

# You're invited!

Alpha is a series of sessions focused on questions of life, faith and meaning. Each session has food, a talk, and space to discuss and ask any question you want. Try it!

Alpha

**10am or 7pm - Tuesdays - Jan 28th - Apr 14th 2020**

\*no session on Tue Mar 17th

Join us and INVITE A FRIEND too. Get more info or register at:

**[holyfamilywhitby.ca/alpha](http://holyfamilywhitby.ca/alpha)**

## Holy Family Parish

91 Ribblesdale Dr, Whitby Tel. 905-665-6470 Web. [holyfamilywhitby.ca](http://holyfamilywhitby.ca)

Email: [holy.family@rogers.com](mailto:holy.family@rogers.com) Facebook: Holy.Family.Parish.Whitby Instagram: #holyfamilywh

love God • love others • make disciples



**Monday January 27, 7 p.m.**

+Valdimir Bulat req by Mira Bulat and Family

**Tuesday January 28, 9 a.m.**

+Jim Kerr req by Maureen Pauling

**Wednesday January 29, 7 p.m.**

Sp Int for Nicole Herod and McRena Constantine req by Claudia Herod

+Kev in Roach req by Barabara Minaret & Family

**Thursday January 30, 9 a.m.**

Thanksgiving for Nancy Yangapatty req by Family

**Friday January 31, 7 p.m.**

+Kevin Roach req by Donna and Wayne Scott

+Irene Topham req by

Sobanski Family

**Saturday February 1**

**9 a.m.** +Maria Labis and Cono Miragliotta req by Nino and Antonietta Saturno and Family

**5 p.m.** +Guillermo Ramirez req by Family

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**THE POWER OF PRAYER**

*Do you need prayer? Do you want to pray for someone?*

**IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF PRAYER:**

Please use our Prayer Request Box located in the back of the church. Simply fill out the provided Prayer Request Card, place it in the envelope and drop it in the box. Your petitions will be prayed for by our Intercessory Prayer Groups and by Fr. László and Fr. Ravi.

**NEW PRAYER GROUPS WELCOME:**

If you would like to form your own Intercessory Prayer Group, please call the office and give details of your meeting date/time and place. This is a very important ministry that can help all parishioners and people in need. Prayers are so important in our lives; it can move mountains and make everything possible.

**YOUTH MINISTRY**

Holy Family's Youth Ministry team invites all youth to come and check out our different evening programs: Jr. Edge Gr.3-5, Edge Gr.6-8 and Life Teen Gr.9-12.

**Our next Youth Ministry Dates: Life Teen – January 30, 6pm**

**Edge- February 6, 6pm and Edge Jr- February 12, 6pm**



Attention TEENS, Registration for Steubenville Toronto is now open! Steubenville will take place July 3-5th at the U.O.I.T campus. It is a two night, 3 day stay filled with exciting praise and worship, talks and social events. Most importantly Steubenville provides an opportunity to encounter Christ in an authentic way, with thousands of teens across North America. We will be travelling together as a parish and arriving home together. The total cost is \$295 for each teen. Please contact our youth minister for more details!

**Volunteer opportunities:**

The Italian dinner dance is looking for volunteers Gr.8-up to help with set up and tear down for February 15th. If you are interested in volunteer hours for this event please contact our youth minister.

For more information on how to register for any programs please email our youth minister Stephanie: [youthministryhollyfamilywhitby@gmail.com](mailto:youthministryhollyfamilywhitby@gmail.com)

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**CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE MASS WITH CARDINAL COLLINS**

As part of Marriage Sunday 2020 celebrations, Cardinal Thomas Collins will preside at a special Mass to honour couples celebrating milestone anniversaries in 2020. If you (or a couple you know) are celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th or 60+ wedding anniversary in 2020, you are invited to join in this special celebration. **The Mass will take place at 3 p.m. on Sunday, February 9 at St. Isaac Jogues Parish (1148 Finch Ave., Pickering).** A reception will follow Mass. The Mass is open to all, but due to space restrictions those wishing to attend are asked to **register online or by phone.** Milestone anniversary celebrants will be assured of reserved seating. Registration and other important information can be found at [www.archtoronto.org/marriage](http://www.archtoronto.org/marriage) or by calling Ella Okonkwo at (416) 934-3400 ext. 523.

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**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS**

Holy Family Parish will be having a Wedding Anniversary Mass on Saturday, **May 9th at 5:00pm.** Registered parishioners celebrating **Milestone Wedding Anniversary in 2020 (10<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, etc.)** are invited to renew your vows and commitment at a special Mass to celebrate your anniversary. Families and friends are welcome. Light refreshments will be served in the hall after the mass. Call the office at 905-665-6470 to register or for more information.

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**CWL ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Catholic Women's League will be holding their General Meeting on **Wednesday, February 5th after the 7:00 pm Mass.** All women parishioners and guests are welcome to attend. Please come and see what we are all about and the work we do for our parish and our community. We can be contacted at [cwlhollyfamilywhitby@gmail.com](mailto:cwlhollyfamilywhitby@gmail.com)

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**MESSAGE FROM ROSARY APOSTOLATE**

We are offering opportunities for those who are willing to visit an elementary school and pray the Rosary with children in the classroom one morning per month. You are invited to our next meeting on Tuesday, January 28 from 9:45am – 11:15am in the Knights Room.

For more information, please contact Linda Harlock at 905-743-9466 or [ryan\\_linda@sympatico.ca](mailto:ryan_linda@sympatico.ca)

## PASTORAL REFERENCE LETTERS

In order for people seeking teaching positions within the Catholic school system to have their Pastoral Letters to be signed:

- a. You must be a registered parishioner,
- b. Attending Sunday Mass regularly,
- c. Have participated in the sacramental and pastoral life of the Church community,
- d. Volunteered in different parish ministries for at least 4 months.
- e. Be in good canonical standing within the Church, that is not living in common law or married outside the church.
- f. Financially support the work and mission of the church particularly ShareLife, the Missions and your own Parish.

Please be aware that all pastoral references are positive but honest expressions of the Pastor's assessment of the candidate's current level of faith, faith practice and involvement. This assessment is based on personal knowledge and the responses given by the candidate in the interview. Fr. László cannot sign a reference form if he does not know the person and has no personal knowledge of the individual's involvement in the parish.

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## FRANCISCAN AT HOME

### *FREE online learning at your convenience*

The Catechetical Institute at Franciscan University exists to train and support the key catechists in any situation—priests, deacons, parents, or laity, whether professional or volunteer. Through conferences, online workshops, videos, audio, personal mentorship, and a wealth of resources produced by Franciscan University, all involved in the work of catechesis will find new ideas, new approaches, new techniques, and a new confidence to do the work of catechesis.

We are happy to let you know that the Archdiocese of Toronto has partnered with the Franciscan Institute and that our parish has registered to allow parishioners to set up **individual free account under our parish name**. All you need to do to is go to: <https://franciscanathome.com/free-institution-signup> to create your login account and choose the course you wish to take. If you have further questions please email the office: [holy.family@rogers.com](mailto:holy.family@rogers.com)

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**FESTA**  
**ITALIANA**

Join us for our Italian Dinner Dance.

**Ticket are available for sale at the back of the church.**

Italian style meal, homemade dessert, open wine bar. Coffee, tea included. 50/50 draw and many door prizes. Lots of dancing lots of fun!! Ticket price is \$55.00 per person and \$30.00 for children below 12 years old. **We need student volunteers to help serve.** Community service hours will be given. For further information please call Angie at [905 721-8878](tel:905-721-8878).

## "CHURCH PEOPLE" FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions!)

Over time it is easy to forget or become complacent about things in our lives that once were of great importance and how we think about or are part of the parish community of faith is no exception. Our busyness, distractions and mood can all impact this. We are sharing articles over the next few weeks to answer some questions and raise awareness about how we all can share in a very intentional way in our celebration of Mass and faith together. Our second question is:

### **Seating – "Does it Matter Where I Sit?"**

Why would it matter where people sit if there is room? What scares us about sitting in the centre of the pew? We come to Mass to praise and worship God, and to be present to Him in the celebration of the Holy Mass. So, our focus is on the altar, the Liturgy of the Word, and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. So where we sit does have an impact on our ability to really focus on what is important.

#### **Why do we sit where we sit?**

There are so many reasons that people sit where they sit in church. Some people just feel more comfortable to simply come in each week and go to exactly the same pew and sit in exactly the same spot. There are also parishioners who come in and seek out others who they know and enjoy sitting near. Of course there are those who consider carefully where the most accommodating location is due to mobility issues, assistive devices, baby strollers or car seats, or just having young children who may need to leave at some point. Others look for a spot where they will have a good view of the altar, and some just like to feel they have their own space where they can pray and experience the Mass in relative solitude. There are also those parishioners who serve at the Mass in some capacity and so need to be able to leave the pews at different times.

#### **Behaviours of Hospitality**

We all know that no one "owns" the seats in the church. Sometimes it seems that there is a territorial flag in place, but if we truly reflect on our spirit of hospitality as it applies to the seating in the church, we know that the space is there to be shared. So how then can our behaviours demonstrate this hospitality? A few simple gestures can make all the difference: **turning to make eye contact and smiling at someone as they come into your pew is a friendly welcome; if you are early, finding a seat up closer to the front, and moving to the center of the pew is considerate for those who arrive after you; being aware of others who may need assistance and helping them; participating in Holy Communion in a way that is gracious towards others and keeps the flow going in a reverent way.** In these seemingly little things, we convey our attitude towards how we celebrate Mass as a *community* of faith, and our spirit of hospitality towards others. We all are called to be mindful of, and to offer our best Christian hospitality.

In the end, if we consider the outcome if we have prayerfully invited someone new to come to our church, and they were met with potential negative behaviours, how would that impact their decision to come back? If we see Jesus in everyone around us, and remember to try and bring Jesus to others, then we can open our hearts and the pews to welcome others to church.

-Parish Leadership Team-

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