



# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

## Pastoral Staff

Rev. Bernard Vellozo, Pastor  
Deacon Don Roberts  
Deacon Richard Te  
Melinda Mayo, Parish Secretary  
Joan Cabri, Parish Bookkeeper

## New Parishioners

Welcome to our parish family! Please register by filling out a form available at the back of the church or online.

## Sacrament of Baptism

The desire for Baptism for a child must be accompanied by a very serious commitment to raise the child within the Catholic faith community and to educate the child in the truths of the church. An essential part of the commitment is regular attendance at Sunday Mass. Baptisms are held on the 4th Sunday of every month. Please contact the parish office for a Baptismal package.

## Sacrament of Matrimony

Couples planning to be married should contact the parish one year in advance. They must also attend a Marriage Preparation Course prior to entering marriage. If either party has previously gone through any form of civil divorce or religious marriage with another person, please notify the priest as soon as possible as the priest is not permitted to set a wedding date until the Bishop's Office has been contacted.

## Sacrament of the Sick

In this Sacrament we celebrate Christ's healing presence among us today. If you, a relative or friend, require this Sacrament at home or nursing home, please call the parish office. For your spiritual needs during a hospital stay, the Archdiocese of Toronto has assigned a full time Roman Catholic Chaplain to each of the two Mississauga hospitals. For the Chaplain, speak to the Nurses' Desk or call the Spiritual Care Office.

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Every Saturday: 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM  
Every 2nd & 4th Friday: 7:30 PM  
(or by appointment)

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.  
Closed Daily: 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

## MASS

Sunday Eucharist  
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM (fulfills the Sunday obligation)  
Sunday: 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM & 12:00 NOON  
*Children's Liturgy at: 10:00 a.m. Mass*

*Weekday Eucharist*  
Mondays / Wednesdays / Fridays 7:00 PM  
Tuesdays / Thursdays 8:00 AM

\* Morning Prayer / Evening Prayer  
(One half hour before Mass)

## DEVOTIONS

*Holy Hour*  
Fridays (excluding holidays) 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

*Rosary & Our Lady of Perpetual Help*  
Mondays 6:30 PM

*Divine Mercy*  
Fridays (excluding holidays) 3:00 PM

## PARISH LIFE

Legion of Mary (Wed 7:30 PM) 905-822-8132  
Knights of Columbus (Mike Genua) 416-804-3457  
Social Committee 905-822-8132  
Ministry of Consolation & Hope 905-822-8132 ext. 3  
RCIA 905-822-8132 ext. 4  
St. Vincent de Paul 905-822-8132 ext. 5  
J.O.Y. Social Club joysocialclub@st-ignatius-loyola.com  
Catholic Cemeteries 416-733-8544  
Charismatic Prayer Group 905-822-8132 Ext. 3  
(Thursdays 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.)

## SCHOOLS

St. Francis of Assisi 905-822-3183  
St. Margaret of Scotland 905-820-5115  
Christ the King 905-569-0220

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 3, 2017

**“And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake”**

Hope



Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of the new liturgical year. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. The key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

The Gospel reading for this first Sunday in Advent is a parable that reminds us that we are to remain watchful and be prepared. During the time of Christ wealthy landowners often left their estates in the hands of their trustworthy servants and stewards. This gave them freedom to travel, trade and expand their business ventures. They expected loyalty and hard work from their servants and rewarded them accordingly. Dutiful servants would anticipate their master's return by keeping the house and estate in good order. In the Gospel Jesus doesn't tell us whether the servants were ready to receive the unexpected return of their master. Were these servants excited or anxious about their master's return? The watchful servants no doubt looked forward to the future because they knew their master would be pleased and would reward them for their vigilance and hard work. Disaster and reprisal however awaited those who were unprepared because of carelessness or laziness.

The prophet Isaiah tells us that God will surely reward those who wait for his visitation: "From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him." (Isaiah 64:4). Our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, has entrusted us with his gifts and graces. He expects us to make good use of these gifts. He does not want us to use our time on earth in idleness or wasted living. He has work for us to do – loving, honouring and serving him and others "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40).

How does the Lord want us to be watchful and vigilant for his return? The Lord urges us to vigilance and to active prayer that his "kingdom may come" and his "will be done on earth as it is in heaven". We are not only to watch for Christ but to watch with Christ. The Lord wants us to have our hearts and minds fixed on him and his word. He wants us to be ready for his action and work of grace in our lives and in our world. Those who wait for the Lord will not be disappointed. He will surely come with his grace and saving help.

*Through the course of history, light that shatters the  
darkness reveals to us that God is Father  
and that his patient fidelity is stronger than darkness and corruption.  
...Pope Francis*

## HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION



In Canada, there are two Holy Days of Obligation other than the Sundays of the year: Christmas and January 1<sup>st</sup>, the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. This year, both Holy Days of Obligation fall on a Monday. To fulfill our duty to God, we must attend the Sunday Mass as well as the Solemnities of the Incarnation of the Lord (Christmas) and the Holy Mother of God (January 1<sup>st</sup>).

## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

### MASS SCHEDULE

#### **Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24**

5:00 p.m. (Children's Christmas Pageant),  
7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

#### **Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25**

8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon

#### **Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God** (Holy Day of Obligation)

Monday, January 1, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. and 12:00  
noon

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 4 – 7:00 P.M.**

*Intention Available*

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5 – 8:00 A.M.**

*Intention Available*

### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6 – 7:00 P.M.**

*Intention Available*

### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7 – 7:00 P.M.**

In reparation for offences committed against the Most Holy Eucharist.

### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8 – 7:00 P.M.**

*Intention Available*

### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9 – 5:00 P.M.**

+ Kam-Fung Shun Tin

+ Celia Goes

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 – 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**8:30 A.M.** + Flavia Castello

+ Lydia Alagan

+ Gloria Malasig

**10:00 A.M.** + David de Quesnay

+ John Henderson

+ Kathleen de Quesnay

**12:00 Noon** S.I. Prayer of Thanksgiving

## **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

Kindergarten registration for the 2018-19 school year, will be held at all Dufferin-Peel Catholic elementary schools on Jan. 15\* from 7 – 9 p.m. and Jan. 17-19 from 9-3 p.m. \*A snow date has been designated on January 16 from 7-9 p.m. Registration materials will be available on the board website. For more information, parents/guardians should contact their local Catholic school, visit the Board website at [www.dpcdsb.org](http://www.dpcdsb.org), or call the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board at 905-890-1221.

## **INFORMATION SESSION**

On Thursday, January 25, 2018 the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board's Special Education and Learning Services Department will host a Kindergarten entry planning and information session. This meeting is for families of children with differing abilities, such as vision, hearing, speech, autism, physical/medical and/or developmental delays in the cognitive and/or motor areas, who are entering Kindergarten in September 2018. The meeting will be held at the Catholic Education Centre from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. For more information about this session, please call 905-890-0708 ext. 24021.

## **REFUGEES NO LONGER**

We are ecstatic to announce that our newcomer family arrived Thursday, November 23rd. After travelling, connections, and immigration processing, they had been travelling for 35 hours. The meeting at the airport was joyful, with our members and some Canadian friends originally from their home city of Mosul to greet them. Temporary lodging is at Carmel Heights where the Sisters are making them feel safe and secure. Their days and evenings are busy with appointments for English language instruction, medical updating, banking and budgeting. Thanks be to God for the privilege of helping them to make a new life in wonderful Canada.

*~The St. Francis of Assisi Refugee Committee*

## **2018 OFFERTORY ENVELOPE BOXES**



Offertory envelope boxes for 2018 are now available at the back of the church. Please take any box and **PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS** on the first 4 envelopes you use in JANUARY 2018. Please

remember to finish using your 2017 offertory envelopes before using the 2018 ones. Thank you.

## **PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING**

If you would rather make your regular offerings through Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG), kindly complete a PAG Form, which are available at the back of the Church with the envelopes, and return to the Office. Please note you still need a box of envelopes for the other Special Collections.

## **RECEPTION OF THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION DURING THE SEASON OF ADVENT**



Please remember to pray for the young people of our parish who will be receiving God's love and mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday, December 9.

## **ALTAR SERVERS PIZZA PARTY**

Altars servers are invited to a Pizza Party on Saturday, December 16 from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. If you can attend, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Sacristy.

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