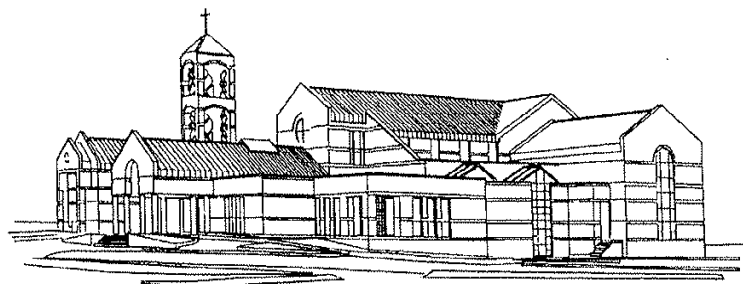


IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

300 Ansley Grove Road, Woodbridge, ON, L4L 3W4
T: 905 856-2205 F: 905 850-5589
<https://immaculateconceptionwo.archtoronto.org>
icparish@rogers.com



THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD APRIL 20, 2025

From the Pastor's Desk

CHRIST IS TRULY RISEN! ALLELUIA!

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, now that the days of the Lord's Passion are over, we rejoice with Holy Mother Church on this Easter Sunday, for Christ our King is truly risen! We sound the trumpet of salvation, for He has triumphed over sin and death in the mystery of the Resurrection. God has revealed the power of His love by raising His Son from the dead. "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen!" (Lk 24:5-6). The Resurrection is the Father's response to the crucifixion of His Son. It is a vindication of Christ's identity as the Son of God and an affirmation of His redemptive mission. Moreover, God raised Jesus to demonstrate His acceptance and approval of the Paschal sacrifice offered for the atonement of our sins. The Resurrection is the central claim of Christianity — the cornerstone of our faith. Without the Resurrection, there would be no Christianity, no Church, no Eucharist, and no priesthood. As St. Paul writes: "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain... But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep" (1 Cor 15:14, 20). Christ's victory over death fills us with hope for our own resurrection at the end of our earthly pilgrimage, when we shall behold the beatific vision. This Easter celebration takes place within the context of the Jubilee Year of Hope, inaugurated by Pope Francis on Christmas Eve 2024. It offers us a profound opportunity to grow in faith and experience spiritual renewal. The Holy Father joyfully invites us to become pilgrims of hope, especially in a world where many are tempted to give in to despair, anxiety, and fear. No matter what you may be facing—whether in your health, finances, relationships, family, job, business or any other area of your life, I urge you to remain in an attitude of hope. The God of hope who raised Jesus from the dead will make a way, even when there seems to be no way. As Scripture reminds us, "hope does not disappoint" (Romans 5:5). I wish you all a blessed and glorious feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Happy Easter! Buona Pasqua!

From Fr. Eugene, Fr. Paul, Fr. Shaiju and Fr. Ugo

DEAR INACTIVE PARISHIONERS, WE MISS YOU!

*"I rejoiced when they said to me,
Let us go to the house of the Lord." — Psalm 122:1*

I am overjoyed to see many of you—our beloved parishioners who once regularly attended Holy Mass, slowly returning after the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. To those who have not yet made it back for whatever reason, the Lord has put in my heart, the prophetic mission to reach out to you this Easter and invite you to come back home. I want to lovingly remind you that Immaculate Conception Parish is still your spiritual home, a place of worship and deep encounter with God through His life-giving Word and the sacraments of the Church. Our church doors remain wide open, ready to welcome you into the house of your heavenly Father. I'm happy to share that the Good News is still *good*, because *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever*. Our liturgies at Immaculate Conception Parish remain Christ-centered, our homilies are soul-searching, uplifting and inspiring, and God continues to work miracles in the lives of our parish-family. As your pastor, I extend a heartfelt and personal invitation to all who have drifted away: Come home. Come back to your parish. Come back to the truth, the beauty, and the mystery of the Catholic faith. We want you back. We've missed you dearly. Our parish is not the same without you. We love you. We miss you. Welcome home.

MASS IN MEMORY OF MY BROTHER, THE LATE MR. SONG NESTOR

"The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God" (Wis 3:1).

As you may have heard, my brother, Mr. Song Nestor, passed away in Cameroon on Saturday, April 5, 2025. I am deeply grateful for the outpouring of support during this difficult time. I will be celebrating a Holy Mass in his memory on **Monday, April 21, 2025, at 8:00pm**. Refreshments to follow in the parish hall. Following the Mass, I will be traveling to Cameroon for the funeral. Please, remember my family in your prayers. If you are able, please join me in honouring his life and celebrating his memory.

With gratitude, Fr. Eugene Chianain



Thank you! *Grazie mille!*

Heartfelt thank you to all volunteers who worked tirelessly to make our Holy Week celebrations a great success. Special thank you to the Knights of Columbus for traffic control in the parking lot; Mario Beltrame and Joe Carbone for the Easter Scene; Esterina Rossi, Isabella Barletta, Giuseppina Spano, Antonietta and Mario Beltrame, Maddalena Nicastro, Concetta Guglielmelli, Carm Battaglia, Joe Polisano, Angelo Colaricci, Sabrina Baldesarra, Pietro Nicastro, Alberto Casciato and all volunteers who helped decorate the church for Easter; those who participated in the Passion Play, the ushers, the choirs, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, the parish staff and everyone who donated flowers to decorate the church for Easter.

Un sentito ringraziamento a tutti i volontari che hanno aiutato a rendere le nostre celebrazioni della Settimana Santa un grande successo. Un ringraziamento particolare ai membri dei gruppi e ministeri parrocchiali, il personale della chiesa e tutti coloro che hanno donato fiori per decorare la chiesa per Pasqua.

Parish Jubilee Pilgrimage to St. Padre Pio Church

In the context of the Jubilee year of Hope, our parish is organising a pilgrimage to St Padre Pio Church, Kleinburg, on **Thursday May 8, 2025** where we will go through the Holy Door. Going through the Holy Door is a spiritual journey that shows, as the Holy Father said, "the deep desire for true conversion." **In addition to passing through a Holy Door, each pilgrim is to:** receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, receive the Holy Eucharist while reflecting on God's great gift of mercy, make a profession of faith (recite either the Apostles' or the Nicene Creed), and pray for the Holy Father and for his intentions (an Our Father and a Hail Mary are recommended). The Holy Mass will be celebrated at 7pm and our priests will be available for confessions: 5:00pm-6:45pm. NB. Transportation is not being provided.

*Nel contesto dell'Anno Giubilare, la nostra parrocchia organizza un pellegrinaggio alla chiesa di San Padre Pio a Kleinburg, **giovedì 8 maggio 2025**, dove attraverseremo la Porta Santa. La Santa Messa sarà celebrata alle 19:00 e i nostri sacerdoti saranno disponibili per le confessioni dalle 17:00 alle 18:45. NB: non è previsto il trasporto.*

Messa in suffragio di Mr. Song Nestor

La settimana scorsa è venuto a mancare in Cameroon, Mr. Song Nestor, il fratello di P. Eugene. Una Messa in suffragio della sua anima sarà celebrata **lunedì 21 aprile, 2025 alle ore 20.**

Weekly Mass Intentions

Monday April 21

7pm Anastasia Pascarella

8pm Nestor Song

Tuesday April 22

7pm

Wednesday April 23

7pm

Thursday April 24

7pm Confirmation – St. John Bosco

Friday April 25

7pm Confirmation – St. Gabriel

Feast of the Divine Mercy

We will celebrate the Feast of the Divine Mercy on **Sunday April 27, 2025 at 3:00pm** with Eucharistic Adoration, Chaplet of the Divine Mercy and Holy Mass.

*Celebreremo la Festa della Divina Misericordia **domenica 27 aprile, 2025 alle ore 15** con l'Adorazione Eucaristica, Coroncina della Divina Misericordia e la S. Messa.*

2025 Golf Tournament

The 18th Immaculate Conception Parish Charity Golf Tournament in support of ShareLife and parish needs will be held on **Thursday June 5, 2025 at Glen Eagle Golf Club.**

Summer Camp 2025

The camp for children entering grade 1 to 6 in September will be held from **July 7, 2025 – July 11, 2025.** The registration fee is \$75.

Confirmation Rehearsal Dates

All Confirmation candidates are reminded that the rehearsal will be held on the following dates and times. Candidate and sponsors are asked to attend.

- Tuesday April 22, 2025 at 7:30pm:
 - St. John Bosco
- Wednesday April 23, 2025 at 7:30pm:
 - St. Gabriel
- Tuesday April 29, 2025 at 7:30pm:
 - St. Catherine & Other Schools
- Wednesday April 30, 2025 at 7:30pm:
 - Immaculate Conception

Parish Office Closed

The office will be closed on Easter Monday (**April 21**).

*L'ufficio parrocchiale rimarrà il Lunedì di Pasqua (**21 aprile**).*