

The Parish Community of
St. Padre Pio
Welcomes You



5500 Major Mackenzie Drive, Kleinburg, ON L0J 1C0

Telephone: 905-893-7879

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Fax: 905-893-7885

www.stpp.church

PARISH TEAM:

Monsignor Gregory Ace, C.H.H. - Pastor
Deacon Gary Thibodeau - Deacon Assistant
Deacon Curtis Boone - Deacon Assistant

OUR SCHOOLS:

St. Andrew School 905-893-1968
St. Padre Pio School 905-893-7082
Pope Francis School 905-893-8782
St. Stephen School 905-893-7557

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday - 9:15, 10:30 & 12:00 noon
- 8:00 a.m. Italian

BAPTISMS:

By appointment at least **two months in advance**. Instruction may be required.

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday - 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday - 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday - 7:00 p.m.
Thursday - 7:00 p.m. (Italian)
Friday - 9:00 a.m.

CONFESSIONS:

Thurs - 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. (Italian)
Sat - 4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Any other time by appointment.

OFFICE:

Telephone - 905-893-7879
Fax - 905-893-7885
Parish email: info@stpp.church
Parish Secretaries:
Peggy Hunter phunter@stpp.church
Maria Mazza mmazza@stpp.church

COMMUNION FOR THE SICK:

We are available to visit the sick in the home or hospital and to bring communion. Please contact the Parish Office.

MARRIAGE:

Couples planning to be married must contact a priest **one year in advance**. They must also receive personal preparation for entering marriage.

Hours:

Monday-Friday
8:00am to 4pm
5:30pm to 8:30pm

If either party has previously gone through any form of civil or religious marriage with another person, the priest is not permitted to set a date for the wedding until the Bishop's office has been consulted.

Feast Days This Week

Tues. Feb. 2 – **The Presentation of the Lord**
 Wed. Feb. 3 – **St. Blaise**, bishop, martyr
 St. Ansgar, bishop
 Thurs. Feb. 5– **St. Agatha**, virgin, martyr
 Sat. Feb. 6 – St. Paul Miki & Companions, martyr

Blessing of Throats - The blessing of throats has always been one of the most popular blessings in the Church. St. Blaise was bishop of Sebaste in Cappadocia, and was martyred by being beheaded about 316AD. Not much can be affirmed of him with any degree of historical accuracy, but stories about him are numerous.

One day so goes the legend, Blaise met a woman whose only pig had been snatched up in the fangs of a wolf; but at the command of the bishop, the wolf restored the pig alive to its owner. The woman did not forget the favour, for later, when the bishop was languishing in prison, she brought him tapers to dispel the darkness and gloom. To this story may be attributed the practice of using candles in bestowing the blessing of St. Blaise. While in prison he performed a wonderful cure on a boy who had a fishbone lodged in his throat and who was in danger of choking to death. From this account we have the longtime custom of invoking the Saint for all kinds of throat trouble.

“Through the prayers of St. Blaise, may God free you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,” Amen.

Tuesday, February 2

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

The feast of the Presentation of the Lord is celebrated 40 days after Christmas. Part of its theme is that of ‘light’. On Christmas, ‘the light shines in the darkness’ and only a few ‘receive it’ – Mary and the shepherds at the manger. On Epiphany the light casts its bright beams upon Jerusalem (the Church), “the glory of the Lord rises over Jerusalem,” and the Gentiles come flocking out of the darkness to the City of Light. Lastly on the feast of the Presentation, candles are blessed to take to our homes, a symbol of the Light being brought to the ends of the earth.

Blessed Candles – are available to take home. Blessed candles are lit in homes as a sign of honour to Jesus Christ, who is the light of the world. Some may light them before a picture or image of a saint as a sign of our trust in God’s protection in times of storms or danger.

Prayer for use with Blessed Candles

“Blessed are you, Lord our God, creator of the universe and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; you have sent your son to be the light of the world, and to call us to be your people of light. Let these candles remind us of Jesus as we work with Him to build up your kingdom. By his grace may we please you always and come into eternal light with you and your saints. Blessed and praised are you, God our Father, through Jesus Christ your Son in the love of your Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever”. Amen

Lent begins Feb. 17th in 2 1/2 weeks!

How am I going to observe Lent this year? How am I going to make this a time for penance and repentance, for almsgiving, prayer and fasting? what attitudes that are not pleasing to God do I need to change?

Lent is a time when Jesus wants to renew all the members of God’s family and prepare others to be baptized into the Church. Two words describe the Lenten season clearly: Baptismal and Penitential

Baptismal: Lent is centered on baptism. For us who have been baptized into Christ, it is a time for renewing our baptismal covenant. We are to continue to die with Christ to sin and live with him for God. This renewal – which is an ongoing, lifelong task, is a time of final preparation.

Penitential: Lent is also a period of repenting and doing penance. It is a time when Jesus calls us to be serious in living out our baptismal promises. We are called to root out sin from our lives, to turn back to the ways of Jesus Christ. We are invited to fast and do penance as part of our daily carrying of the cross. We are also encouraged to build up God’s Kingdom by placing God’s will at the centre of our lives.

Tax Receipts are being mailed from the Archdiocese this year, due to the pandemic.

World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life – On Tuesday, Feb. 2, the Church celebrates the World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life. In the Archdiocese of Toronto, we are blessed to have living and serving among us more than 900 consecrated men and women. The World Day for Consecrated Life is a wonderful opportunity for us to thank God for the gifts of these sisters, virgins, brothers and priests and to pray for God’s blessing upon them in their efforts to faithfully live the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience.

The church will be open at the following times:
Monday-Friday 8:00am to 7:30pm for private prayer

Saturdays – 4:30pm to 5:00pm – Confessions
5:00pm to 6:00pm for Communion Services
Sundays – 11:30am to 1:00pm for Communion Services

Only 10 people at a time allowed in the church.

Confirmations - Because of the State of Emergency, ALL the Confirmations from now until February 19th have been cancelled. This is beyond our control and we hope that families understand. Around the time the State of Emergency ends on February 19th, we will have a better idea of how we can move forward with new dates. We will continue to update you as the situation evolves. You can check our website www.stpp.church or Instagram.

Announcements will also be made at the Sunday 10:30am Mass which is livestreamed.

First Communions - The State of Emergency is scheduled to end on February 19th. First Communions are supposed to begin on February 23rd. As long as the State of Emergency or lockdown do not continue past February 19th, the First Communion Masses for February and March will continue as scheduled. We will continue to update you as the situation evolves. You can check on our website www.stpp.church or Instagram. Announcements will also be made at the Sunday 10:30 am Mass which is livestreamed.

Parish Donations - you can now make your weekly envelope donation on the church website at www.stpp.church/home.html by using the *Parish Donations* blue donor box. Please indicate your envelope number on the form. A receipt will automatically be e-mailed back to you. Thank you for your generosity.

Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG)

Parishioners are encouraged to sign up for Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG). It is a convenient, easy and automatic way to support your parish. This allows the parish to meet its monthly obligations, such as hydro, heat, payroll etc. All donations are tax deductible and can be stopped at any time. Donations can be directed to your weekly or building fund offering or both and will be deducted from your bank account on the 20th of the month. Thanks to all our parishioners who give so generously.

A Reminder that the 10:30am Mass on Sunday is available to watch on our website:

www.stpp.church. One half hour after Mass is over; it will be available for playback for one week.

Memorial Tree Ornaments – may be picked up in the Narthex.

Sacred Relics in the Church

A sacred relic usually consists of physical remains of a saint or the personal effects of the saint or something associated with the saint for purposes of veneration. There are actually three classes of sacred relics. A first-class relic is a part of the saint's body. A second-class relic is a piece of the saint's clothing or something used by a saint. A third-class relic is an object which has been touched to a first-class relic.

In our church we have all three classes of relics. Near the statue of St. Padre Pio there is a case containing five relics of St. Padre Pio. In front of the statue is a relic glove of St. Padre Pio.

Near the statue of Mary there is a case containing three relics of St. Padre Pio and a relic of Pope St. John XXIII and Pope St. John Paul II.

In the altar, there is a first-class relic of St. Pius X.

The stained-glass windows of St. Anthony and St. Francis contain relics. The stained-glass windows of the Life of Christ contain stones associated with each of the sacred sites.

Besides these, the church has a pair of gloves worn by St. Padre Pio, which are used at Healing Masses. There is also a piece of the Rock of Calvary and a Relic of the True Cross which are venerated on Good Friday. At Christmas, the large outdoor Nativity contains a stone from the cave of Bethlehem.

Parish Office will not be open to the public at this time.

Offertory Envelopes for 2021 are available for pick up in the Narthex. Envelopes are sorted alphabetically. Please do not touch all the boxes and sanitize your hands after picking up your box. PLEASE DO NOT REARRANGE THE BOXES.

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