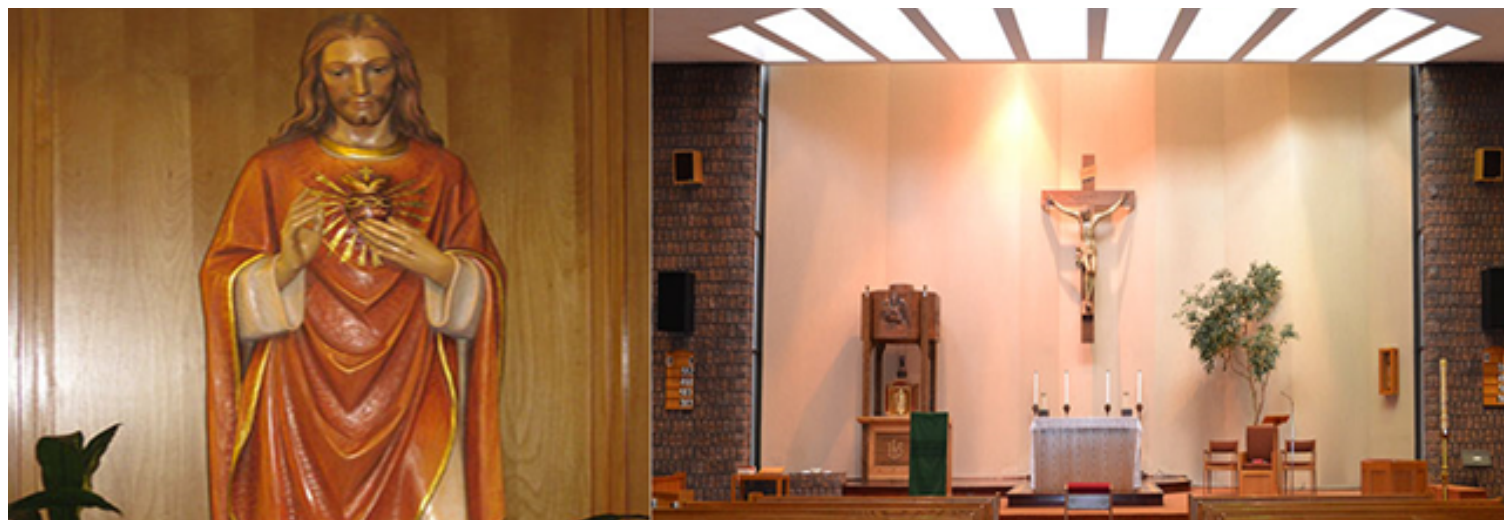


# WEEKLY E-BULLETIN

Saint Dunstan's Parish, Scarborough



## From the Administrator's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

May the peace of the Lord reign in your hearts.

I hope you are making great use of this auspicious season of Lent - a season of growth and grace in which we are called to follow Jesus and engage in prayer, fasting/abstinence, and almsgiving. Of course, we can also deepen our faith through Holy Communion services, confession, and other aspects of our sacramental lives.

I wish to let you know that a new film has been released on Formed.org (which St. Dunstan's has subscribed to and therefore available to you for free). The film is entitled "**Saint Peter**" and it's especially fitting for the season of Lent since we just celebrated the feast of the Chair of Saint Peter on February 22nd. The renowned Egyptian actor, Omar Sharif plays St. Peter. Please search for our parish on formed.org and register! Enjoy the movie!

Also, please join us every Friday at 7:00PM for the Stations of the Cross, live-streamed on our website. This replaces our adoration for the month of March. Wishing you a refreshing Lenten journey.

May God continue to bless you,

*Jr. Victor Amole*

## OVERVIEW:

- From the Administrator's Desk
- Parish News
- Around the Archdiocese & Beyond
- Pope Francis on 90th Anniversary of Divine Mercy
- Feature: St. Casimir of Poland



## MASS SCHEDULE

March 1st	9:00AM
March 3rd	7:00PM
March 5th	9:00AM
March 7th	10:00AM



# GOSPEL INSPIRATION

He Handed Him Over For Us All (Romans 8:32)

Yes, God loved us so much that he did not spare his Son. But what St. Paul doesn't mention in today's passage is how persistent God was in handing Jesus over to us. Neither does Paul talk about how resistant we can be to this great gift. At Christmas, God handed over his Son to us as a gift of peace. Mary and Joseph welcomed him openly, and a few shepherds embraced him, but the rest of the world seemed pitted against him. Even Herod and all Jerusalem feared him and trembled at the news of his birth (Matthew 2:3). Then the Father handed Jesus over to us as a gift of wisdom: "This is my beloved Son," he proclaimed (Matthew 3:17). He sent him to teach us how to live in love with him and each other. But rather than receive Jesus humbly, we questioned his every motive and were hard of heart and slow to believe.

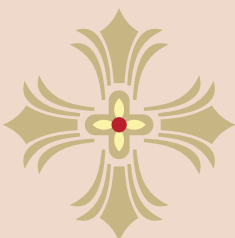
On the Mount of Transfiguration, God offered Jesus as a gift of glory: "This is my beloved Son," he said yet again, adding an impassioned

plea: "Listen to him" (Mark 9:7). Still, even Peter misunderstood the gift. He sought to capture Jesus' glory as a static memorial rather than a living presence. God even used Pilate to hand Jesus over to us, this time as a gift of sacrifice: "Behold, the man! ...Take him yourselves and crucify him!" Pilate shouted. He didn't even know that he was helping fulfill Jesus' mission. But again we rejected the gift: "Take him away!" we replied (John 19:5, 6:15).

On Easter Sunday, God gave Jesus to us again, this time as a gift of forgiveness and redemption. And every day since then, he continues to offer Jesus to us in the humble form of bread and wine: "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world." Jesus is here: Accept him. Let him change your heart. *(Source: Word Among Us)*

**Universal Intention of Pope Francis for February 2021:**

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.





## LENT 2021

As we begin this season of grace, a couple of notes to remind us of the rules of the church to help us practice our faith and prepare for our Lenten journey.

- **Canon 1250** - All Fridays through the year and at the time of Lent are penitential days and times throughout the entire Church.
- **Canon 1251** - Abstinence from eating meat or another food according to the prescriptions of the conference of bishops is to be observed on Fridays throughout the year unless they are solemnities; abstinence and fast are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and on the Friday of the Passion and Death of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
- **Canon 1252** - All persons who have completed their fourteenth year are bound by the law of abstinence; all adults are bound by the law of fasting up to the beginning of their sixtieth year. Nevertheless, pastors and parents are to see to it that minors who are not bound by the law of fast and abstinence are educated in an authentic sense of penance.
- **Canon 1253:** It is for the conference of bishops to determine more precisely the observance of fast and abstinence and to substitute in whole or in part for fast and abstinence other forms of penance especially works of charity and exercises of piety.

## Visit Formed.org

Last week we celebrated the feast of the Chair of Saint Peter. This week, a new film has been made available for us on Formed.org entitled **Saint Peter**.

Sign up and enjoy this awesome resource which the parish has already subscribed to for your use. Don't delay!

Visit <https://formed.org/>. Simply search for Saint Dunstan Danforth and get free access. There are tons of faith materials so that we can learn more about our faith.



Celebrate the feast of the Chair of Saint Peter with this beautiful film from Ignatius Press.

## Keeping You Posted

by Jay Franco

## Communion Services



*To schedule a time to receive Holy Communion, please call the office (416-694-2811) and speak to Jean. Communion Service continues to be offered on Saturdays from 4pm to 5pm and on Sundays from 11am to 12noon. Please be punctual.*

Saint John of the Cross, (San Juan de la Cruz) (1542-1591), was a major figure of the Counter-Reformation, a Spanish mystic, a Roman Catholic saint, a Carmelite friar and priest.

In 1942, a blue postage stamp was issued in Spain commemorating the IV centenary of the saint.



# Parish News

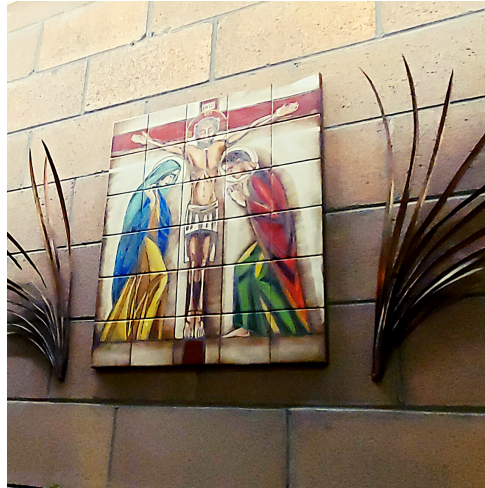
## Income Tax Receipts

We are pleased to announce that Income Tax receipts for 2020 contributions to St. Dunstan's Church are **available** for pick-up after Communion Service this weekend. **Kindly retrieve your own tax receipt.** If you would like to give permission for someone to pick-up a receipt for you, please advise Jean in the parish office. If you'd like us to mail the receipt to you, that can be arranged as well.

For parishioners and friends who contributed on-line through the Archdiocese, your tax receipt will be issued directly by the Archdiocese. Contributions to the St. Vincent de Paul Society are also separate from parish donations. A receipt will be issued by the SVDP Society.

We thank everyone who gave so generously throughout the past year and hope for your continued support in 2021. Offertory envelopes are available for pick-up in the lobby. If you are unable to attend the church, but would like to receive your envelopes, please call Jean.

## Stations of the Cross on Fridays



Please don't forget that during the Lenten Season, the Stations of the Cross will be live-streamed every Friday evening at 7PM. Special reflections will be read by parishioners at every station. Our first Friday Adoration will be replaced in March by the Stations of the Cross at 7pm.

## New Parish Website



We are excited to announce that St. Dunstan's Church is one of the first parishes in Toronto to have transitioned to a new website portal and format. Many individuals have been involved in this project, and we thank everyone for their support.

Feel free to explore the site. We welcome your feedback on what you see and on what you would like to see in the future. Our goal is to populate it with parish news, events, blogs and videos.

## Celebrating Black History Month

"MY BROTHERS, DO NOT THROW AWAY THOSE FRAGMENTS. LET US GIVE THEM TO THE POOR ..."

-Saint Benedict The Moor



# Get more videos & information about St. Dunstan's Church

Click Below to subscribe to Our YouTube Channel

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You  
Tube

## LITANY: OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

God of the Journey, lead us this Lent into the desert, where we fast on simplicity, and to the oasis, where we feast on your companionship.

**May we fast from anger.**

And feast on reconciliation.

**May we fast from selfishness.**

And feast on generosity.

**May we fast from resentment.**

And feast on gratitude.

**May we fast from fear.**

And feast on courage.

**May we fast from self-absorption.**

And feast on compassion.

**May we fast from exploitation.**

And feast on justice.

**May we fast from despair.**

And feast on hope.

**May we fast from antagonism.**

And feast on unity.

**May we fast from foolishness.**

And feast on wisdom.

**May we fast from weakness.**

And feast on perseverance.

**May we fast from distraction.**

And feast on reverence.

**May we fast from recklessness.**

And feast on responsibility.

**May we fast from deception.**

And feast on honesty.

Loving God, may our Lent be a holy preparation. May our preparation be blessed and never finished until we rest completely in You. Amen.

## Around the Archdiocese & Beyond

### Journey Through Lent



Is Lent about giving something up? Or, is it an invitation to return to a Father longing to be with His Children?

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops presents **Journey Through Lent** with the Most Rev. Gerard Bergie, Bishop of St. Catherines. Join Bishop Bergie as he reflects on the scriptures for the Sundays of Lent 2021.

Everyone is invited to watch the Journey through Lent Series by clicking on the following link:

<https://youtu.be/w8uzjz1ryN8>

### Virtual Bereavement Support Group

During this time of pandemic and grief, we are pleased to be sponsoring Bereavement Support Group virtual sessions on Tuesdays, March 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. **“Grieving with Great HOPE”** is a Catholic faith-based program that consists of a five-week grief support workshop using an on-demand video format that is available on Formed.

### Catholic Family Services of Toronto Online Sessions

Catholic Family Services of Toronto is now offering quick online single-session consultation. This is an effective way for individuals, couples or families to address a mental health or relationship concern. To arrange for a session, please contact: [info@cfstoronto.com](mailto:info@cfstoronto.com) or 416-921-1163 or 416-222-0048. Leave us a message with your name, email and phone number, and a staff person will contact you. No one is denied service because of his/her inability to pay fees.

### Pope Francis to visit Iraqi Christians in March

Pope Francis announced on February 24, 2021 that he will undertake an Apostolic Visit to Iraq from March 5-8, 2021. He will visit the capital, Baghdad, as well as Ur, a city linked to the Old Testament figure of Abraham, and Erbil, Mosul, and Qaraqosh in the plain of Nineveh.

Christian communities were decimated first by al Qaeda's rise in the early 2000s and later by Islamic State, which brutally persecuted them and other minority faiths and sects.

### LIVE Tune in on March 14th at 7:00PM

**Lectio Divina** is not a catechesis or a teaching but it is a prayer, a divine reading, a personal encounter with God in Sacred Scripture. Next prayer: My God, My God (Psalm 22)

### LECTIO DIVINA with Cardinal Thomas Collins



It offers a prayerful, practical and personal approach for anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one. These sessions will be facilitated by Sr. Gabriel Mary Riddle, CPS, pastoral assistant at St. Peter's Parish in Toronto, and assisted by seminarians from St. Augustine's Seminary of Toronto.

There is no cost to attend, but online registration is required. If you have bereaved parishioners who could benefit from this program, please encourage them to register by Tuesday, February

23, 2021 on this website: <http://bit.ly/BS-registerMar2021>.

The registration confirmation email will include details on how to join the online sessions. For your consideration, please find a sample letter to the bereaved parishioner [here](http://bit.ly/SampleLetterBP): <http://bit.ly/SampleLetterBP>.

Feel free to adapt the letter according to your parish needs. If you have any questions, please contact **Sally Amaral** at 416-934-3400 ext. 518 or email [samaral@archtoronto.org](mailto:samaral@archtoronto.org).

## Pope Francis on 90th Anniversary of Divine Mercy

CNA - Staff Report, Feb.22, 2021 / Pope Francis urged Catholics to ask Christ for the “gift of mercy” in a letter marking the 90th anniversary of the first appearance of Jesus to St. Faustina Kowalska on Monday, February 22, 2021.

In a letter to Bishop Piotr Libera of Płock, the pope noted that the first apparition took place on Feb. 22, 1931. “Let us ask Christ for the gift of mercy. Let it engulf us and penetrate us. Let us have the courage to come back to Jesus to meet His love and mercy in the sacraments,” he said in the letter, dated Feb. 15. “Let us feel His closeness and tenderness, and then we will also be more capable of mercy, patience, forgiveness, and love.”

St. Faustina recorded the apparition, which took place in Płock, in her diary. The Polish nun said that Jesus appeared to her dressed in white, with two rays emerging from his chest, one red and the other pale.

She reported that Christ asked her to create an image of him bearing the words “Jesus, I trust in you.” She wrote that Jesus said: “I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel, and [then] throughout the world.”

The image was first painted by the Polish artist Eugeniusz Kazimirowski. After the nun’s death in 1938, other artists created images inspired by her description of the apparition. The best-known version was painted by the Polish painter Adolf Hyla for the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy in 1943.



twitter

*Pope’s Thoughts in Tweets: #May the example of so many doctors and healthcare workers who have risked their life to the point of losing it due to the #pandemic move us to feeling truly grateful for how generously, and sometimes heroically, they carry out their profession.*



St. Faustina was canonized by Pope John Paul II in the year 2000, becoming the first saint of the new millennium. Pope Francis said that he united himself in prayer with those taking part in a solemn celebration of the 90th anniversary at the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy in Łagiewniki. He wrote: “I would like to recall the words of the Lord Jesus recorded by the saint in her Diary: ‘Humanity will not know peace until it turns to the source of my mercy.’”

He recalled that St. John Paul II, “the Apostle of Mercy,” wanted the message of God’s merciful love to reach all the world’s inhabitants.

Quoting an address that his predecessor gave in Łagiewniki in 2002, Pope Francis said: “This fire of mercy needs to be passed on to the world. In the mercy of God, the world will find peace and mankind will find happiness!” The pope also referred to the 90th anniversary after reciting the Angelus on Sunday. He said: “Today my thoughts go to the Shrine of Płock in Poland, where 90 years ago the Lord Jesus manifested Himself to St. Faustina Kowalska, entrusting a special message of divine mercy to her.”

## Featured: St. Casimir - Feast Day March 4th



Image of St. Casimir, Prince of Poland

Casimir was born of kings and was destined to inherit an earthly kingdom himself. He was born in Krakow, Poland, on October 3, 1458 to King Casimir IV and Elizabeth of Austria, daughter of Emperor Albert II. Casimir was the second of six sons.

Education was very important to the royal family, so a private tutor by the name of Fr. Jan Dlugosz, a man of extraordinary learning and piety, was appointed by King Casimir IV to teach his children. The young Casimir profited the most from Dlugosz's teaching and example. In fact, Dlugosz wrote that Casimir was "*a noble youth, with rare talents and reason worthy of memory.*" As a teenager, Casimir was highly disciplined, sleeping on the ground and spending a great part of the night in prayer and in meditation. He was especially devoted to the Eucharist and to the Blessed Virgin, in whose honor he is said to have composed the hymn *Omne die dic Mariae* ("Daily, daily sing to Mary").

When Casimir was fifteen, however, he became involved in a political quagmire through no fault of his own. In 1471, King Casimir's brother Wladyslaw, was crowned the Czech king. At the same time, the nobles of Hungary were dissatisfied with their king (Maciej Korwin) and begged King Casimir IV to allow them to place his son, Casimir, on the throne. King Casimir agreed to the plot to overthrow Maciej Korwin

and dispatched his 15-year old son to Hungary, armed with 12,000 troops. In the meantime, King Korwin had assembled his own militia to defend himself. Much bloodshed would have certainly resulted from the impending conflict were it not for the fact that Polish troops started to abandon their military duties in large numbers. Battling food shortages, infectious diseases, and lack of compensation, army officers deserted their posts and advised young Casimir to return to Poland.

King Casimir was furious at the failure of his ambitious political power-play. He blamed his son and, refusing to allow him to return to Krakow, relegated Casimir to the Castle of Dobzki for three months. St. Casimir never again took up arms, although for a brief period he was viceroy in Poland during the absence of his father. Casimir, in fact, is honored as an advocate for peace for his refusal to take part in the politics and conspiracies of his father who tried to persuade Casimir to seize the throne of Hungary and Bohemia on more than one occasion.

Saint Casimir never married and preserved his chastity until death, despite offers of marriage. He died of tuberculosis in Vilnius, Lithuania, in 1484, at the age of twenty-three. When St. Casimir's tomb was opened in 1602, his body was found intact despite the very high humidity of the tomb.

Polish Catholic communities often refer to St. Casimir as the "Peace-maker". He is the patron saint of Poland, Lithuania and Russia.

*\*\*A special thanks to Sr. Anna Hecold for suggesting various online resources which shed more light on the life of Saint Casimir. Original Source: Butler's Lives of the Saints (Vol. 1).*



[Omni die dic Mariae](#)



## Anecdote of the Week



An Irishman moves into a tiny hamlet in County Kerry, walks into the pub and promptly orders three beers. The bartender raises his eyebrows, but serves the man three beers, which he drinks quietly at a table, alone and orders three more. As this continued every day the bartender asked him politely, "The folks around here are wondering why you always order three beers?" "It's odd, isn't it?" the man replies, "You see, I have two brothers, and one went to America, and the other to Australia. We promised each other that we would always order an extra two beers whenever we drank."

Then, one day, the man comes in and orders only two beers. As this continued for several days, the bartender approached him with tears in his eyes and said, "Folks around here, me first of all, want to offer condolences to you for the death of your brother. You know-the two beers and all..." The man ponders this for a moment, and then replies with a broad smile, "You'll be happy to know that my two brothers are alive and well. It's just that I, myself, have decided to give up drinking for Lent. Now I am drinking for the other two!" *Credit: Fr. Anthony Kadavil*



## World Day of Prayer

(WDP) has been happening in Canada for almost 100 years! The 2021 service was written by the WDP committee of Vanuatu inspired by the Biblical theme "Build on a Strong Foundation" (Matthew 7; 24-27).

World Day of Prayer has been an important ministry for women as they lead services within their communities for their own denominations and ecumenically year after year. In past years, women received the World Day of Prayer service in the fall, and then gathered to plan, host, and share in coffee and conversation following the service, typically on the first Friday in March.

In 2021, service options have expanded. COVID-19 encouraged the production of a full-length World Day of Prayer video service by the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada to help keep people safe. Go to [wicc.org](http://wicc.org) to watch this free one-hour recording featuring participants from across Canada. There will be a well-marked tab on the website to click.

This video will be available for viewing on [wicc.org](http://wicc.org) until September 30, 2021. As well, there are many additional resources for World Day of Prayer 2021 – Vanuatu on [wicc.org](http://wicc.org) for those who are not using the service video prepared by WICC. Please email [wicc@wicc.org](mailto:wicc@wicc.org) or [communications@wicc.org](mailto:communications@wicc.org)

## CHILDREN'S

### Corner



Click on the comic strip to be directed to the 40-days of Lent feature on the parish's new website. One comic strip per day during Lent will be featured.

Give the Lord two minutes of your time during Lent!

## CONTACT SAINT DUNSTAN'S CHURCH

3150 Danforth Avenue  
Scarborough MIL 1B6

Office: 416-694-2811

Email: [stdunstan@rogers.com](mailto:stdunstan@rogers.com)

**In this year of Saint Joseph, we are encouraged to say this special prayer, asking for his intercession.**

### Special Prayer to St. Joseph

*To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our tribulation, and having implored the help of your most holy spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also. Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.*

*O most watchful Guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be propitious to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness; and, as once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die holily, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen*



# BUILDING THE CHURCH TOGETHER

BY FATHER VICTOR

In the name of Jesus Christ, dear parishioners, I am reaching out to you today because our church - like many churches in Toronto and the GTA - is struggling financially. Money is needed for many expenses at Saint Dunstan's including: heat, hydro, phones, insurance, snow plow services and staff salaries.

Standing behind the ambo giving a homily that I prepared is easy compared to asking for donations during a pandemic. Many parishioners have experienced unemployment and great hardship at this time, so to ask parishioners to open

their purse strings to sustain the church is a deeply humbling experience for me.

The Church is not a business. It has never been a business and it will never be a business. We do our best to rely on the generosity of volunteers and the kindness of local businesses to sustain us, but the limitations caused by the pandemic have created a large shortfall. If you are able to donate, please consider one of the options listed at the end of this short article. *Any amount is greatly appreciated at this time of need.*

The situation we are living through brings to mind St. Francis of Assisi. He trusted completely in the providence of the Creator. His entire existence was Christ-centred, and he lived with complete confidence in Him. God has always provided, dear friends in Christ. He will always provide! I have confidence that God's miraculous love will get us through this difficult moment in time.

“ Thank you from the depth of my heart.

– FATHER VICTOR

- **ENVELOPES:** Envelopes can be dropped off at the church office. Please call ahead: 416-694-2811
- **MONTHLY WITHDRAWALS:** Consider pre-authorized giving For more information: <https://stdunstanssc.archtoronto.org/About-Us/donate>
- **CREDIT / DEBIT:** Donate online using your credit card or your chequing account. Visit: <https://stdunstanssc.archtoronto.org/About-Us/donate>
- **ON-LINE BANKING:** Contribute to the offertory via on-line banking. Visit: <https://stdunstanssc.archtoronto.org/About-Us/donate>

100% of all monies collected will be put towards St. Dunstan Parish.