

We welcome you and invite you to share in the spiritual and social activities of your parish.

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St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church

MASSSES

Saturday Vigil 5:00pm

Sunday 8:15am, 9:30am, 11:30am

Weekday Masses: Tues & Thurs: 12:05 pm

Wednesday & Friday 9:00 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday

4:10 pm - 4:45 pm

Pastoral Visiting Ministry

Frances Mantle; 905 844 3303

office@standrewoakville.com

Music Ministry

Stephen Hegedus, Music Director

Sarah Zbogor, Director, Children's Choir

Angela Kim, Organist

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

For those interested in the Catholic Faith please
contact Iah Jung - ijung@hamiltondiocese.com

PASTORAL STAFF

Father Joseph Akanbi ~ Pastor

Father Michael Uso-Ereyi ~ Associate Pastor

Rev. Mr. Richard Tan ~ Deacon

Iah Jung ~ Parish Life Co-ordinator

Baptisms

Please contact the office

Sacrament of Marriage

Call the Parish Office 9 to 12 months in advance

Catholic Funeral Rites

When death occurs in the family, please contact
the parish office and we will assist you in making
the liturgical arrangements

Office Hours

Frances Mantle, Office Administrator

Monday - Office closed

Tuesday - Thursday 9:30 am - 12:00 pm;

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm; Friday 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Ascension of the Lord, May 17, 2026

Upcoming Events:

May 22nd @ 6pm – A Harp and Piano Recital in the church.

May 30th/May 31st – Masterworks of Oakville Chorus and Orchestra Concert at St. Matthew's.

June 2nd @ 6pm – CWL Potluck Dinner

June 7th 2pm-4pm – Annual Strawberry Tea

June 18th – CWL Bus Trip to St. Augustine Seminary.

“Up Above He Goes.....Yet Remains With Us”

The Ascension of the Lord can seem, at first glance, like a farewell. The Gospel tells us that Jesus is “taken up into heaven” — and we might imagine the disciples standing there, gazing upward, feeling the ache of absence. But the Ascension is not about Jesus leaving us behind. It is about Him opening the way ahead of us.

1. Not an Absence, but a New Presence

When Jesus ascends, He does not abandon His friends. Instead, He enters into the fullness of the Father's glory so that He can be present to all, in every place and every time. Before the Ascension, His presence was bound to one location; now, through the Spirit, He walks beside each of us — in our homes, in our workplaces, in our joys and in our struggles.

2. A Mission Entrusted to Us

The angels tell the disciples, “*Why are you standing here looking at the sky?*” It is as if they are saying: *Don't just look upward — look outward.* The Ascension is a commissioning. Jesus entrusts His mission to us: to bring the Good News to the ends of the earth, to be witnesses of His mercy, to be signs of hope in a world that often feels hopeless.

3. Hope Anchored in Heaven

The Ascension reminds us that our true home is not here. Our lives are a journey toward the Father's house. This does not mean we escape from the world's problems — rather, it gives us the courage to face them. We live with our feet on the ground but our hearts lifted toward heaven. And when life feels heavy, we remember: Christ has gone ahead to prepare a place for us.

4. Living the Ascension Today

How do we live this mystery in our daily lives?

- **By trusting His promise:** “I am with you always.”
- **By being His hands and feet:** serving the poor, comforting the lonely, forgiving those who hurt us.
- **By keeping our eyes on the goal:** eternal life with Him, which gives meaning to every sacrifice we make.

The Ascension is not the end of the story — it is the beginning of our mission. Let us not remain staring at the sky, waiting for something to happen. Let us go into the world with the joy of the Gospel, knowing that Christ walks with us, and that where He has gone, we too are called to follow. Amen.

MAY DEVOTION continues throughout the month as we pray the Holy Rosary half hour before every Mass on weekdays and on Saturday at 4:30pm. Let us come together to pray for peace in the world as we invoke Our Lady's powerful intercession.

SEMINARIAN DAMIAN FREDERICK resumes his one-year pastoral assignment with us in St. Andrew's the week of May 24th and will be discerning his vocation to the priesthood until May, 2026. It's a time for him to learn and grow in the understanding of Parish life and to deepen his love for the church. Let us continue pray for him and others in the process and encourage him along the journey. Welcome to the great Family of St. Andrew's, Damian!

NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT started in our Parish on Friday, 15th of May and will conclude on Saturday 23rd May, 2026. Novena prayer follows the conclusion of the Holy Rosary on the days, and may be celebrated privately with family and friends. Copies of the prayer are in the pews and on our parish website.

LIFE ADVOCACY: The third of the three series of talks and engagements on Life Advocacy will see us welcome Amanda Achtman on May 27th. She will focus on the theme: **Fostering A Culture of Care.** The evening will focus reflection on the importance of fostering a Culture of Care, the gifts we can offer one another as members of the Body of Christ, and ideas about some of the actions Parish families can take when illness strikes, death occurs and loneliness sets in.

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, May 24 is Pentecost Sunday and our readings from Scripture will be:

Acts 2:1-11
Psalm 104
1 Corinthians 12: 3b-7, 12-13
John 20: 19-23

The Holy Spirit is the life-wire, the heart and lungs of the Christian life. Just as those early apostles were only apostles by name until the Holy Spirit descended on them, so are we without the Holy Spirit with its seven-fold gifts. Can you imagine a posh and expensive car without a functioning engine. Or a very expensive computer or phone without apps. They are useless and good for nothing. But with the Holy Spirit actively at work, everything works well and accords with God's will. *"Without the Holy Spirit, God is distanced"* says Cardinal Suenens Thank you O Holy Spirit for being our light and life. Renew us O Lord that we may renew the face of the earth!

Please Don't Miss the following two concerts!

A Harp and Piano Recital with Myriam Blardone on May 22nd at 7pm at St. Andrew's. Tickets are available at the door for \$25, Student tickets \$15.

Masterworks of Oakville Chorus and Orchestra, conducted by St. Andrew's former **Music Director Charles Demuyneck**, will perform a very special concert at St. Matthew's Church. The very famous Carmina Burana is on the program, as well as two beautiful works by Brahms. Joining them will be the Bach Elgar Choir of Hamilton, Georgetown Bach Chorale, and Oakville Choir for Children and Youth, as well as Grammy Award winning Baritone Kevin MacMillan. The concert will be **May 30 at 8 pm, and May 31 at 3 pm, at St. Matthew's Parish on Nottingham Gate.** Tickets are available at masterworksofoakville.ca, and at the door.

**St. Andrew's Children's Choir
Annual Strawberry Tea
Sunday, June 7th, 2026
2 pm- 4pm**

Join us for a delightful afternoon full of tradition as our young choristers perform many of your favourite songs. Enjoy a scrumptious English high tea and wear your best hat or fascinator. Don't miss out on this fun afternoon with door prizes, raffle prizes and so much more!

Tickets are \$30. per attendee and will be available for purchase after all masses on Saturday, May 30 and Sunday, May 31. A limited number of tickets are available in the church office.

Methods of payment include e-transfer, cash or cheque. Tickets sell out so don't be disappointed!

For more information please contact:
sachildrenschoir@gmail.com

CWL BAKE SALE

Thank you to the many volunteers who made this year's CWL bake sale such a huge success. The sale raised an **incredible \$2800** which will benefit our charities. St. Andrews is truly a special place! Time and again, Parishioners show their love for the community through their generous support and involvement.



WORLD YOUTH DAY SEOUL 2027

Bishop Dabrowski is sending a delegation of young adults (aged 18-35) to World Youth Day in the summer of 2027 in Seoul, South Korea. World Youth Day (WYD) is the gathering of young people from all over the world with the Pope. It is also a pilgrimage, a celebration of youth, an expression of the universal Church and an intense moment of evangelization for the world. For more information about WYD and how to join our delegation please visit: <https://wyd.hamiltondiocese.com/>.

Bulletin cover by Pietro Perugino, Ascension of Christ, c 1496-1500 Musee des Beaux-Arts De Lyon, Lyon, France



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