

St. Theresa's Parish

Shrine of the Little Flower

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Pastor: Rev. Fr. Bienvenido P. Ebcas, Jr.

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Peter Lovrick

Secretary: Maria Cielá Sarmiento



Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, September 6 (Private Mass)

For the Unborn (*Sanctity of Life*)

Tuesday, September 7 (Livestreamed)

7:00 pm Healing & Protection of Guy, Tery & Aaron

Chan (*Betty Chan*)

✠ Willie Paragas (*Belen Bayawa*)

✠ Jo Caruso & Vincenza Caruso

✠ Romeo Barrozo (*Roderick Barrozo & family*)

✠ Erich Lobe (*Mara Lobe*)

Wednesday, September 8 (Livestreamed)

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 pm Thanksgiving and Birthday Blessing for

Dr Mary Ann Lansang

✠ Douglas & Isabel Segui (*Norma Segui*)

✠ Rowena Trino (*Suzanne Orquiola & family*)

✠ John Bass (*Margaret Bass*)

Thursday, September 9 ((Livestreamed)

Saint Peter

7:00 pm ✠ Nora Mayo Lampa (*Ivy & Jovie de los Reyes*)

✠ Felix Plariza, Sr & Antonio Silo (*Cely Silo & family*)

Friday, September 10 (Livestreamed)

7:00 pm ✠ Catherine Sorendo (*Yvonne D-souza*)

✠ Ramon Cerricos (*Norma Segui*)

✠ Peter Pragnelli (*Norma Segui*)

Saturday, September 11 (Livestreamed)

5:00 pm ✠ Lucy Goddard & Blossom Hsiung

(*Joyce Chen*)

Sunday, September 12 (Livestreamed)

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 am ✠ Carmine Aldorasi (*Antonietta Marci*)

Confessions

By Appointment Only

Baptisms

Every Fourth Sunday of the month

Preparation Class – By appointment only

Weddings

Couples planning to be married should contact the priest one year in advance.

A marriage preparation course is mandatory.

Parish Schools

St. Theresa's Shrine School – (416) 393-5248

(416) 393-5519

TCDSB – (416) 222-8282 ext. 5314

Archdiocese of Toronto

(416) 934-0606 • www.archtoronto.org

Parish Outreach

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

(416) 261-7498 ext. 4



Let Us Pray for Our Sick

Valerie Trutwein, Anton & Bobby Melchers, Rosie Jane Rocha, Frederick Lopez, Danny and Pamela Dupley, Salvacion Lingad, Adam Jane Villalon, Shirley Baker, Madeleine Franco, Sophy McDonald, Gail MacEachern, Jolanta Mirkowski-Paszal, Rene Romero, Jane Frias Eigo, Elizabeth Callaghan, James Halder, Phyllis Randolph, Caroline Maiden, Danny Gomes, Karlos Ebcas, Chona Sunico

For the Dead

Patricia Anderson, Dennis Horne, Muriel "Lola" Barrett,

Lew Benvenuto, Lawrence Halder,

Sr. Anna Haydee Librojo, Fr. Albert Macalipay,

Fr. Roque Ferriols SJ, Fr. Vince Heffernan SFM

**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 5, 2021**

First Reading

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Isaiah prophesies about God's vindication.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 146:7,8-9,9-10

A song of praise to God

Second Reading

James 2:1-5

James teaches that there is to be no partiality within the Christian community.

Gospel Reading

Mark 7:31-37

Jesus restores a man's hearing and speech.

FAMILY CONNECTION

Today's Gospel invites us to consider how we witness the healing presence of Christ in our care for and ministry to those who are sick. We notice that the deaf man is brought to Jesus for healing by his friends. These people beg Jesus to lay his hands on this deaf man so that he might be healed. Jesus' healing power is shown in his opening of the man's ears and the restoring of his speech. When family members care for one another when they are sick, they bring Christ's healing presence. When we pray for those who are ill, we ask God to show his healing power. When health is restored, we share that good news with others.

As you gather as a family, recall a time when a family member was ill. What steps were taken to help restore this family member to health? Talk about what it feels like to care for a person who is ill, and about how it feels to be the sick person being cared for. In today's Gospel, we hear about a time when Jesus healed a man who was deaf. Read today's Gospel, Mark 7:31-37. Notice how the man who was cured and his friends could not honor Jesus' request to keep quiet about Jesus' power to heal. We continue to celebrate Jesus' healing presence in our lives by giving thanks to God for the gift of healing and health. Conclude in prayer, thanking Jesus for the gifts of health and healing. Pray together for those who are sick. After each person is named, pray, "Jesus, heal us."

(Taken from www.loyolapress.com)

**All Things Well: Scott Hahn Reflects
on the Twenty-third Sunday in
Ordinary Time**



The incident in today's Gospel is recorded only by Mark. The key line is what the crowd says at the end: "He has done all things well." In the Greek, this echoes the creation story, recalling that God saw all the things He had done and declared them good (see [Genesis 1:31](#)).

Mark also deliberately evokes Isaiah's promise, which we hear in today's First Reading, that God will make the deaf hear and the mute speak. He even uses a Greek word to describe the man's condition (*mogilalon* = "speech impediment") that's only found in one other place in the Bible—in the Greek translation of today's Isaiah passage, where the prophet describes the "dumb" singing.

The crowd recognizes that Jesus is doing what the prophet had foretold. But Mark wants us to see something far greater—that, to use the words from today's First Reading: "Here is your God." Notice how personal and physical the drama is in the Gospel. Our focus is drawn to a hand, a finger, ears, a tongue, spitting. In Jesus, Mark shows us, God has truly come in the flesh.

What He has done is to make all things new, a new creation (see [Revelation 21:1-5](#)). As Isaiah promised, He has made the living waters of Baptism flow in the desert of the world. He has set captives free from their sins, as we sing in today's Psalm. He has come that rich and poor might dine together in the Eucharistic feast, as James tells us in today's Epistle. He has done for each of us what He did for that deaf mute. He has opened our ears to hear the Word of God and loosed our tongues that we might sing praises to Him.

Let us then give thanks to our glorious Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Let us say with Isaiah, "Here is our God, He comes to save us." Let us be rich in faith, that we might inherit the kingdom promised to those who love Him. (*Taken from Breaking the Bread, Sunday Bible Reflections – St. Paul Center (stpaulcenter.com)*)

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Reserve your seat to attend Sunday Mass. Registration ends on Friday at 3 pm through [Eventbrite](#). The parish office can assist those who do not have access to email or internet. For the weeknight masses, registration is at the door. The church is open 30 mins before the mass.



Living the Gospel by supporting young parents

Thanks to generous donors like you, ShareLife agencies helped 150,000 people locally last year. They includes 1,900 young pregnant and parenting women and their babies. These women take parenting classes, receive diapers and healthy food, and get one-on-one support as they complete their high school education.

We encourage you to support this work by making a gift to ShareLife via the parish website or at [sharelife.org](#).

October 3 is the next ShareLife Sunday. Please give generously.

Parish Goal: \$36,400

Total Donations to Date: \$29,999

2021 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES



For those who have not yet picked up their 2021 envelopes, they are available for pick up in church.

If you are moving or no longer want to use an envelope, or if you have not been assigned an envelope but would like to use one, please call the office at 416-261-7498.

Join the parish's Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) program by downloading the [Pre-Authorized Giving form](#) from our website, fill-out the application section, attach a void cheque, and then [submit it to the Parish Office](#).

**Thank you to the Sponsors of this week's
livestreaming of Mass
Florentina Harjadi**

**Thank You for Your Offering
Offertory: \$1039 Renovation: \$250**

St. Theresa's Parish is always grateful and appreciates your generosity and continuing support.

St. Jude Novena Starting Sept 9th



Our parish begins this beloved devotion on **Thursday, September 9th, 2021**, with the **Novena to St. Jude at 6:45 PM** and **Mass at 7:00 PM**. Registration will be done at the door of the church.

Can't make it in person? [Download our Novena Guide](#) and join the Novena and Mass livestream over our livestream channel – <https://bit.ly/STP-Livestream>
The Catholic Church warmly encourages these popular devotions as long as they lead to a greater love and participation in the Sacred Liturgy, i.e. the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass:

Popular devotions of the Christian people are to be highly commended, provided they accord with the laws and norms of the Church, above all when they are ordered by the Apostolic See. Devotions proper to individual Churches also have a special dignity if they are undertaken by mandate of the bishops according to customs or books lawfully approved.

But these devotions should be so drawn up that they harmonize with the liturgical seasons, accord with the sacred liturgy, are in some fashion derived from it, and lead the people to it, since, in fact, the liturgy by its very nature far surpasses any of them.
- [Sacrosanctum Concilium](#) (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy) # 13

Ravaged by Earthquake and Storm, Haiti Needs Our Support

We continue to accept donations for Haiti. Those wishing to help may do so through the Archdiocese of Toronto website: www.archtoronto.org; by phone through the Development Office – 416-934-3411, or through the parish, making cheques payable to: [St. Theresa Church – Natural Disasters in Haiti – Disaster Relief](#).

Kindly use the yellow Humanitarian Relief envelope for your donations.

Learn more and find out how you can help at
<https://bit.ly/HaitiReliefInfoAoT>
[#catholicTO](#) [#PrayForHaiti](#)

NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

September 8th



“Let us celebrate with joy
the Nativity of
the Blessed Virgin Mary,
for from her arose
the sun of justice,
Christ our God.”

FROM THE ROMAN MISSAL

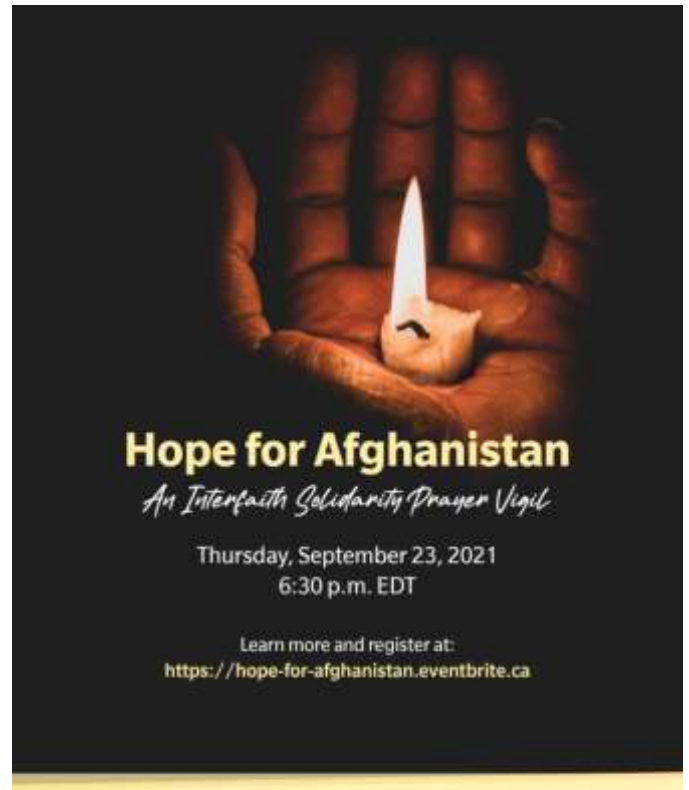
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The Story of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Church has celebrated Mary's birth since at least the sixth century. A September birth was chosen because the Eastern Church begins its Church year with September. The September 8 date helped determine the date for the feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8.

Scripture does not give an account of Mary's birth. However, the apocryphal *Protoevangelium of James* fills in the gap. This work has no historical value, but it does reflect the development of Christian piety. According to this account, Anna and Joachim are infertile but pray for a child. They receive the promise of a child who will advance God's plan of salvation for the world. Such a story, like many biblical counterparts, stresses the special presence of God in Mary's life from the beginning.

Saint Augustine connects Mary's birth with Jesus' saving work. He tells the earth to rejoice and shine forth in the light of her birth. "She is the flower of the field from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley. Through her birth the nature inherited from our first parents is



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changed." The opening prayer at Mass speaks of the birth of Mary's Son as the dawn of our salvation and asks for an increase of peace.

Reflection

We can see every human birth as a call for new hope in the world. The love of two human beings has joined with God in his creative work. The loving parents have shown hope in a world filled with travail. The new child has the potential to be a channel of God's love and peace to the world.

This is all true in a magnificent way in Mary. If Jesus is the perfect expression of God's love, Mary is the foreshadowing of that love. If Jesus has brought the fullness of salvation, Mary is its dawning.

Birthday celebrations bring happiness to the celebrant as well as to family and friends. Next to the birth of Jesus, Mary's birth offers the greatest possible happiness to the world. Each time we celebrate her birth, we can confidently hope for an increase of peace in our hearts and in the world at large.

(Taken from [Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary | Franciscan Media](#))