

OUR LADY OF SORROWS PARISH An Ever-Growing Beacon of God's Love, Hope and Joy for All

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



Mass ScheduleAdorationWeekdays (Monday to Saturday): 9:00 amMondays 7:00 pm - 8:30 pmSaturday Vigil: 5:15 pmSunday: 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

Reconciliation

Monday: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Saturday: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm By appointment - call the parish office

November 24, 2024

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

The Solemnity of Christ the King



The last Sunday of the liturgical year is a time to reflect on Jesus' kingship and His eternal rule. His kingdom is one of peace, justice, and love that will never fade away, unlimited by time or space. He will come again in glory, and all will recognize His kingship. In preparation, we should remain faithful and follow the teachings of the Scripture. In the Gospel, Jesus is judged by worldly standards, like how we often judge one another. Kingship is not just earthly power and control, but it is a service to others. Jesus does not seek to be served, but to serve. He is humble and preaches truth, not manipulating through fear.

Reflection questions:

- How can I live out the values of Jesus' kingdom in my life?
- How does Jesus' sacrifice on the cross show His kingship?
- How does Jesus' humility challenge my own attitudes and actions?

Annual Building Committee Report

The enclosed report outlines important building and maintenance projects undertaken at OLS in 2024 and provides an overview of what's in the planning stages for 2025, a milestone year in our parish as we mark our 85th Anniversary. Please take time to review it.

With Joyful Hearts - Upcoming Baptisms



We welcome Domenic, James, Kieran and Zoey, who will be celebrating their Baptism on Sunday, Nov. 24 at the 12:30 pm Mass. We welcome Diego and Kelly, who will celebrate their Baptisms at the 5:15 pm

Mass on Saturday, Nov. 30. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY

Parents' Small Group — Wednesday, Nov. 27 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm in the parish hall

Parents of all ages and stages are welcome! Light dinner and childcare provided. Register at https://bit.ly/3YYnlpp to help with food preparation.



Advent Celebration — Saturday, Nov. 30 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm in the parish hall



Join us in joyful preparation for the Christmas season through craft activities for children and sing along with the OLS Children's Choir with Gordon Mansell, our Music Director on piano. No RSVP

required. Free-will offerings welcome.

Community Building Event — Saturday, Nov. 30



After 5:15 pm Vigil Mass in the parish hall. Hosted by our Evangelization Ministries. Meet fellow parishioners and help grow our parish community.



Spirit of Welcome

As we welcome more members to our parish community, we invite you to share your spirit of welcome to all by making room in the pews.

Book of Remembrance - The shrine of St. Joseph



is suitably decorated and the Book of Remembrance has been readied to receive the names of our dearly departed. Prayers

will be offered for all names at all Masses during the month of November.

Special Collection Next Weekend Christmas for the Poor

This special collection benefits two important charities in our community: Canadian Food for Children and the OLS Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Please make your cheques payable to Our Lady of Sorrows.

Honey Available for Sale — This Weekend



Pick up a 6 oz. jar of raw, unpasteurized honey from the Bloor foyer this weekend. This super-local honey was collected from bee hives in the Kingsway. \$10 per jar, proceeds go towards ShareLife.

Adopt a Family for Christmas

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to invite you to bring Christmas joy to our neighbours in need! Many families



struggle to make ends meet and your support will help purchase a festive meal and gifts this Christmas. То adopt family, а email olschristmas@gmail.com or call 647-770-4805.

If you prefer to make a cash or gift card donation, simply place your donation in an envelope marked SSVDP Christmas Campaign along with your receipt and contact information in the collection basket at any Mass. PC or Walmart cards in denominations of \$25 are most helpful. Tax receipts are available. Cheques must be made out to Society of St Vincent de Paul.

Vigil Mass with contemporary music (Praise and Worship) - Saturday, Dec. 14, at 5:15 pm

Join us on the journey to diversify our music at Mass with small ensemble of young talented musicians from the parish, led by Alejandra Ballon.



MOSAIC Italy — November 16 to 29

The MOISAIC choir will perform throughout Italy including a Sunday Mass at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. OLS will enjoy the music of organist Dr. Stefani Bedin and Former OLS Assistant Choir Director Nicholas Wanstall. Please keep Gordon and the choir in your thoughts and prayers.



NOV

OUR LADY OF SORROWS PARISH

Annual Building Committee Report

We are pleased to provide this year-end update of the important building and maintenance projects undertaken at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in 2024, and to share information about what's in the planning stages for 2025, a significant milestone year in our parish as we mark our 85th Anniversary.

Similar to any old beautiful home, there is always more work to be done than available resources and time. Parishioners who have lived in an older home know the unique challenges of proactively caring for an aging building. The OLS Building Committee takes a thoughtful and measured approach to the long list of possible projects in and around the church buildings and property. In recognition of the special needs of our older church, restoration of damaged areas and prevention of future deterioration are the two key criteria that help prioritize which projects need to be completed first.

2024 Building Committee Priorities

During 2024, the most urgent items were related to repairing and waterproofing the church building's exterior -- following the plans outlined in the Building Committee's 2023 report on the Church Roof & Masonry Project. Over the summer months you would have seen the scaffolding surrounding the church, which signalled that this work was underway.

The elements have taken a toll on the church's exterior and have caused ongoing water damage. Over time, this has significantly eroded the brick and the exterior wood surrounding the stained-glass windows. To mitigate further deterioration, brick was tuckpointed and the church's exterior was repaired. These repairs will also stop the ongoing deterioration of the north-east wooden door entrance. This door will be replaced in 2024 as the ongoing water leakage coming from above has now been alleviated. A new rectory door was also installed, funded in part by the provincial Anti-Hate Security & Prevention Grant.

These repairs were prioritized to extend longevity and mitigate future deterioration

- in other words, aesthetics were not the main driver. For example, the new copper cladding on the upper bell tower façade is more durable and will last longer. It was also installed faster and with lower costs than if new wood had been used.

Another important area of attention this year was the re-caulking and replacement of the exterior glass protecting our church's 17 beautiful stained-glass windows. These are the top windows on the east and west sides of the church. We also recaulked the large rose stained-glass feature window at the front of our church. This completes all the important planned exterior work on the church.

It's not easy to see many of these repairs from a distance. Here is a before-and-after view of one of the stained-glass windows, showing the repair to the exterior glass overlay and the copper flashing which protects the surrounding wood.

After:

Before:



Please take a look at the additional before-and-after pictures posted on the bulletin board in the front vestibule of the church.

A number of security and safety features around the church and rectory were also prioritized in 2024. Here is an overview of the key projects and the current estimated costs for the work undertaken in this year:



Bell Tower repairs / Church Roof: \$133,000



New Cliveden Ave. wooden doors: \$60,000



Security upgrades: \$24,000, funded in part by the provincial Anti-Hate



Electrical work: \$15,000



Church exterior including stainedglass windows repairs: \$99,000



New rectory door: \$28,000, funded in part by the provincial Anti-Hate Security & Prevention Grant



Pavement and parking lot repairs: \$22,000



Rectory hot water tank replacement: \$5,000

The key projects were funded by parishioner donations to the Roof / Building fund in the current and prior years and are in-line with budget estimates approved by the Finance Council. We anticipate that the current year's donations to the Roof / Building fund will cover about one-third of the capital costs incurred for these key projects, with the remainder to be funded from donations received in prior years.

2025 Priorities

Turning to 2025, the OLS Building and Finance Committees have completed a detailed review of five top-level items that need to be prioritized. With an ongoing focus on repair, prevention and security, here are the initial projects under consideration:

1. Mechanical Systems review

The majority of the existing mechanical heating and cooling systems at our church were installed in 1996. While they have been well-maintained over the years, they are nearing their end of life, as the majority of this equipment has a lifespan of between 20 to 30 years.

The main components of the system include two boilers, an air-cooled chiller, three main pumps, a make-up air unit and various fan-coil units installed throughout the church. Parts for this equipment are now difficult to source making repairs potentially challenging and costly. Although we may potentially realize a few more years of service out of this equipment, in order to mitigate the risk of system failure at an inopportune time, planning for their replacement is underway.

The Building Committee's next step is to engage the services of a mechanical engineering consulting firm to prepare a feasibility study of all options and to provide initial cost estimates.

2. Update Alarm system

The current alarm system in the rectory and offices are outdated, unreliable and not in compliance with current laws. Focus on these important safety upgrades will support effective burglar, fire and carbon monoxide detection for the rectory, offices and garage.

3. Repair the east entrance glass doors

The current glass doors are not working properly and work is underway to assess how they can be repaired to improve their functionality and durability.

4. Upgrade the church sound system

Our sound system in the church is a vital component to our faith community. Our current system is 20 years old, and while minor upgrades have been made since it was first installed, the sound quality is temperamental and the audio clarity and reach need to be improved. We've heard the concerns from parishioners. A review is underway to help determine whether the repair or replacement of the sound system is the best approach. Areas of focus will include improving sound coverage and

clarity at various locations within the church building, upgrading our hearing assist system, and utilizing a more integrated system that supports future digital upgrades as technology continues to evolve.

5. Install new external church sign

The Our Lady of Sorrows sign in front of the church was meant to be a temporary solution. To help communicate our vision and mission – who we are and what we believe – a new and improved digital sign is in the planning stages.

A new sign will be a new channel of communication – helping to improve communications within our parish community and attract the attention of those driving by -- as well as welcoming people in the neighbourhood who may not yet be parishioners.

In the coming months, the Building Committee will continue to create detailed plans and source multiple quotes, working closely with the Finance Council. We will keep you updated on these next steps.

These ongoing OLS projects are funded in a large part by your generous donations to the monthly OLS Building and Maintenance fund. OLS relies on and greatly appreciates your ongoing contributions. We are committed to being good stewards of your donations to help keep our aging parish home in good repair, in order that OLS can continue to be a place where our spiritual lives can thrive. If you are interested in making a leadership gift or an in-memory gift to any of the above-mentioned projects, we invite you to contact Johnri Velez, our Bookkeeper, at bookkeeper@sorrows.ca or 647-933-6248.

Thank you to our OLS Building Committee members for their ongoing work: Mark McKee, Dennis Rossetti, Anna Stranks, David Tyrrell and Rino Zan.

If you have any questions or comments about this report, please contact: Luisa McKee, Operations Manager at luisa@sorrows.ca or 647-933-6209.



In Yonder Stall **Out-of-the-Cold Christmas Concert** Tuesday Dec. 17, 7:00 pm at OLS Church

The annual Christmas concert will support the Out-of-the-Cold program at All Saints Kingsway in assisting those less fortunate. Sing traditional Christmas carols with musicians and singers from the area. Free-will offerings appreciated.

Advent All Day Confessions

Saturday, Dec. 21, from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm

World Youth Day 2024 – November 24

This year's theme, "Those who hope in the Lord will run and not be weary" emphasizes the importance of hope. In a world of tragedies and despair, hope strengthens us to continue marching forward, knowing that we can always depend on God. adobe.ly/48VkYYU

Bishop Allen Christmas Market Nov. 28 — 721 Royal York Rd

You are welcomed to the annual Christmas Market from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Enjoy food, vendors, crafts, bouncy castles, and more!



Advent Retreat - Saturday, Dec. 14 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, St. Augustine's Seminary

"Here I Am, Lord – Living the Unconditional Yes of Mary and Joseph" with Rev. Edwin Gonsalves. Cost: \$45 - Includes lunch and refreshments. To register: bit.ly/3ADvI1z

Burying the Dead, Grieving Well

A guide from the Canadian Conference whice the second disposition and grief. bit.ly/4eBKzr1

OLS Pilgrimage to Poland, Czech Republic, Austria, Hungary, Croatia and Medjugorje, under the spiritual leadership of Fr Chris Cauchi, September 16 to 30, 2025 (14 days). Visit bit.ly/40NUerp or call 647-294-4116 for details. An information meeting will be held on Friday Dec. 6 at 7:00 pm in the parish hall.



Prayer Corner

Relieving stress and anxiety

Did you know that there are 366 statements in the Bible telling us not to worry, be afraid or anxious? Why is that?

Most of us have moments of anxiety and fear. Anxiety gives us spiritual amnesia. We forget that we have a relationship with a God who loves us.

St. Paul, the apostle was aware of this fact and wrote these words found in Philippians 4:6-7 to curb anxiety. "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything in prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made known to God, and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

The above promise sounds so simple and hard to process. However, it is grounded in God's unchanging nature and the words are most needed and relevant for us today. Remember anxiety is not the endgame. God walks through the valley with you.

As you prepare for Advent and all the busyness with the preparation for the holidays, seek calm and peace by praying, supplication and thanksgiving. Our Father hears you.

St. Teresa of Avila can calm your nerves with this short prayer:

Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you, all things are passing away: God never changes. Patience obtains all things. Whoever has God lacks nothing: God alone suffices.

lass Intentions.

November 25 to December 1

- †Earl Anselm by Bob & Anne Shiley Mon.
- †Lorna Dobson by Kevin & Diana Tue.
- †Rita Juarez by Vicky Wed.
- †Ida Riccio by Debra Gervasio Thu.
- Holy Souls of Purgatory by Germana Pereira Fri.
- †Gay Brioux by Jackie Farrell Sat.
- **Sat. 5:15pm** †Rita Antonacci by family
- Sun. 8:00am Parish Intentions
 - 9:30am †Dixie and †Ed Wickham by Marianne Wickham
 - **11:00am** †Esterina and †Modestino Viola by family
 - **12:30pm** †Toma Matkovic by Elizabeth Fragomeni

