

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

MASSES

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

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time, June 28, 2026

Preaching the Gospel Standing in the "Pair".....

There was a shoemaker who had his shop at the gate of a Seminary. Every year, he would make a special pair of shoes and present one of the graduating seminarians with a special request that the seminarian might put on the pair of shoes on the day he would be celebrating his first mass. Someone asked him the reason behind this kind gesture; and he went on to explain that as a little child he desired to enter the Seminary and eventually become a priest. Unfortunately for him after his first year in High School, his parents could not afford his school fees and so he dropped out of school and he began to learn how to make shoes. But the desire for the priesthood did not die in him, he continued to desire the priesthood even though he was out of school. After a while, it dawned on him that age was no longer on his side, and so he made up his mind to present a special pair of shoes every year to one of the graduating Seminarians who would put on the pair for his first Mass. He'd said to himself, *"even though I am not a priest, I am fulfilled because many priests are celebrating Mass and preaching the Word of God while standing in my shoes."*

The Apostle's Seminary

Before sending out his apostles on mission to preach the good news of salvation to the world, Our Blessed Lord first prepared them. He laid out to them the full picture of what they were going to encounter. Jesus, gave them the both sides of the coin of the mission- On the one hand the apostles would face rejection and persecution, and on the other hand, enjoy some acceptance and hospitality among the people they would preach to. And to those who would be hospitable and welcoming to the apostles, Our Blessed Lord promises a handsome reward in this world and the next (Matt.10:41).

The Shorter Route

It is very noble to be an apostle of Christ, to be a prophet of God, and there are many blessings that accompany these offices. But not all of us are called to the ministerial priesthood, not all of us can be like Fr. Michael or Fr. Joseph, nor are we all called to be like Deacon Richard and others. We all cannot be monks and lay missionaries. However, God in his goodness desires that everyone can partake of the blessings of these offices. So, he designed a *"short-cut"*, *"a shorter route"* for those who are open to receive the accompanying blessings such that you don't need to become a prophet in order to be blessed like a prophet. You may not need to become a priest, a deacon, a nun, a monk even a lay missionary in order to share in the blessings that come to these offices. It is like eating the "crumbs" from that fall from the master's table (Matt. 15: 27). So, how do I receive those blessing if I don't share directly in the offices?

If you are not a prophet, be kind to a prophet. If you are not an apostle, an ordained priest, deacon, a monk, or a nun, offer help to the ministries of such ministers and you are going to receive the blessings that they receive themselves. Our Blessed Lord made this abundantly clear, when he says in the gospel: "Anyone who gives as little as a cup of cold water to any of these little ones because he's my disciple will certainly receive a disciple's reward (Matt. 10: 41ff); will receive a special blessing.

The Encounter-Elisha and the Wealthy Woman

In the encounter between Elisha and the wealthy woman of Shunem in the Second Book of Kings (4:812a, 14-16), we see how God blesses those who are kind to his prophets and his messengers. The woman offered meal and shelter to the Prophet and as a reward God blessed her with a son the following year. A true examination will reveal to us that sometimes many tend to find more pleasure in finding faults and in broadcasting what we see as failure on the part of the ministers of God than we do in investing spiritually and materially in their ministries. When was the last time I paused to offer some prayers, the mass, for those who serve us in God's sanctuary as His ministers?

The Example of St. Therese Lisieux

St. Theresa of the Child Jesus is the patroness of Catholic missions and missionaries as proclaimed by Pope Pius XI in the year 1927. Well, what did she do to earn such a great honor? Could it be that she traveled around the world as a missionary. Could it be that she went all around the world proclaiming the Word of God? NO. She was born on 2nd January 1873 in France and the last of nine children. Therese had a strong calling to become a nun. She wanted to enter the convent but they would not let her because she was too young. She sought the intervention of her Diocesan Bishop but that did not help and so she decided to personally go and ask for the help of Pope Leo XIII; and her wish was granted. She entered the Carmelite Monastery in Lycia at the age of fifteen. Still burning with zeal, she desired to be sent out of France as a missionary, especially to Vietnam. But that did not materialize and because of her poor health, she could not go outside the convent. Therese died nine years later on September 30, 1897 at the age of 24. Rather than sit down and complain and be bitter because of her health challenges and her inability to be sent on mission, she decided to offer her suffering and pains in prayers for the success of the missions and for missionaries. As a result of her poor health, her legs could not go on mission but her prayers, pains and her heart did. Even though we all may not be missionaries like St. Paul, St. Francis Xavier, St. Patrick, St. Boniface or the other great missionaries of all times; but we must never be oblivious of the fact that: "Some give to the mission by going. And some go to the mission by giving" as said and lived by St. Therese. We may not be missionaries on the

field but can be missionaries at "home" through prayer and kindness in words and deeds.

Mr. Eugene O'Keefe's Legacy

St. Augustine's Seminary, one of the most important Catholic institutions in Canada stands as one of the greatest acts of Catholic philanthropy. Its construction was entirely financed by Mr. Eugene O'Keefe, one of Toronto's most successful businessmen and founder of the O'Keefe Brewery. Mr. O'Keefe never celebrated Mass, preached a homily, or baptized a child. Yet through his generosity, thousands of priests have done all those things. His gift continues to bear fruit more than a century later.

DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART: A WAY OF LIFE

As we come to the close of the month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we are invited not simply to conclude a devotion, but to deepen a way of life rooted in the love of Christ. In the Heart of Jesus—pierced on the Cross and open to the world—we encounter the source of Divine Mercy, poured out for our healing and salvation. From this heart flows forgiveness, compassion, and new life. Let us continue to turn to the Sacred Heart with trust, asking that His love may transform our hearts, strengthen our ability to love and serve others, and shape our daily lives according to His Heart.

We invite you to say at the beginning of each day this prayer;

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day for all of the intentions of your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, in thanksgiving for your favours, in reparation for my sins, for the intentions of all my family, and in particular for the intentions of the Holy Father, Amen.

THANKS to all who made the Three-Evening Culture of Care Talks Series a great success. Thanks to Father Joseph for facilitating the series and Father Michael for promoting and hosting all three nights. Thanks to our speakers who gave of their time and expertise: Dr. Tom McCann; Sean Johnson, J.D.; Michael Johnson, LL.B.; Amanda Achtman, MA, Lic.; Terry Murphy, MAT. Thanks to all who helped facilitate and promote, especially Carol Ann Tungate, Inez Kelly, the St. Andrew's Office staff, Oakville and Burlington parishes, and Halton Alive. And many thanks to all those who attended (more than a couple of hundred, over the three nights). Your engagement and excellent questions as well as your passion and commitment to nurturing a Faith-based Culture of Care in our Parishes were inspiring. We look forward in hope.

CONGRATULATIONS: FR. Michael & Deacon

Richard A huge shout out and congratulations to both Father Michael and Deacon Richard Tan who celebrate the

anniversary of their priestly and diaconal ordinations respectively in the month of June. We pray for joy and fulfillment for you both in ministry and final perseverance in His service. Cheers!

CONGRATULATIONS go out to three graduates who have been recognized with awards sponsored by St. Andrew's Catholic Women's League. The Father Peter Watters Award, which recognises two grade eight students who "Go Out to Love and Serve the Lord and One Another," has been awarded to **SEBASTIAN HOLOWINSKI** from St. Luke's and **ANNA LUCCA** from St. Vincent's. St. Thomas Aquinas student **EMILIA KULESKA** has been awarded the \$300 secondary school award for showing her commitment to Faith, Service, and Social Justice, the three guiding pillars of the League.

Altar Server Training – Saturday, August 29th, 2026

A sincere thank you to everyone who has signed up for the Ministry of Altar Serving. We are grateful for your willingness to serve our parish community in this important ministry. We apologize for the delay in getting the training program underway. After careful consideration, it has been decided that training will begin on **Saturday, August 29th, 11:00 am**, in the church (approximately 45 minutes with pizza lunch to follow).

This training session is for **all altar servers**—both current servers and those who have recently signed up. Bringing everyone together will ensure that all servers receive the same instruction and are prepared to serve confidently and consistently at Mass. We look forward to seeing you there and thank you once again for your commitment to this ministry.

When Life Changes – Grief Program – Special video presentation – Grief and Faith, Hope and Meaning—Wednesday, July 8, 7-8:30. While a part of Dr. Bill Webster's video Grief Support Program – this is a stand-alone video for those who want to explore the spiritual side of finding Hope and Meaning after a loss, the opportunity to hear various views and affirmations of how faith has helped in the midst of tragedy. The presentation will take place in the Marian Room at St. Andrew Parish Centre. There is **NO COST/PREREQUISITE** to attend, however **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**. To register please email: gspstandrew@gmail.com

RECRUITING USHERS

We are adding to our team of ushers for each of the masses. Please email the office at: office@standrewoakville.com if you are interested in joining the team. If you have a mass time preference, please let us know in your email.

Photo was taken St. Augustine's Seminary in Toronto during the CWL bus trip.



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