

PROJECT HOPE

**Emergency Refugee Resettlement Campaign
1 Year Anniversary**

One year ago, on September 8, 2015, Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto announced an ambitious 100-day campaign to raise \$3 million to welcome 100 refugee families to the Greater Toronto Area as soon as possible. A year later, the Catholic community is reflecting on the successes of the effort while highlighting the need to hasten the arrival of those who remain displaced and waiting anxiously to call Canada home.

Project Hope raised \$3.7 million to sponsor refugees fleeing areas of conflict and insecurity. A particular emphasis was placed on refugees fleeing Syria and Iraq. Cardinal Collins commented on the overwhelming outpouring of generosity:

“The incredible response to Project Hope allowed us to mobilize both human and financial resources quickly and effectively. I am most grateful to everyone who embraced this outstanding effort; from those who have volunteered, sponsored and supported families in the past to those with no past involvement. It was particularly heartening to see schools, businesses and other faith communities partner with us to foster a culture of care for those fleeing violence and persecution.”

Assistance for refugee families through Project Hope began in October 2015 when a team of eight volunteers from the Archdiocese of Toronto’s Office for Refugees traveled to Jordan, identifying and streamlining the application process. The first refugee family arrived from Syria on December 20, 2015.

The Archdiocese of Toronto is one of the largest private sponsors of refugees in Canada, providing leadership through a full-time office since 2009. Commitments to Project Hope were above and beyond current efforts underway in the archdiocese before the crisis of 2015 garnered headlines around the world.

Statistics related to Project Hope resettlement efforts:

- 105 Project Hope volunteer groups identified (68 parish groups, 37 other resettlement groups – businesses, other faith communities, local organizations);
- 154 refugee families (cases), representing 407 individuals submitted to the government requesting sponsorship;
- 44 families (cases), representing 133 individuals have arrived in Canada to date;
- Arrivals by country include:
Syria – 41 families (130 individuals)
Sudan – 3 (3 individuals)
- Cases still awaiting arrival:
Syria – 48 families (111 individuals)
Iraq – 60 families (162 individuals)
Sudan – 1 family (5 individuals)
Somalia – 1 family (1 individual)



But if only someone would go to them. Pray for those who are called to ‘run the race’ as priests, sisters, deacons or brothers.
If God is calling you to a consecrated life in His church, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux. 416-968-0997 vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca

Readings ~ Amos 6.1a, 4-7 ~ 1 Timothy 6.11-16 ~ Luke 16.19-31

PARISH

Mass Intentions This Week – September 26–October 2

Please join us as we pray for the following announced intentions...

	Intention(s):	Offered by:
Monday, 9am	... of the Ryan family	
Tuesday, 9am	... of Fr. Sudac	
Wednesday, 9am	✠ Grace Downie	Gudrun & David Diston
Thursday, 9am	✠ members of the Seifert family	Vlasta & Mladen
Friday, 9am	✠ Elizabeth Montrichard	The family
Saturday, 9am	✠ Vallverde Paoletta	Giovanna Andreanna
5:15pm	✠ Margaret Byrne	The Byrne family
Sunday 8am	✠ Lena Badali	The family
9:30am	✠ Rita McKee	The family
11am	✠ Paul Furtado	The De Paria family
12:30pm	✠ Bill & Madeline Sullivan	The Sullivan family

Reconciliation, Communion, Confirmation – Registration Weekends

BRING YOUR CHILD’S BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE Volunteers will be available in the parish hall to process registrations and collect fees after the Saturday, 5:15pm and Sunday morning Masses on the following dates:

- ▶ **First Reconciliation & First Communion THIS WEEKEND** September 24/25
- ▶ **Confirmation** – October 1/2

Life Chain – Corner of Bloor & Islington – Sunday, October 2, 2–3pm

Join fellow parishioners in witnessing to the sanctity of life on behalf of the most vulnerable members of our society. **Let’s make 2016 “the year everyone showed up again!”**

▶ **What is Life Chain?** Life Chain is a prayerful, peaceful, witness to the evil of abortion and to the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception.

▶ **Why is it Important?** Life Chain is for one hour, on one day of the year. It is a simple and powerful way to spread the Gospel message, to be a light to our nation, and to **create a culture of life in Canada.**



Celebrating Christ in Our Midst Our Lady of Sorrows Ministry Retreat Day Saturday, October 15 – with facilitators Jim Dunn and Catherine Ecker

- 9am – Parish Mass
- 9:55am – Session 1: Celebrating and Living Sunday
- 11:30am – Session 2: Living as Disciples – The Hands and Feet of Christ
- 12:45pm – Prayer of Thanksgiving and Blessing followed by lunch

This event is for those serving in ministry at Our Lady of Sorrows and anyone who would like to join a ministry. To register, please email the parish office at olosorrows@bellnet.ca or call 416-231-6016. **Registration deadline is Friday, October 7.**

COMING SOON Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive – Weekend of Oct. 8/9

Your generous donation of non-perishable food items, including canned meat, fish, fruits, vegetables, soups/stews, peanut butter, ground/instant coffee, tea, breakfast cereals, pasta/sauce, cookies, crackers, jam, sugar, and/or rice will be gratefully received before Mass. **Let’s continue the tradition of helping those in need!**



COMMUNITY

THIS WEEKEND Special Collection – Needs of the Canadian Church

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops is involved in national & international areas of pastoral activity, including social justice, ecumenical and interfaith relations, collaboration with Aboriginal Peoples, life and family issues, liturgy, catechesis, doctrine and relations with Catholic associations and movements. Each year the CCCB is asked to speak out, give leadership, or provide guidelines for the faithful on a wide variety of topics. In order for our bishops to make proper judgments on modern topics, they must have the benefit of research, expert advice and capable administration which is also funded by this collection. In addition to contributions, we are also asked to pray for the work of the Bishops and to participate in and cooperate with the various projects of the CCCB. **Your generous support is greatly appreciated.**

‘Final Fridays’ Fellowship – last Friday of each month, after 9am Mass

Everyone is invited to the parish hall for coffee, tea and breakfast rolls. Take advantage of this special opportunity to get to know your neighbour. **All are welcome... bring a friend!**

COMING SOON It’s almost time to ‘Bundle Up’ for St. Vincent de Paul!

On the weekend of October 29/30, volunteers will assist with the collection & loading of securely tied or sealed bags or boxes of gently used items (think: shoes, clothing, coats, bedding, draperies). Larger items (i.e. furniture & appliances), computer hardware and toys **cannot** be accepted.



Rosary Group – stay & pray daily, after 9am Mass + Fridays, 2pm, Parish Hall
Five decades daily, fifteen decades on Fridays followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

St. Mary of Egypt Refuge: Project Rachel Retreat October 28–30

“The Lord raises up those who were bowed down.” –Psalm 118
Let your cares be held in God’s hand? We can help. This weekend retreat is for women whose hearts have been broken by abortion. Private and confidential. Call 416-629-8264 or email projectrachel@stmarysrefuge.org

Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery – Open House – Oct. 1, 9am–4:30pm

Join us for Mass at 9:30am. Cemetery tours at 11am, noon and 1pm. Save the HST on pre-planned cemetery arrangements made before Oct. 31, 2016 that include the purchase of a crypt, grave or niche. 0% financing and up to 60 months to pay. For info, call 905-851-5822.

Family Enrichment Toronto – Married Love Course – October 1, 7pm

For couples of all ages! This course is for those recently married, those celebrating many years, and all who wish to gain knowledge and skills to better themselves and their marital relationship. You will certainly walk away from this practical course with your marriage enriched. Visit www.fetoronto.ca for more information or to register.

Lay Spiritual Formation Workshop Oct. 8, 9:30am–2:30pm

The Institute of Theology at St. Augustine’s Seminary (2661 Kingston Rd.) is hosting their first workshop of 2016/17. **“Helping Families Through End-of-Life Issues: What Catholics Need to Know”** will be led by Fr. Kevin Belgrave. More info is available at www.staugustines.on.ca



Introducing Merrymakers – a dynamic afternoon program for kids aged 3–5

Mary, Mother of God School is now registering children for 2½ hours of enriched programming on Monday & Thursday afternoons from 1–3:30pm. Join us for songs, stories, poems, nursery rhymes, instruments, games, classical music, mime, drama, and lots of play. For more information, call 416-531-7897. **Come and make merry with us!**