

Parish Food Drive Inspired by Our Catechism Students

Our catechism students have challenged our parish to join them in living out the Gospel through service. Moved by their compassion, our parish is hosting a food drive for those facing food insecurity in our community.

All parishioners are invited to participate by donating non-perishable food items during this Lenten season. Let us follow the example of our young disciples and respond with generous hearts.

Através da **ShareLife**, você ajuda mais de 40 agências Católicas para que tragam esperança a quem mais precisa.

A primeira coleta dominical ShareLife é hoje. Por favor, dê na paróquia usando um envelope ShareLife.

Through **ShareLife**, you help over **40 Catholic agencies** bring hope to those who need it most. **The first ShareLife Sunday collection is on March 22.** Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope.

With Easter just around the corner, we will need your offerings towards the purchase of flowers to decorate the church for this solemn time of devotion and adoration. Please use a “flowers” envelope or just write “flowers” on one. All contributions are very much appreciated.

Sisters Poor of Jesus Christ Street Ministry
the Sisters Poor of Jesus Christ prepare 70–80 meal packages each week for our brothers and sisters living on the streets. Your generosity helps us continue this mission of mercy.

🍷 What goes into each winter outreach:

- Bread (10 loaves for 70–80 sandwiches)
- Deli meat: turkey or chicken (80 slices)
- Cheese slices (80 slices)
- Tomatoes (12 large)
- Iceberg lettuce (3 heads)
- Mayonnaise (2 large jars – 890 ml)
- Mustard (2 jars – 400 ml each)
- Sandwich bags (80)
- Large Ziploc bags (28” x 28”, 80)
- Water bottles (80)
- Juice boxes (80)
- Granola bars (80)
- Small bags of chips (80)
- Serviettes (80)
- Fruit: clementines or small apples (80)

❤️ Ways to Support

Your kindness makes this ministry possible. You can donate:

- Gift cards from Walmart or No Frills
- Monetary donations in an envelope (please label “for street ministry” or “for the poor”)
- Directly to one of the Sisters

Every contribution—big or small—helps bring warmth, dignity, and hope to those who need it most. Thank you for walking with us in service and love. ❤️

Holy Week Schedule

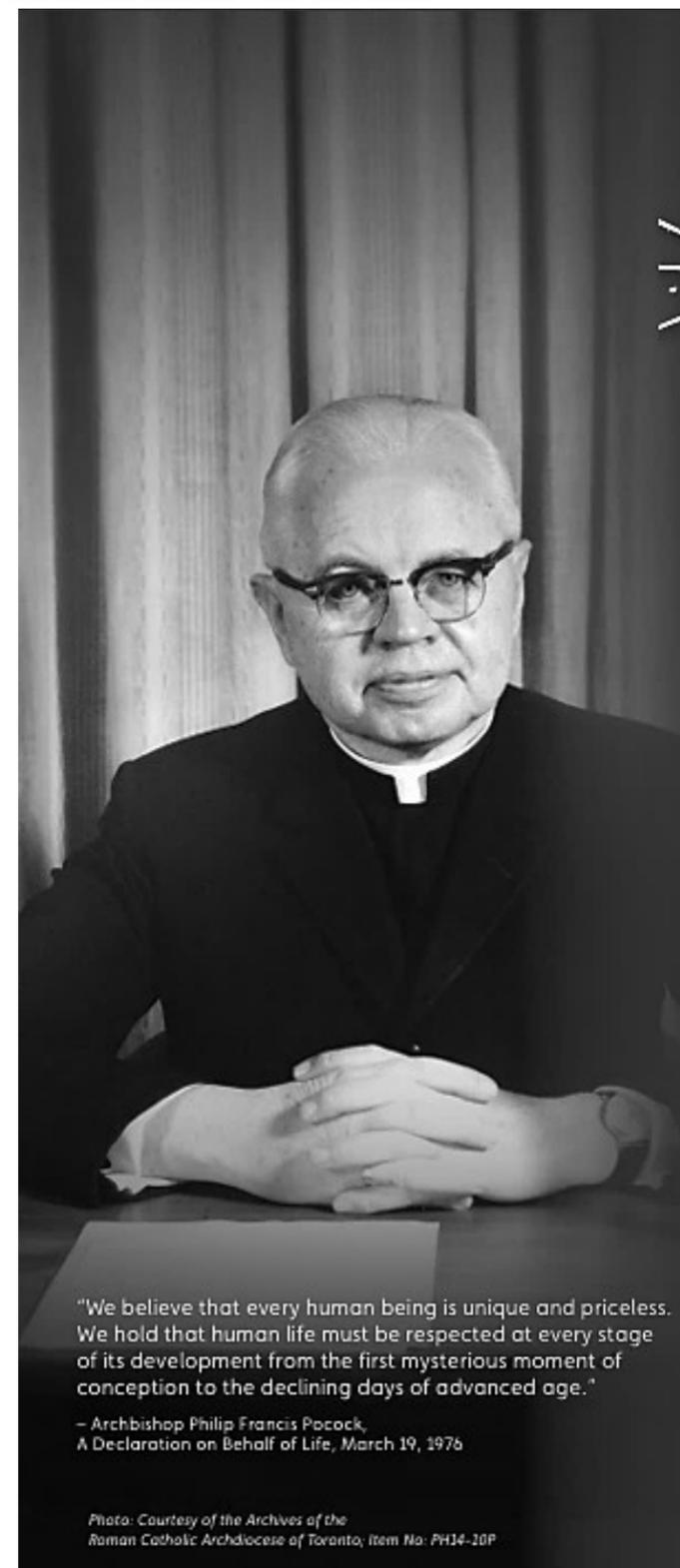
- **Holy Thursday, 02 April, mass at 7pm. (bilingual)**
- **Good Friday, 03 April, The Passion at 2pm. (portuguese)**
- **Holy Saturday, 04 April, Pascal Vigil at 8pm. (bilingual)**
- **Easter Sunday, 05 April, mass at 11:30am. (bilingual).**



Pastor: Fr. André Luis de Lima

Paróquia de Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz Parish



Living the Gospel



50 years of your faith in action

Fifty years ago, a moment of conscience changed everything. In 1976, Archbishop Philip Pocock chose a path rooted in faith, compassion, and a deep respect for every human life, and soon after, ShareLife was born.

As we mark our 50th anniversary, we honour what our community has built together and what you have made possible through your care for others.

Today, that same spirit lives on through your support of more than 40 ShareLife-funded agencies. Through your kindness, families find stability, newcomers find safety, seniors are not forgotten, young people find hope, and those facing hunger find food on the table.

Looking ahead, the needs before us are urgent, in our communities, and beyond. We are called to continue this mission.

Together, with your faith in action, we can live the Gospel every day.

“We believe that every human being is unique and priceless. We hold that human life must be respected at every stage of its development from the first mysterious moment of conception to the declining days of advanced age.”

– Archbishop Philip Francis Pocock, A Declaration on Behalf of Life, March 19, 1976

Photo: Courtesy of the Archives of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto, Item No: PH14-10P

"Every baptized person is an active agent of evangelization, called to bear consistent witness to Christ in accordance with the prophetic gift which the Lord bestows upon His whole Church." Pope Leo XIV expressed this during his weekly General Audience on Wednesday morning... The Pope remembered that the Council Fathers teach that the Lord Jesus, through the new and eternal Covenant, have established a kingdom of priests, constituting his disciples as a 'royal priesthood.' He highlighted that this common priesthood of the faithful is given with Baptism, which enables us to worship God in spirit and truth, and to "confess before men the faith which they have received from God through the Church."

Furthermore, through the sacrament of Confirmation, he notes all the baptized "are more perfectly bound to the Church ... and the Holy Spirit endows them with special strength so that they are more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith, both by word and by deed, as true witnesses of Christ."

This consecration, the Pope said is at the root of the common mission that unites the ordained ministries and the lay faithful. In this regard, Pope Leo remembered when Pope Francis had observed that, "looking at the People of God is remembering that we all enter the Church as lay people. The first sacrament, which seals our identity forever, and of which we should always be proud, is Baptism." Pope Leo reiterated that through Baptism and by the anointing of the Holy Spirit, the faithful "are consecrated as a spiritual house and a holy priesthood' so that everyone forms the faithful Holy People of God."

The Pope recalled that the exercise of the royal priesthood takes place in many ways, all aimed at our sanctification, first and foremost through participation in the offering of the Eucharist. "Through prayer, asceticism and active charity, we thus bear witness to a life renewed by God's grace," the Pope said. As the Council summarizes, "it is through the sacraments and the exercise of the virtues that the sacred nature and organic structure of the priestly community is brought into operation."

The Pope also recalled that the Council Fathers teach that the holy People of God also participate in the prophetic mission of Christ. The Holy Father reminded that in this context the important theme of the *sense of the faith* and the *consensus of the faithful* introduced. He recalled that the Doctrinal Commission of the Council specified that this *sensus fidei* "is like a faculty of the whole Church, by which she, in her faith, recognises the revelation handed down, distinguishing between true and false in matters of faith, and at the same time penetrates it more deeply and applies it more fully in life."

The sense of faith, Pope Leo emphasized, therefore belongs to individual believers not in their own right, but as members of the People of God as a whole. *Lumen gentium*, the Pope explained, focuses on this latter aspect, and places it in relation to the infallibility of the Church, to which that of the Roman Pontiff is inherent and by which it is served... With this in mind, Pope Leo XIV observed, "the Church, therefore, as the communion of the faithful – which naturally includes the pastors, cannot err in matters of faith: the organ through which this truth is preserved, founded on the anointing of the Holy Spirit, is the *supernatural sense of faith* of the entire People of God, which is manifested in the *consensus of the faithful*."

From this unity, which the Magisterium of the Church safeguards, the Pope continued, "it follows that every baptized person is an active agent of evangelization, called to bear consistent witness to Christ in accordance with the prophetic gift which the Lord bestows upon His whole Church."...With this sentiment, Pope Leo XIV concluded with an invitation: "Let us rekindle in ourselves the awareness of and gratitude for having received the gift of being part of God's People, and also the responsibility that this entails."

Today, following the 10:30 a.m. Mass, you are invited to remain in the church for a brief presentation. We will share some of the key highlights for 2025, along with a look ahead to projects envisioned for 2026 and the years to come. Please consider staying after Mass to take part in this short update and conversation.

Hoje, após a missa das 12 horas, vocês são convidados a permanecer na igreja para uma breve apresentação. Partilharemos alguns dos principais destaques de 2025, juntamente com uma antevisão dos projetos planejados para 2026 e anos seguintes. Solicitamos que considerem a possibilidade de permanecerem após a missa para participarem nesta breve atualização e conversa.

Regarding Mass intentions: We ask that, whenever possible, Mass intentions be communicated to the parish office in advance. On the day of the mass, we can only accept intentions **up to 15 minutes before the start of Mass**. Please hand in envelopes containing your intentions, up to **15 minutes before the start of Mass**, to a **volunteer or in the sacristy**.

Sobre as intenções de missa: Pedimos que, sempre que possível, as intenções de missa sejam comunicadas previamente ao escritório paroquial. No dia da missa, só poderemos acolher intenções **até 15 minutos antes do início da missa**. Por favor, entregar envelopes de intenções, **até 15 minutos antes do início da missa, a um voluntário ou na sacristia**.

Papa: a Igreja, enquanto comunhão dos fiéis, não pode errar na fé

Ao dar continuidade ao ciclo de catequeses sobre os documentos do Concílio Vaticano II, o Papa Leão XIV, na Audiência Geral desta quarta-feira (18/03), retomou o segundo capítulo da Constituição conciliar *Lumen Gentium*, dedicado à Igreja como Povo de Deus. O Pontífice explicou que, pela nova e eterna Aliança, Cristo constitui os seus discípulos como um "sacerdócio real", tornando-os participantes da sua missão profética. Essa dignidade comum nasce do Batismo, que permite aos fiéis adorar a Deus "em espírito e em verdade" e testemunhar a fé recebida por meio da Igreja: *"O exercício do sacerdócio real manifesta-se de muitas formas, todas elas voltadas para a nossa santificação, principalmente pela participação na oferta da Eucaristia. Através da oração, do ascetismo e da caridade ativa, assistimos, assim, a uma vida renovada pela graça de Deus."*

O Papa também abordou o chamado 'sensus fidei', o sentido sobrenatural da fé presente em todo o povo cristão, graças ao qual a Igreja reconhece a revelação transmitida e permanece fiel ao Evangelho ao longo da história. Trata-se, explicou, de um dom do Espírito Santo que pertence aos fiéis não isoladamente, mas enquanto membros de um único corpo. Nesse contexto, Leão XIV recordou o ensinamento conciliar sobre a infalibilidade da Igreja, que se manifesta quando todo o povo de Deus, unido aos seus pastores, exprime consenso em matéria de fé e costumes: *"A Igreja, portanto, enquanto comunhão dos fiéis, que inclui obviamente os pastores, não pode errar na fé: o órgão dessa propriedade, fundada na unção do Espírito Santo, é o senso sobrenatural da fé de todo o povo de Deus, que se manifesta no consenso dos fiéis. Dessa unidade, que o Magistério eclesial salvaguarda, resulta que cada batizado é um sujeito ativo da evangelização, chamado a dar um testemunho coerente de Cristo, segundo o dom profético que o Senhor infunde em toda a sua Igreja."*

A partir dessa unidade sustentada pelo Espírito, o Pontífice destacou que todos os cristãos são chamados a ser protagonistas da evangelização, segundo os dons recebidos. O Espírito Santo continua a distribuir carismas a pessoas de todas as condições, tornando-as aptas a contribuir para a renovação e a edificação da Igreja. Também a vida consagrada e as associações eclesiais, acrescentou o Papa, são sinais visíveis dessa vitalidade espiritual que brota da graça e manifesta a fecundidade do Povo de Deus na história.

"Despertemos em nós a consciência e a gratidão por termos recebido o dom de fazer parte do povo de Deus; e também a responsabilidade que isso acarreta", concluiu Leão XIV.

Horários da Semana Santa

- **Quinta-feira Santa, 02 de abril, missa as 7pm. (bilingue)**

- **Sexta-feira Santa, 03 de abril, Celebração da Paixão as 2pm. (português)**

- **Sábado Santo, 04 de abril, Vigília Pascal as 8pm. (bilingue)**

- **Domingo de Páscoa, 05 de abril, missa as 11:30am. (bilingue).**

Romeiros de Sexta-Feira Santa – Paróquia de Santa Helena

Como já é costume há muitos anos, um grupo de irmãos da Paróquia de Santa Helena percorrerá as ruas de Toronto na **Sexta-Feira Santa, dia 3 de abril**, começando por volta das **7:00 da manhã**.

Todos os paroquianos que desejarem participar nesta tradição de fé são bem-vindos. Para mais informações, por favor contacte: 647-928-7752 ou 416-654-4807

Com a Páscoa a chegar, precisaremos das vossas ofertas para a compra de flores para decorar a igreja para a tempo solene de devoção e adoração.

Por favor, utilize um envelope com a palavra "flores" ou simplesmente escreva "flores" num deles.

Todas as contribuições são muito apreciadas.

Campanha de recolha de alimentos da paróquia inspirada pelos nossos Alunos de Catecismo

Os nossos Alunos de Catecismo desafiaram a nossa paróquia a unir-se a eles na vivência do Evangelho através do serviço. Comovida pela sua compaixão, a nossa paróquia está a organizar uma campanha de recolha de alimentos para aqueles que enfrentam a insegurança alimentar na nossa comunidade.

Todos os paroquianos estão convidados a participar doando alimentos não perecíveis durante este período da Quaresma. Sigamos o exemplo dos nossos jovens discípulos e respondamos com corações generosos.