

CANADIAN MARTYRS PARISH

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Pastor: Fr. Efren Alvarez Pelayo

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Pastoral Associate: Maria Agovino * magovino@archtoronto.org

Secretary: Karina Colonia * **Custodian:** Enrique de Leon

Office Hours:

Tuesday–Friday, 10am – 2pm

Confessions:

Saturday: 4:00–4:30 p.m.

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.

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, September 29

9:00am Mass

No Intentions

Thursday, October 1

9:00am Mass

No Intentions

First Friday, October 2

9:00am Mass

No Intentions

Saturday, October 3

5:00pm Mass

No Intentions

Sunday, October 4

12:30pm Mass

No Intentions

Sanctuary Lamp

OCTOBER 5 - 11

For all Parishioners: living and gone before us.

ROSARY RALLY

We invite you to join us this **Saturday, October 10 at 12 noon** Outside Holy Cross Parish. Bring your family and friends. For more details, please contact: Sr. Terry Felonia at 647-528-8864 Sr Elena Manuel at 416-878-9272 Legion of Mary, Our Lady of the Holy Cross Praesidium.

“THE VINEYARD WE TEND TOGETHER”

Message from the Pastor

Readings: Isaiah 5:1–7 • Psalm 80 • Philippians 4:6–9 • Matthew 21:33–43



Isaiah sings of a vineyard planted with care. Jesus tells of tenants who forget something essential: the vineyard was entrusted to them, but it never became theirs. That distinction matters at Canadian Martyrs. We have spoken honestly about being a parish in a season of healing and rebuilding. It would be easy to look at what has been difficult, what has diminished, or what still needs attention and imagine that everything depends upon us. The Gospel offers another way of seeing. This is still God’s vineyard. We are not beginning from nothing. Faith has been planted here. People have prayed here, sacrificed here, celebrated the sacraments here, and handed on something precious. Our responsibility now is to cultivate that gift again: rebuilding trust, inviting participation, welcoming new people, and allowing small acts of faithfulness to bear fruit. A vineyard does not become fruitful in a single afternoon. It needs patience, attention, pruning, sunshine and rain. So does a parish. God has not abandoned this vineyard. He asks us simply to tend faithfully what has been placed in our hands — and to trust Him for the growth.

“WHEN NO ONE IS REMEMBERED”

This week, something quietly painful has happened in our parish. For every Mass from Tuesday through Sunday, the intention line remains empty. No names. No prayers offered. No one remembered at the altar. In a community facing real financial hardship, these small offerings matter. But even more, the *love* behind them matters. If someone is on your heart — living or gone — this is a tender moment to place their name before the Lord. Sometimes the silence says more than words. This week, the silence is asking us to pray.



INSTALLATION MASS



A reminder that the Installation Mass of Fr. Efren as our pastor will take place on **Saturday, October 17 at 5:00 p.m.** We invite all parishioners to join us for this important moment in the life of our community. Following the Mass, a parish potluck will be held in the hall. If you are able, you are welcome to bring a dish to share. Most of all, we look forward to gathering together as we begin this new chapter in our parish life.

FIRST COMMUNION ORIENTATION



Parents of children 7+ who are baptized Catholic are invited to an Orientation Session for the First Reconciliation and First Communion Program on **Tuesday, October 13 at 7pm in the Church.** This session is the required first step before enrollment. Please sign up through the parish office so we can prepare for families attending. All program details will be provided at the orientation.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM



For students in **Grade 7 and up**, including high school, our Confirmation program will begin **later in the Fall.** We're preparing a schedule that reflects our parish's transition and ensures everyone can take part. Please **call the parish office** to leave your contact information. This year's program will be **pastorally guided**, welcoming and flexible for all families.

MASS ATTENDANCE SURVEY



The annual Mass Attendance Survey for all parish and mission communities will take place on the weekends of **October 17-18, and October 24-25.** Ushers are reminded of this important practice at each mass.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS – CAST YOUR VOTE!



A municipal election will take place on Monday, October 26. All Catholics are encouraged to exercise their democratic right to vote. Cardinal Leo has permitted Catholic School Board Trustee candidates (or their volunteers) to distribute information after Mass on weekends from October 3/4 to October 24/25. We invite parishioners to take a moment to learn about those seeking this important role. To ensure your vote is counted for Catholic School Board Trustee, please verify at the polling station that you are registered as a separate school supporter. If your status is incorrect, ask for an application to Amend

Voters' List. This form can be completed and submitted directly at the polling station. Thank you for your participation in this year's municipal election.

PARISH SERVICE & LEADERSHIP INVITATION



Our parish is seeking volunteers for liturgical ministries—lectors, altar servers (children and adults), and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion—as well as for parish leadership roles. **We especially need 4 members for the Parish Finance Council, mandated by Canon 537,** to help guide decisions in our current financial reality. Former members are warmly encouraged to return for continuity and stability. We are also forming a Parish Building Committee to assist in caring for and improving our facilities. If you feel called to serve, please contact Fr. Efren (email above) or speak with him after Mass.

Know Your Faith

We extend our sincere appreciation to all who participated in our recently concluded *Know Your Faith* program. Inspired by this momentum, we are pleased to introduce **Know Your Faith: Scripture Study. COME AND JOIN US** at Holy Cross Parish as we reflect on the Sunday readings through prayer and study **after the Saturday 9:00 a.m. Mass (9:40-10:45 a.m.) on October 3, 10, 24 & 31. Facilitator: Therese De Manche.** All are welcome as we continue growing together in God's Word.

PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE 2027

A Journey of Grace for Every Heart

February 22 – 27, 2027

Under the spiritual guidance of

Fr. Efren Alvarez-Pelayo, Pastor of

Holy Cross & Canadian Martyrs

Price: CA \$3,650 per person (double occupancy)

Includes: Round-trip airfare + taxes •

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accommodation with

breakfast, lunch & dinner

All city taxes & entrance

fees • Dedicated tour

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guides • Daily Mass

For information and

registration: Call

 877-701-7729 ext. 342

