



Fr. Joe celebrating Mass on his 25th anniversary of priesthood.

Story and pics by Eugene Correia

Celebrating 25 years of priesthood

Toronto: Father Joseph Rodrigues celebrated his 25th year of priesthood with a solemn Mass at the Transfiguration of the Lord Church in Etobicoke.

A native of Goa, Fr. Joe, as he is popularly known, came to Toronto in 2006.

He was attached to the St. Michael's Cathedral in downtown Toronto for more than

Chaplaincy in London, England, for ten years before moving to Canada where he has his mother, three brothers and a sister. His father, Damiao, passed away in Toronto many years ago.

After his ordination on April 21, 1985 in his native village of Bogmalo, in south Goa, he was posted in the Andaman



Fr. Joe embraces his mother, Clara Rodrigues.



Fr. Joe Rodrigues celebrating his first Mas in Goa.

two years before being transferred as associate pastor at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Brampton.

As former member of the Pilar Society, a missionary body, Fr. Joe served in the Asian

and Nicobar Islands, located in the Indian ocean, for more than a decade where he served the indigenous people.

At the get-together, attended by fellow priests, close family members, relatives and friends,

following the Eucharistic celebrations, Fr. Joe said that he has gained valuably through his experience as a priest. He noted that he has been touched by the respect and affection of those he had the privilege of knowing and serving.

Fr. Joe praised his mother, Clara, and his late dad for their support when he decided to take up a priest's life.



Fr. Joe saying thanks.