

## HIGHLIGHTED

### First Confession, First Communion & Confirmation Prep for 2023 ~ 2024

It's that time of year to begin registrations for this year's Sacramental Preparation Programme. We are accepting registrations for ALL children, in both Public and Catholic schools, wishing to prepare for the celebration of the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation next spring.

♦♦**First Communion:** Children in grade two or older are invited to celebrate the Sacraments of First Confession and First Communion. Parents interested in enrolling their children in this programme are invited to attend one of the two scheduled meetings – **Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 7-8 pm or Saturday, November 18, 2023 at 2-3 pm.** The meeting will take place in the main Church.

♦♦**Confirmation:** Children in grade seven or older are invited to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. Parents **AND** their children interested in enrolling in this programme are invited to attend one of the two scheduled meetings – **Wednesday, November 22, 2023 at 7-8 pm or Saturday, November 25, 2023 at 2-3 pm.** The meeting will take place in the main Church.

♦♦All Sacramental Preparation Classes must be attended by both Catholic and Public school children. Please inquire at the Parish Office, contact Fr. Michael at 416-534-4219, ext. 211 or visit us online at [www.religiousestpeterstontoronto.ca](http://www.religiousestpeterstontoronto.ca), for further details and information about this year's programme.

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### Being the Person God Wants You to Be (come): Virtues, Vices, and the Image of God - Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 11, and 18 at 7PM by Meghan Bowen

Over four talks, Meghan will discuss Catholic teachings on how to live the moral life so that we can become more and more in the image of God. The talks will cover the topics of the moral life as part of our loving relationship with God (Sept. 27), how we learn to be virtuous and form our conscience (Oct. 4), what the virtues are and how we live them out (Oct. 11), and how our sins help us learn to be better (Oct. 18). All presentations will begin at 7PM in the auditorium. Meghan is a PhD Candidate at Regis College, studying Moral Theology. She also holds an MA Theology from Saint Paul University (Ottawa). Her current research on is St. Augustine's theology of marriage. Meghan Bowen is a PhD candidate at Regis College (Toronto). Her research examines Augustine's theology of marriage within his historical context in hopes of bringing new insights and consideration to current theological discussions of marriage. Along with an MA Theology (Saint Paul University, Ottawa), Meghan also holds an MA Ethnomusicology (Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's).

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### Celebration of the Solemnity of St. Michael & Conferral of the Pallium upon the Most Rev. Francis Leo

**Friday, September 29, 2023 – 5:30 p.m. – St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica**

The Archdiocese of Toronto celebrates the feast day of our archdiocesan patron, St. Michael, on Friday, September 29, 2023. All are welcome to join in a special celebration on that day at 5:30 p.m. at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond St.). Archbishop Francis Leo will celebrate Mass, with music from the world-renowned St. Michael's Choir School. As part of the celebration, the Apostolic Nuncio to Canada, the Most Rev. Ivan Jurković will confer the pallium on our archbishop, a symbol of his role as Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto and shepherd to the faithful. Following Mass, there will be an informal reception with light refreshments.

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### Invite a Friend to Become Catholic!

If you know anyone who might be interested in becoming Catholic, please invite them to consider joining the R.C.I.A. at the parish where they wish to attend Sunday Mass. If they wish to do so here at St. Peter's, please have them give Fr. Michael a call for more information (416-534-4291, ext. 211).

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### Fall Fair – Sept. 30 & Oct. 1.

Sat. Sept. 30 – 12 noon – 7:00 PM

Sun. Oct. 1 – 10 AM – 3:00 PM



Please deliver your donations to the parish office during office hours. This year, the Winter Welcome Table is in need of funding, so a good portion of the proceeds will be donated to funding that project. Thank you!

## ■ ■ AROUND SAINT PETER'S

### Thanksgiving Food-Drive for the Good Shepherd Mission - Oct. 7 & 8

The Good Shepherd Mission in Toronto looks after many of the city's homeless and helps them find a warm meal all year round. Each year they rely on the generosity of Torontonians who are able to donate food to make their mission possible. This year the parish will be sponsoring a Thanksgiving Food Drive to support the Good Shepherd Mission. Please consider donating canned tuna, canned meat, canned fruit or vegetables, canned soups and stews, peanut butter, jam, cereal teabags, instant coffee, cookies, rice, and crackers. Please no fresh fruits or vegetables or frozen food. Some parishes decorate their sanctuaries with flowers on the Thanksgiving weekend. Let us decorate ours with food to be offered to those in need. Please bring your non-perishable food donations to any of our Sunday Masses on the Thanksgiving weekend Oct. 7 & 8.

### Blessing of Pets – Feast of St. Francis of Assisi – Oct. 4

In honour of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi on October 4, the parish will celebrate the blessing of pets on **Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at 7:00 pm** outside the main doors of the Church. All pets and owners are welcome. For the safety of all people and animals, all pets must be leashed, caged or held in owners' control.

**“Set your minds on the things that are above, not on things that are on earth.” – Colossians 2:3**

### An Introduction to the Liturgy of the Roman Rite

Join Fr. Michael McGourty, lecturer in liturgy at St. Augustine's Seminary and pastor of St. Peter's Church, in a brief exploration of the liturgy of the Roman Rite. Those subjects explored will include: An Introduction to the Theology of the Liturgy (**September 21**); The History of the Roman Rite (**October 5**); The Rites for Christian Initiation of Adults (**October 12**); The Role of Music in the Liturgy with Mr. Lee, director of Music at St. Peter's Church (**October 26**); Infant Baptism (**November 9**); The Eucharist (**November 16**); The Sacrament of Penance (**November 30**); The Rite of Marriage (**December 7**); Pastoral care of the Sick (**December 14**); The Funeral Liturgy (**December 21**). All talks will take place on Thursday evenings at **7:00 p.m.** in the auditorium of St. Peter's Church, at 840 Bathurst. Access to the auditorium through the doors under the archway connecting the church to the rectory. Regrettably, St. Peter's auditorium is not accessible.

### Parish Finances

#### *Offering Sept. 16-17, 2023*

Envelopes:	\$2118.00
Loose:	\$459.30
PAG:	\$1089.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3666.30</b>

### Memorial Mass Friday October 6 at 7 PM

The memorial Mass will take place on Friday, October 6, at 7:00 pm. To enroll a family member for whom there is an anniversary of death, please call the parish office ahead of time during office hours.

### Bereavement Support Group – Sept. 28 – Oct. 26

A five (5) week bereavement support group will be starting at St. Peter's Parish starting on **Thursday, September 28 to October 26, 2023 from 1:30 - 3:00 pm** in the rectory/auditorium. If you or someone you know is dealing with the loss of a loved one and would like to join this group, please **register** at the parish office (416-534-4219) or email: **contactus@stpeterstoronto.ca**  
Facilitator: Mary Benincasa

### Please Get Involved

The parish invites parishioners to consider attending workshops in the **Church**:

**Lectors Ministry** – Saturday, **September 30**, from 2 pm – 3 pm  
**Ushers and Ministers of Hospitality** - Saturday, **October 7**, from 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm  
**Eucharistic Ministry** - Saturday, **October 21**, from 2 pm – 3 pm  
Please call the parish office at 416-534-4219 to register

### Indigenous Healing & Reconciliation Collection on Sept. 30-Oct. 1

There will be a second collection for the Indigenous Healing and Reconciliation Fund on Sept. 30/Oct. 1, as a part of a national effort announced by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. This collection provides an opportunity for the faithful to contribute to this important initiative. For more information or to donate online please visit: [www.archtoronto.org/healingandreconciliation](http://www.archtoronto.org/healingandreconciliation) - Thank you for your generosity!

## ■ AROUND SAINT PETER'S



### Call for Volunteers: Fall Fair Bake Table

Get Ready to spice up the Fall Fair with your delectable creations! We are looking for generous bakers to contribute their homemade goodies to our Bake Table. Your treats will make this year's fair unforgettable!

**Date/Time:** Saturday, **September 30, 12 pm to 7 pm** and Sunday, **October 1, 10 am to 3 pm**

**Location:** St. Peter's Parish, 840 Bathurst St; across from the Bathurst Subway, Auditorium entrance is under the Archway

**What we need:** Cookies, Pies, Cakes, Muffins, Brownies, any Fall-themed treats

Your support sweetens our Fall Fair! Let us make this Fall Fair a tasty success together!

*We are also looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help as Booth attendants, Arts and Crafts Assistants, Food booth helpers, Stage performer assistants, Setup and Cleaning Crew.*

Why Volunteer? Connect with your community, Receive a volunteer hours for school/other, Enjoy delicious fair food!

To join our dedicated team of volunteers, please leave your name and email with the parish office, telephone number 416-534-4219. Let us make this year's Fall Fair the best one yet! We cannot wait to see you there!

### Humanitarian aid for Morocco

The Archdiocese of Toronto will accept donations and channel funds through our Catholic partners in Morocco to support relief efforts underway.

Those wishing to help may do so in the following ways:

Online through the Archdiocese of Toronto website – [www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org)

- By phone through the Development Office – 416-934-3411
- Through the parish, making cheques payable to:

**Name of Parish – Morocco Earthquake - Humanitarian Relief**

### Humanitarian aid for Libya

Currently, our Catholic partners are not present in Libya to coordinate relief efforts and as such we are unable to accept donations to aid those affected by the flooding at this time. For those wishing to offer support to the people of Libya, please consider a gift through the Canadian Red Cross in the following ways: • Online through the Red Cross website – [www.redcross.ca](http://www.redcross.ca)

- By phone through the Red Cross – 1-800-418-1111

Please continue to pray for those who have died, for those who are missing or displaced because of these tragic disasters in both Morocco and Libya and for all who are working hard to provide relief and rescue in both locations.

### The 109th World Day of Migrants and Refugees – September 24

The theme announced by His holiness Pope Francis for this year's World Day of Migrants and Refugees is "Free to Choose Whether to Migrate or to Stay." In his message, Pope Francis acknowledges that while the decision to migrate should always be free, in many cases it is not. This point was reflected by St. John Paul II in his message for the 90<sup>th</sup> World Day of Migrants & Refugees, in which he wrote, "Building conditions of peace means in practice being seriously committed to safeguarding first of all the right not to emigrate, that is, the right to live in peace and dignity in one's own country." As he concluded his message, Pope Francis referenced the words of the Lord when He said "...I was stranger, and you welcomed me" reminding us that the Lord's words are a "constant admonition to see in the migrant not simply a brother or sister in difficulty, but Christ himself, who knocks at our door."