



## 2024 TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL

### MARY MATTHEWS PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST FINALS

This year's Mary Matthews Public Speaking Finals Contest took place at St. Roch's parish on Saturday, March 16. Six out of seven Regions sent contestants to the Finals.

The contestants spoke on several interesting topics for their prepared speech. The impromptu speech topic was "If you were a nurse, what part of the healthcare system would you like to work in and why?" As usual the judges had a difficult task in determining first and second place.

This year's winner is Padraig Doyle from St. Mary of the People Parish (Oshawa) in Durham Region and the topic of his speech was "The Importance of Physical Activity."

The runner up is Thakshiya Jeganathan from St. Anne's Parish (Brampton) in Peel Region. Her prepared speech topic was "Why Is English So Complicated?"

Congratulations to Padraig, Thakshiya and all the contestants who put a great deal of thought and effort into their speeches. It takes a lot of courage to stand in front of an audience and deliver not only a prepared speech but also an impromptu one.

Thank you to the judges, timekeeper and Carolyn Meaney (the Mary Matthews Contest committee lead). Thank you also to St. Roch's parish for hosting us.



(Left to right: Andrea Smart, Education and Health Chair, Padraig Doyle, Thakshiya Jeganathan, Carolyn Meaney (contest lead) and Sue Lubowitz, Diocesan President)