



CANADIAN MARTYRS PARISH

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Pastor: Fr. Efrén Alvarez Pelayo (ealvarezpelayo@archtoronto.org)

Pastoral Associate: Maria Agovino (magovino@archtoronto.org)

Secretary: Karen Colonia * **Custodian:** Enrique De Leon

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, September 22

9:00am Mass

- ♦ In thanksgiving for Elizabeth Sioson

Thursday, September 24

9:00am Mass

- ♣ For the repose of the soul of Lydia & Jose Gonzales Sr.

Saturday, September 26

5:00pm Mass

- ♣ For the repose of the souls of Jose Jr & Alex Gonzales

Sunday, September 27

12:30pm Mass

Available

(Call the parish to request intentions for these dates)

Sanctuary Lamp

SEPTEMBER 14-20

For the Needs of all
Canadian Martyrs'
Parishioners

Office Hours:

Tuesday–Friday, 10am – 2pm

Confessions:

Saturday: 4:00–4:30 p.m.

Or by appointment

Baptism

Families seeking Baptism for their children are asked to contact the parish office to begin the process.

Marriage

Couples planning to marry are asked to contact the parish priest at least one year in advance.

Visiting Ministry

Parishioners who are homebound, ill, or in hospital and wish to receive pastoral visits or the sacraments are invited to contact the parish office.

“ARE YOU ENVIOUS BECAUSE I AM GENEROUS?”

Message from the Pastor



The Gospel this Sunday presents a landowner whose generosity unsettles those who expect strict fairness. The workers who arrived early feel overlooked when the latecomers receive the same wage, yet the landowner reminds them that no injustice has been done — only unexpected kindness. Jesus invites us to see God's grace not as something earned or measured, but as a gift given freely according to His wisdom. God meets each person in their particular circumstance, offering what they truly need rather than what others believe they deserve. For our parish communities, this message carries quiet relevance. Holy Cross and Canadian Martyrs are not identical in their histories, needs, or stages of renewal. One may require more attention, another more patience; one may offer stability, another may be rediscovering its footing. Fairness in shared ministry does not always mean equal portions — it means responding to each community with the care it genuinely needs. As we continue rebuilding parish life, may we trust that God's generosity is already at work among us, shaping us into one family of faith.

CANADIAN MARTYRS PARISH FEAST We Need Your Help!



Our parish Feast Day will be celebrated on **Saturday, September 26 at the 5:00 p.m. Mass**, followed by fellowship at the back of the church. A group of parishioners met last Saturday to begin preparations, and others who could not attend will also be involved — but we need more hands to make this a joyful parish celebration. We are asking for your help in any of the following ways:

- ❖ **Food Contributions:** We are preparing finger-food platters for easy sharing. Suggested items include cheese platters, sandwich trays, vegetable or fruit

platters, national finger foods, or ingredients to prepare simple finger foods.

- ❖ **Cash Contributions:** If you prefer to contribute financially, a volunteer will be available at the back of the church after Mass to receive donations.
- ❖ **Supply Contributions:** We also need basic hosting supplies: plates, cups, serviettes, bottled water, and bottled drinks.

With only one week to prepare, your support is truly appreciated. Let's come together as one parish family to honour our patron saints and celebrate with joy.

MASS OF INSTALLATION OF OUR PASTOR



With great joy and gratitude, we invite all parishioners, families, and friends to celebrate the **Installation of Fr. Efren** as our pastor on **Saturday, October 17, at 5:00 pm.** This special occasion marks the beginning of a new chapter in the life of our parish. Let us come together in prayer, thanksgiving, and fellowship as we warmly welcome Fr. Efren and offer our support as he begins his ministry among us. Following the Mass and installation ceremony, there will be a **parish potluck gathering** in the hall. Please bring a favorite dish to share if you are able, but most importantly, bring your presence and spirit of community. Everyone is warmly invited to attend. We look forward to celebrating this joyful occasion together!

MASS INTENTIONS EXPLAINED

(What the "offering" means)

The offering connected to a Mass intention, commonly referred to as a "stipend," is a longstanding freewill contribution that supports the priest and the parish. It is never a payment for grace and does not affect whether a Mass can be requested. This custom has roots in the earliest Christian communities, where the faithful supported their ministers and the celebration of the Eucharist. Today, the offering remains a simple gesture of support that helps sustain parish life. It is a practical expression of gratitude, not a requirement for the spiritual reality of the intention. The intention itself is spiritual; the offering is a sign of participation in the Church's prayer.



"I ask that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone."

1 Timothy 2:1.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS

Our parish is seeking volunteers to serve in our liturgical ministries—lectors, altar servers (children and adults), and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion—as well as other areas of parish life. Everyone is welcome to join and training will be provided. If you feel called to help, please contact the parish office to learn more and sign up.

NEW FIRST FRIDAY MASS

Starting in October, Canadian Martyrs will introduce a **9:00 a.m. First Friday Mass**, followed by the traditional devotions to the Sacred Heart. Please note that Holy Cross will not have a **9:00 a.m. Mass on First Fridays**; their usual 6:00 p.m. Holy Hour and Confession and 7:00 p.m. Mass will continue as normal.

THINKING OF BECOMING A CATHOLIC?



Those interested in joining the Catholic Church (non-baptized and Christians baptized in a different denomination) are invited to contact the parish for this fall's OCIA program. To begin this process, contact the parish office to express your interest. Please allow for some time for people to respond.

WAYS TO GIVE TO OUR CHURCH

We are grateful for your generosity and support of our parish. You may make your offertory contribution through: **Weekly offertory envelopes, Cash donations during Mass, Cheques payable to Canadian Martyrs Church, Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG)** Your support helps sustain our mission, ministries, outreach programs, and parish operations. For more information, please contact the parish office. Thank you for your continued generosity.



FIRST RECONCILIATION/COMMUNION PROGRAM



Parents of children age 7 and older who are baptized Catholic and wish to prepare for First Reconciliation and First Communion are asked to **call the parish office** and leave their contact information. Children attending Catholic or public schools are welcome. Families will be contacted once the required Parent Orientation is finalized. Registration will follow the Orientation.

CONFIRMATION

Parents of young people in **Grade 7 and above, including high school**, who are interested in preparing for **Confirmation** are invited to **call the parish office** and **leave their contact information**. Students from **Catholic and public schools** are welcome. Children not yet baptized will need to discuss this with the Church first. Families will be contacted when the **Parent Orientation** is finalized.

