



**2775 Erin Centre Boulevard
Mississauga, ON L5M 5W2**

Phone: (905) 812 0030

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mercifulredeemermi.archtoronto.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Saturday
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

CHURCH HOURS

Monday - Friday
10:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Saturday - Sunday
8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

MASS TIMES

Monday 12:15 PM

Tuesday 7:00 PM

Wednesday 12:15 PM

Thursday 7:00 PM

Friday 12:15 PM & 7:00 PM*

*First Fridays of the month only

Saturday 9:00 AM

5:00 PM (Vigil Mass)

7:00 PM (Vigil Mass)

Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM,

12:00 PM & 7:00 PM

ADORATION CHAPEL

Monday - Saturday

10:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Sunday 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@MercifulRedeemerParish

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PARISH TEAM

Msgr Robert Nusca, Pastor
msgrnusca@mercifulredeemer.org

Fr Suresh Xavier, Associate Pastor
associate2@mercifulredeemer.org

Fr Abraham Lukose, Associate Pastor
associate@mercifulredeemer.org

Patricia Pereira, Office Manager
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Elizabeth Nogueira, Daytime Secretary
Flavia Fernandes, Evening Secretary
secretary@mercifulredeemer.org

Danielle Lape, Youth Ministry
mercifulredeemerym@gmail.com

Jane Scamurra, Lay Pastoral Associate
jane@mercifulredeemer.org

Kielon Gerra, Communications Coordinator
communications@mercifulredeemer.org

PARISH SCHOOLS

St. Aloysius Gonzaga 2800 Erin Centre Blvd. | (905) 820 3900

Divine Mercy 2840 Duncairn Dr. | (905) 812 5445

Our Lady of Mercy 5820 Glen Erin Dr. | (905) 814 9216

St. Rose of Lima School 4590 The Gallops | (905) 828 4076

St. Sebastian School 3460 Aquinas Ave. | (905) 607 0107

PARISH COMMUNITY

Charismatic Prayer Group Mondays, 7:00 - 8:00 PM

St. JP II Theology of the Body Prayer Group Mondays 9:00 - 10:00 PM, via Zoom, tob@bell.net

Knights of Columbus Michael Fonseca, fs@saintfaustina.ca

Men's Fraternity Saturdays, 8:00-10:00 AM, via Zoom

Merciful Moms Tuesdays, 8:30-9:30 PM, via Zoom,
jane@mercifulredeemer.org

Youth Ministry <https://mercifulredeemermi.archtoronto.org/en/parish-life/our-ministries/outreach/youth-ministry/>

Forged Young Adult Ministry www.forgedministry.com

Society of St. Vincent de Paul www.mrcssvp.ca

Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services www.catholic-cemeteries.com

Bible Study Group Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00 PM

CONFESSION TIMES

Tuesday 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Saturday 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

TODAY'S MASS READINGS

First Reading: Numbers 11:25-29

Second Reading: James 5:1-6

Gospel: Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, September 27, 12:15 PM

+ Selwyn D'Souza, + Patricia Leitao, + Monty Roach

Tuesday, September 28, 7:00 PM

+ Joseph & Mabel Xavier, + Frankie D'Souza
+ Remedios Bayato

Wednesday, September 29, 12:15 PM

+ Elvira Ventayen
Special Intention for Marina & Keira Pereira
Thanksgiving by Raplh Perez

Thursday, September 30, 7:00 PM

+ Monica Tavares
Thanksgiving by Nitrogen & Gil Castro
Thanksgiving for Martha Fernandes

Friday, October 1, 12:15 PM

+ Maria Da Silva, + Holy Souls in Purgatory
Special Intention for Pereira Family

Friday, October 1, 7:00 PM

+ Philomena & Anthonypillai
Thanksgiving for Ramani Selvanayagam & Family
Thanksgiving to St. Anthony

Saturday, October 2, 9:00 AM

+ Mariela Sepulveda, + Michael Fernandes,
+ Yorrick DeSouza, + Nicholas Shaw,
+ Antonette Fernandes, + Irma & Angel Chans,
+ K. T. Varghese
Special Intention for Aurelia Fronda
Thanksgiving by Willy & Remcy Menezes

Saturday, October 2, 5:00 PM

+ Grace Misquita, + Collin D'Mello
+ Deceased Members of Luk & Chui Families

Saturday, October 2, 7:00 PM

+ Sylvia Dsouza
Thanksgiving by Lazaro Family
Thanksgiving for Natasha & Kurt Braganza

Sunday, October 3, 8:30 AM

+ Deceased Members of Bretana Family
Thanksgiving by Teresa Hoare

Sunday, October 3, 10:00 AM

For all parishioners

Sunday, October 3, 12:00 PM

+ Dolly Enriquez, + Margaret John
Thanksgiving by Diab Family

Sunday, October 3, 7:00 PM

+ Anna Crisci, + Antonio & Liliana Vicente

SUNDAY REFLECTION

As always, the Scriptures challenge us in several ways.

The disciples in the Gospel, as well as Joshua in the Old Testament, are concerned that others outside their group are exercising God's power. Jesus, and Moses before him, remind them (and us) that God can use anyone he wishes to work his wonders among his people. It's very easy for us to become like the disciples and forget to rejoice that the Spirit of God works in many unexpected ways. Do I, do you, keep our eyes and hearts open each day in expectation that the Spirit of God may visit us in unexpected ways and through unexpected people?

The words of St. James offer us a challenge. The Oblate community has worked hard to provide us with all we have here. We have much more than many of our brothers and sisters. How do we live our vow of poverty when we have our needs taken care of so well? We can identify with our poor brothers and sisters by being grateful often each day. We can share our sufficiency through our hospitality to guests. And we can remember our brothers and sisters who have much less than we do, and cut short our complaints when we don't have everything we may think we need.

When we take the time each day to be aware of God's abundant providence, we also continue to be aware of our own ingratitude. We are aware that there are things about us that draw our attention away from God's graciousness. Jesus challenges us to total concentration on the God who loves us. If something causes us to sin, cut it off. Jesus is not calling us to mutilation, but he is calling us to decision-making. If we are serious about responding to the great love God has for us, then we will make serious efforts to accept God's grace throughout the day and choose to move beyond those things in us that lead us to be self-centered.

We have all lived long enough to know the things about us that tend to distract us from God's loving providence. De Sales reminds us that these tendencies ought to become the subject of our morning preparation of the day. Together with God, we can develop a graced plan which will help us to become more dependent on God's grace during our day. In this way, we learn to make practical decisions that "cut short" our tendencies toward selfishness and self-centeredness and refocus our attention on God who is providing for us.

Let us not overlook the challenges of today's Scripture readings. They call us to grace.

Article CF: <https://oblates.squarespace.com/sundays-salesian-feed/twenty-sixth-sunday-in-ordinary-time-september-26-2021>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: Genesis 2:18-24

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:9-11

Gospel: Mark 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

Life Chain 2021

Join the thousands participating in Life Chain across Canada and the US standing together in prayer and witness for moms and their babies.

Where: North-West corner of Glen Eric Dr. and Erin Centre Blvd

When: 3 October, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.

Thanksgiving Food Drive

In collaboration with SVDP, the Knights of Columbus will be hosting a food drive starting the weekend of September 25/26 up until Thanksgiving weekend. There will be a crate in the church foyer for all non-perishable food donations. The contents will be sanitized before being donated to families in need and food banks. Thank you for your generosity!

Merciful Moms

Merciful Moms is hoping to resume gathering on a Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m. sometime in the coming weeks! Meanwhile we are gathering via Zoom on Tuesday evenings at 8:30 p.m. Please email jane@mercifulredeemer.org for more information.

ShareLife

Thanks to generous donors like each one of you, ShareLife agencies helped 150,000 people locally last year. They include 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. Those who are able, please make your donations through <https://sharelife.org/> or drop off your envelopes at the Parish office.

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

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

If you are interested in faith and God and want to learn a little bit more about becoming Catholic, then don't hesitate to contact jane@mercifulredeemer.org! The RCIA is a group of adults that gather once a week to learn about the Catholic faith and receive the Sacraments at Easter. These are unprecedented times, but perhaps all the more reason to make this a priority!

The RCIA process begins **Thursday, 7 October**. If COVID restrictions permit for us to do so, we will be gathering in person (socially distanced) from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

SPA (Spiritual and Personal Awakening) Postponed until the spring

We are hopeful that by springtime we can resume our gathering in a safe and beneficial way for all participants. After much thought, it has been determined that this ministry does not work via Zoom!

National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

On Thursday, September 30, 2021, across the country, Canadians will be observing the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The ongoing journey to healing and reconciliation has a particular relevance for Catholics throughout Canada given the church's involvement in operating many residential schools and recognizing the suffering and intergenerational trauma that remains for many survivors to this day. This day provides an opportunity for all Canadians to recognize and commemorate the legacy of residential schools, and commit to working for truth and reconciliation in the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada.

All are welcome to join Cardinal Thomas Collins for a virtual prayer service on September 30, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. – you can access the prayer service through the St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica livestream at: <https://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live/>. In addition, spiritual and educational resources relating to Indigenous Healing & Reconciliation can be accessed by visiting: www.archtoronto.org/healingandreconciliation.



OUR MISSION IS TO

LOVE, WALK WITH & EMPOWER THE YOUTH OF OUR COMMUNITY

TO BE JOYFUL & FEARLESS

DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

MERCIFUL REDEEMER YOUTH MINISTRY

mercifulredeemermi.archtoronto.org/en/parish-life/our-ministries/outreach/youth-ministry/



@mryouthministry • mercifulredeemerym@gmail.com



For High School Students (Gr. 9-12)

Every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month, 4:30-6 PM

More information for our youth programs to come in the fall. Thank you for your patience.

Lifeteen is a high-school youth ministry that strives to lead teens closer to Christ by strengthening our teens' Catholic identity, while also rooting them firmly in Christ and in His Church. If you are interested in joining the program in our parish, please register your child using the link found on the parish website. Once you register your child with the link provided, you will automatically be sent the Zoom link before every Life night.

God loves each of us as if there were only one of us.

-Saint Augustine



For Middle School Students (Gr. 6-8)

Every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, 4:30-6 PM

More information for our youth programs to come in the fall. Thank you for your patience.

Edge is a middle-school ministry program that aims to offer a safe and fun environment where you can learn more about your faith. If interested, please register using the link found on the parish website. Once you register your child with the link provided, you will automatically be sent the Zoom link before every Edge night.

DOWNLOAD OUR PARISH APP!

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- 1) Download **myParish App**
- 2) Enable the location setting on your device
- 3) Select our parish after opening



St. Pio of Pietrelcina and five Tips for Making Suffering Redemptive

“The life and mission of Padre Pio prove that difficulties and sorrows, if accepted out of love, are transformed into a privileged way of holiness, which opens onto the horizons of a greater good, known only to the Lord.”

- St. John Paul II, Homily at the canonization of St. Pio of Pietrelcina

The very popular St. Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio) is a sign of contradiction for the modern world. During his canonization homily, St. John Paul II points to the heart of St. Pio’s eloquent witness to the universal Church—the transformation of difficulties and sorrows into opportunities for holiness. This makes sense because Padre Pio’s stigmata, one of the most widely known things about him, illustrates this point in a literal way. He actually bore Jesus’ wounds on his body.

The governing ethos of modern life is the maximization of pleasure and the minimization of pain. We seek both sure safety from pain and difficulty—and a constant stream of dopamine and serotonin spikes to numb them when they arise. We sprint away from the cross while St. Pio embraced it, bearing its fruits in his own body. His wounds are magnetic.

Perhaps the popularity of St. Pio has something to do with our dissatisfaction with the utilitarianism of modern life. We don’t really buy it—we are not convinced that suffering and death can be avoided. We know that we are not really successful at numbing away pain and difficulty. When we are honest with ourselves, we all know the first noble truth that our Buddhist brothers and sisters articulate so pithily: To live is to suffer.

The Padre Pio’s stigmata, in the context of the witness of his entire life, preaches something powerful about suffering. It is not solitary and isolating. It isn’t meaningless and futile. We can bear the wounds of Christ on our bodies, be crucified with him, buried with him, and raised with him (see Galatians 2:20, 6:17; Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12; 2 Timothy 2:11) As the Scriptures teach, suffering is central to our Catholic Faith.

The life of St. Pio reminds us of the redemptive possibility found in our suffering if it is united to Christ. St. John Paul II also knew this well, as he states in his encyclical on suffering, *Salvifici Doloris*.

Each one is also called to share in that suffering through which the Redemption was accomplished. He is called to share in that suffering through which all human suffering has also been redeemed. In bringing about the Redemption through suffering, Christ has also raised human suffering to the level of the Redemption. Thus each man, in his suffering, can also become a sharer in the redemptive suffering of Christ.” - *Salvifici Doloris* 19

But how can we raise our own trials, pains, difficulties, and disappointments to the level of redemption?

Here are five ideas that are inspired by St. Pio’s own words:

1. Know Yourself—and Conquer Yourself

“The life of a Christian is nothing but a perpetual struggle against self; there is no flowering of the soul to the beauty of its perfection except at the price of pain”

Just as a loving mother and father must discipline their children to be truly loving and prevent them from growing up to be unhappy, unbearable, and unemployable, so must we learn to discipline ourselves in order to have a healthy sense of self-love.

The secular “gospel of self-care” misses this point. While we must not be overly severe with ourselves, we must also not be afraid to challenge ourselves. We must also be keenly aware of the traps we lay for ourselves so as not to fall into them. We must know our faults, weaknesses, and excuses—and fight back against them all.

So much sinful behavior is self-medication to cope with suffering. Not only are self-medicating behaviors ineffective in actually dealing with suffering, but they also bring about isolation, selfishness, and darkness. When we learn to struggle, lovingly and fiercely with ourselves that very pain is something to offer along with the sufferings with Christ.

2. Stop Worrying

“Pray, hope, and don’t worry. Worry is useless. God is merciful and will hear your prayer.”

This is perhaps the most often quoted saying of Padre Pio. It is almost surprising to hear from a man known from his focus on the cross of Jesus.

It almost sounds too “sunshiny.”

The reality is that a heart united to the Cross is united in hope and prayer and therefore has an interior calm and confidence in God. The one who truly conquers self is the one who actually loves himself and is at peace.

As our confidence in God grows, our anxiety wanes and suffering becomes bearable.

3. Remember that Faith is Not a Feeling

“The most beautiful act of faith is the one made in darkness, in sacrifice, and with extreme effort.”

We all know this. It is also true we do not really know this. We are like the man in the Gospel who says, “Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief” (Mark 9:24). Uniting ourselves to Jesus’ sufferings will not usually bring about warm feelings. In times of real suffering, we must choose to believe—by making acts of faith through prayer, service, and sacrifice.

Our struggles and dark periods should not be a source of guilt. The witness of countless saints reminds us that time of spiritual darkness are a universal part of the spiritual journey.

Faith is an interior act, not an interior feeling.

4. Don’t Expect Perfect Happiness in this Life

“Happiness is only found in heaven.”

We have all been affected somewhat with the notion that we should work to create our own earthly paradise. We strive for experiences and look ahead to milestones: “When x happens, then I will be happy.”

While we should not expect to be perfectly happy in this life.

This does not mean we shouldn’t be joyful. Actually, quite the opposite. Our joy is rooted in our hope that there is something more. All of our pleasures on earth are diminished by their impermanence and imperfection, but we can see them as a sign of better things to come. This helps us to bear our difficulties in joy.

5. Live on Love

“My Jesus, love is what sustains me.”

Here is the simple key to it all. Here is the witness of every saint.

The “not so secret” secret?

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.”
- Matthew 22:36-40

Love transforms suffering. Contemporary saints such as St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Therese of Lisieux, St. Damien of Molokai, St. Teresa of Calcutta, St. Josephine Bakhita—and St. Pio of Pietrelcina, of course—are figures unconquerable love in the midst of intense suffering.

How could these saints endure the trials of their lives? First, they knew that they were immeasurably loved by God (see 1 John 4:19). Second, sustained and nourished by God’s love, they returned it with their whole hearts to God and radiated it to their neighbors. Their wounds pressed into the wounds of Christ and made an offering to God the Father.

When the world encourages us to flee suffering and seek comfort, we need to remember the witness and words of St. Pio, along with the great cloud of witnesses that we find in the saints. The saints are joyful, hopeful reminders of the power of the Cross and the hope of resurrection.

Article CF: <https://media.ascensionpress.com/2020/11/25/st-pio-of-pietrelcina-and-five-tips-for-making-suffering-redemptive/>

Offering up Our Suffering

Dear Lord,

Help me to remember in these troubled times

The cross you carried for my sake,
So that I may better carry mine
And to help others do the same,
As I offer up (whatever your concern or problem here) to you
For the conversion of sinners
For the forgiveness of sins
In reparation for sins
And for the salvation of souls.

Amen



FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

FIRST COMMUNION MASSES:

Was: Sat 8 May, 12:00 p.m.	Is: Sun 26 Sept. 2021, 2:00 p.m.
Was: Sun 9 May, 4:00 p.m.	Is: Sun 26 Sept. 2021, 4:00 p.m.
Was: Sunday 16 May, 2:00 p.m.	Is: Sun 3 October 2021, 2:00 p.m.
Was: Sun 16 May, 4:00 p.m.	Is: Sun 3 October 2021, 4:00 p.m.

CONFIRMATION MASSES:

Was: Mon 26 April, 5:00/7:00 p.m.	Is: Mon 20 Sept. 2021, 7:00 p.m.
Was: Wed 28 April, 5:00/7:00 p.m.	Is: Wed 22 Sept. 2021, 7:00 p.m.
Was: Fri 30 April, 5:00/7:00 p.m.	Is: Fri 24 Sept. 2021, 7:00 p.m.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - PARENTS' MEETING #1: ***Monday 4 October 2021 - 7:00 p.m.***

- To take place in the church.

CONFIRMATION - PARENTS' MEETING: ***Monday 8 November 2021 - 7:00 p.m.***

- To take place in the church.