

Mass for the Deceased



By Bel Remedios

On Friday, November 5, about 130 members and guests attended the celebration of a Mass for the souls of the faithful departed at Commander Park arena. The Catholic Church designates November 2 as a day of reflection and prayer to commemorate the faithful departed. It is a day filled with memories and flashbacks of the time spent with deceased relatives and friends.

Fr. Henry Alva, a Capuchin Franciscan from Karnataka, India, who is currently studying in Toronto, was invited to celebrate the Mass. His homily touched on the inevitability of death and the essential need for prayers to liberate those souls languishing in Purgatory so that they may continue their journey to heaven. Prayers were offered for the deceased members of TEGSA and for deceased mothers and fathers. Father Henry concluded with comments about the community spirit. The impromptu choir was guided by Joaquim Menezes with Melba Remedios as the accompanist on keyboard.

Charles Fernandes recited the Grace. This signaled the start of dinner which was catered by Juliet and Timothy D'Souza. The menu included roast beef with roast potatoes, cauliflower and broccoli, chicken sandwich and a nutritious fruit salad.

The last activity was the very popular bingo which attracted many players. It seemed the appropriate way to end the evening with a community spirit.

Special thanks go to the Cultural Secretary Sheilah D'Souza for organizing this event.