

**“AS EACH ONE  
HAS RECEIVED A GIFT,  
USE IT TO SERVE  
ONE ANOTHER  
AS GOOD STEWARDS OF  
GOD’S VARIED GRACE.”**

1 PETER 4:10

### **Called to Serve, Gifted to Give**

Through the Sacrament of Baptism, each of us is called to share our God-given gifts in service to others. Volunteering is one powerful way to answer that call.

At the heart of our Catholic community are people like you – willing to share their time, energy, and talents to help our mission flourish.

Whether your contribution is big or small, occasional, or ongoing, it makes a difference. Every act of service—seen or unseen—adds to the life and spirit of our parish community.

Your gifts matter. Your presence matters. And there’s a place for you here.

Join us in making a difference.

## **CONTACT US**

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Archdiocese  
of Toronto



# **STRENGTHENING THE CARING COMMUNITY**

**VOLUNTEER SCREENING  
PROGRAM**



Archdiocese  
of Toronto



Volunteers across the Archdiocese of Toronto have a long-standing tradition of giving generously of their time and talents to strengthen our community. We must never underestimate the tremendous contribution of these individuals and the critical role they play in providing care, compassion, and ongoing support to our family of faith.

As part of our mandate to foster a safe and caring community, since 2000 the Archdiocese of Toronto has had a policy of screening its volunteers to ensure the protection and safety of the most vulnerable.

Our diocesan Volunteer Screening Program oversees this important work conducting the appropriate checks and balances to ensure a safe environment for all those engaged in a variety of important ministries. The pages of the Volunteer Guidelines and Code of Conduct will provide additional insight and helpful information for those engaged in volunteer services to the community.

I wish to thank those responsible for coordinating these activities at both the diocesan and parish level. To all volunteers who are following the gospel call to serve, be assured of my prayers and ongoing gratitude.

May your outreach with the Archdiocese of Toronto enhance your own faith journey.

**Frank Cardinal Leo**  
**Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto**

## VOLUNTEER SCREENING MATTERS

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Screening is a vital step in building and maintaining a safe and welcoming environment for everyone. Every organization has the responsibility to properly screen its volunteers. This isn't just best practice—it's a moral, ethical, and legal requirement. **“Strengthening the Caring Community”** is the Archdiocese’s Volunteer Screening Program which aligns with government regulations and standards established by Volunteer Canada. Our program’s policies are designed to safeguard all volunteers, staff, and those we serve by ensuring fairness, consistency, and accountability in the recruitment and support of volunteers. We strive to match individuals with volunteer opportunities according to their interests and gifts, while fostering a safe and respectful environment in service of the parish community.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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Some volunteer opportunities to consider:

- Liturgical Hospitality - Greeters and Ushers
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- Lay Pastoral Visitors
- Parish Social Ministries
- Parish Finance Council
- Liturgy of the Word with Children
- Sacramental Preparation
- Youth Ministry
- And more!

Contact your parish office for more information.

## WHAT DOES VOLUNTEER SCREENING INVOLVE

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When you choose to volunteer with our parish, you'll be guided through these simple steps:

- Volunteer Information Form
- Interview \*
- Reference Check \*
- Criminal Record Check \*
- Orientation and Training

\* High Risk positions ONLY

## THE BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEER SCREENING

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- We take the time to understand our volunteers’ interests and goals to ensure that they are aligned with a ministry that best suits their time and service.
- Through understanding the skills and experiences our volunteer possesses, we can improve the quality of our ministries and the service we provide our communities.
- Through screening we mitigate the risk and liability to the volunteers, parishes, and community.