Tim Murray, Diane Pawlowski, Dennis Rossetti & Daniel Tecimer.

The OLS Finance Council is happy to review and discuss any comments or questions you may have. Please email Johnri at bookkeeper@sorrows.ca or call the parish office.

Thank you for your generosity to the parish and our charitable outreach.

Mass of Anointing of the Sick Tuesday, May 27, at 11:00 am Confession available 10:00 am - 10:50 am

The Anointing of the Sick is one of the seven Sacraments of the Church. It conveys several graces and imparts gifts of strengthening in the Holy Spirit. It is for the sick, frail and elderly and may be celebrated many times in a person's life. To join the luncheon after Mass in the parish hall, RSVP at office@sorrows.ca.

You ensure a brighter future for at-risk children

Up to 7,000 youth are homeless across Canada on any given night. ShareLife provides a refuge for at-risk youth, offering safe housing alongside healthcare, education, and employment guidance.

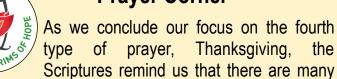
The second ShareLife Sunday of the year is May 4. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate

"Why does the Vatican Have an Astronomical Observatory?" Wednesday, May 28, 7:30 pm, Parish Hall

Join us for a fascinating talk by Fr. Adam Hincks, Jesuit priest and astrophysicist. Discover the Church's rich history in astronomy—from the 16th century to today's Vatican Observatory—and learn what the pope's astronomers are working on now.

Cardinal Leo is inviting everyone to the first annual *Day with Mary*, Saturday, May 31 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at Villanova College, King City. This is an opportunity to grow deeper in our devotion to our Blessed Mother. All are welcome and participate in Mass, pray the Rosary and listen to powerful witnessing. Keynote address from Dr. Josephine Lombardi. Our parish is arranging a highway coach to this event. Cost is \$40 with an option for lunch for \$10. Free admission but registration is required. Visit bit.ly/3Em58vG or email office@sorrows.ca.

Prayer Corner



reasons we should continue to give thanks to God:

- God gave us His greatest gift of love, salvation through Jesus. (John 3:16)
- God answers our prayers (John 11:41) and showers us with blessings (Philippians 4:6)
- He protects and keeps us in his care. (Psalm 91)

Please pick up a Thanksgiving prayer care at the church entrances and make time to pray every day. Access the online version at: https://bit.ly/4bZicn3

Totus Tuus Summer Camp – Be part of this week-long fun and faith-filled summer camp:

Day Program (Gr 1-6 in September 2025)
 July 7 – July 11 from 8:45 am to 2:30 pm
 Fee: \$135 (\$115 for subsequent siblings) – Includes lunch, snacks & T-shirt.
 Late pickup (2:30-4:00 pm) available for \$20 per week.

Evening Program (Gr 7-12 in September 2025)
 July 6 – July 10 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
 Fee: \$75 (\$65 for subsequent siblings) – Includes dinner & T-shirt.

For more info visit https://bit.ly/4hWTuFf. Questions or interested in volunteering? Email totustuus@sorrows.ca.

April 28 to May 4

-Mass Intentions

Mon. †Frances White by Sal & Patricia Borraccia

Tue. †William Antonacci by family

Wed. †Margaret Gilligan by Carroll family

Thu. †Nicole Mary Nardi by Nardi family

Fri. Living & Deceased Members of the Goseco, Valencia & Feliciano Families by Linda Feliciano

Sat. †Pawel Hac by Anna Slazyk

Sat. 5:15 pm †Leslie Sharples by Mary Sharples

Sun. 8:00 am Parish Intentions

9:30 am †David George Diston by McKee family

11:00 am †William Antonacci by family

12:30 pm †Erminio & †Veronica Corlevic by O'Hara

& Corlevic families



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