



Archdiocese
of Toronto

Catholic Pastoral Centre
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12 September 2025

Reverend and dear Monsignor,
Reverend and dear Father,

As we approach the month of October, it is time once again to ask for your participation in our annual weekend Mass attendance count for your parish and/or mission. This exercise has proven to be very helpful and informative over the past years. When the results of this year's overall count are completed, they will be shared with you at upcoming regional/zone meetings with your Regional Bishop. I thank you very much for your generosity in taking the time to plan and execute this activity for your community.

This year we are asking for the headcount survey to be conducted on the weekends of the **18th and 19th October and 25th and 26th October.**

For your review, please note the following details:

1. The count is intended to include:
 - all Sunday Vigil and Sunday Masses;
 - Holy Communion visits to homebound parishioners or those in retirement or care facilities;
 - other regularly scheduled Masses for Religious Institutions, Lay Movements, or Ethnic Groups.
2. Please announce to your parishioners at the beginning of Mass that this exercise is taking place. It is also beneficial to inform them of the reason for the count, which is to help provide an accurate profile of Mass attendance in the archdiocese.
3. Please assign an adequate number of parishioners *per* Mass to take on the role of counters.
4. Please provide each counter with:
 - a. a specific section of the church to be responsible for counting (to avoid double counting);

- b. a handheld TALLY COUNTER (distributed to parishes previously) for his or her use in tracking the number of parishioners (these TALLY COUNTERS are to be handed back to you at the end of each Mass so that the next group of counters can use them at subsequent Masses), please contact my office if you need additional Tally Counters;
 - c. a *Weekend Mass Attendance Data Summary Form* to be filled out to track the number of parishioners in each assigned area of the church (enclosed).
- 5. It is suggested that the count be taken during the homily portion of the Mass so that all parishioners (including late comers) will be included. Please do not forget to also include those assisting in the Mass (e.g., servers, readers, choir, etc.) as well as anyone standing in the back of the church.
 - 6. Those entrusted with the role of counter should place themselves in a good vantage point in the church (side aisle, choir loft, etc.) from where they are able to have an unobstructed view of their assigned section, as well as minimize disruption to the Mass.
 - 7. One of the counters should be given the added responsibility of compiling all of the attendance data in the *Weekend Mass Attendance Data Summary Form* and input this information online for submission to the archdiocese. The URL (web address) for the online survey is:

<https://forms.office.com/r/5vBwGAnWgu>

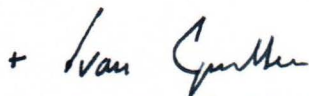
Please ensure to submit the survey by **end of day on Monday, 3 November 2025.**

Thank you once again for your cooperation in this important exercise.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Spiritual Affairs (spiritual@archtoronto.org) at any time.

With prayerful best wishes, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

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Most Rev. Ivan Camilleri, V.G.
Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto
Chancellor of Spiritual Affairs

Encl.