



# 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

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 10, 2017

## “Prepare The Way Of The Lord”

Peace



Today is the Second Sunday of Advent and we are invited to reflect on the role of John the Baptist and how he prepared the way for Jesus and our salvation to come. John the Baptist's life was fueled by one burning passion – to point others to Jesus Christ and to the coming of his kingdom. Who is John the Baptist and what is the significance of his message for our lives? Scripture tells us that John was filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb (Luke 1:15,41) by Christ himself, whom Mary had just conceived by the Holy Spirit. When Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth, John leapt into her womb as they were filled with the Holy Spirit. The fire of the Spirit dwelt in John and made him the forerunner of the coming Messiah. John was led by the Spirit into the wilderness prior to his ministry where he was tested and grew in the word of God. John's clothing was reminiscent of the prophet Elijah. John broke the prophetic silence of the previous centuries when he began to speak the word of God to the people of Israel. His message was similar to the message of the Old Testament prophets who chided the people of God for their unfaithfulness and who tried to awaken true repentance in them. Among a people unconcerned with the things of God, it was his work to awaken their interest, unsettle them from their complacency and arouse in them enough good will to recognize and receive Christ when he came. Are you eager to hear God's word and to be changed by it through the power of the Holy Spirit?

Jesus tell us that John the Baptist was more than a prophet (Luke 7:26). John was the voice of the Consoler who is coming (John 1:23, Isaiah 40:1-3). He completed the cycle of prophets begun by Elijah. What the prophets had carefully searched for and angels longed to see, now came to completion as John made the way ready for the coming Messiah, God's Anointed Son, The Lord Jesus Christ. With John the Baptist, the Holy Spirit begins the restoration to the human race of the “divine likeness”, prefiguring what would be achieved with and in the Lord Jesus.

John's baptism was for repentance – turning away from sin and taking on a new way of life according to God's word. Our baptism in Jesus Christ by water and the Spirit results in a new birth and entry into God's kingdom as his beloved sons and daughters. Jesus is ready to give us the fire of his Spirit that we may radiate the joy and truth of the gospel to a world in desperate need of God's light and truth. His word has power to change and transform our lives that we may be lights pointing others to Christ. Like John the Baptist, we too are called to give testimony to the light and truth of Jesus Christ. We are to prepare a way like messengers in service to Christ.

### 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, Monday, 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 11 – 7:00 P.M.**

*Intention Available*

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12 – 8:00 A.M.**

*Intention Available*

### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13 – 7:00 P.M.**

*Intention Available*

### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14 – 7:00 P.M.**

In reparation for offences committed against the Most Holy Eucharist.

### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15 – 7:00 P.M.**

*Intention Available*

### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16 – 5:00 P.M.**

+ Elsa Giovannelli-Macciachera

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 – 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**8:30 A.M.** *Intention Available*

**10:00 A.M.** S.I. Parish Community

**12:00 Noon** + Clara Marsalado

+ Rosario Tentativa

+ Bartolome Romero

## **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.

## **LIFE IN THE SPIRIT**

Mark your calendars, beginning Thursday January 18th, St Francis of Assisi Prayer Group, will be hosting our annual Parish Life in the Spirit Seminars. The Seminars will start at 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm, in the parish hall, and run for six weeks. If you have any questions, please call the parish office.

## **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.

## **ADVENT CONFESSIONS**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is the best way to prepare our hearts and souls for Christmas. Please take advantage of the many opportunities available.

**St. Francis of Assisi** - Every Saturday from 4:00 to 4:45 p.m. and Fridays in Advent at 6:00 p.m.

**St. Ignatius Loyola** - Dec. 14: from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

**Merciful Redeemer** - Dec. 12: 10:00 to 12 noon and 5:00 to 9:00 p.m., Dec. 13: 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

**St. Martin of Tours** - Dec. 14: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

**St. Christopher** - Dec. 15: 10:00 to 11:30 a.m., 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. and 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Dec. 19/20: 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

## **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. Also, please DO NOT use your 2017 envelopes after December 31, 2017. 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.

## **CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES**

Due to an error, there is no Christmas Offering envelope in your 2017 Offertory Envelope box. Please pick up a Christmas offering envelope in the vestibule.

## **A HEART-FELT THANK YOU**

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank you for your great generosity to their Christmas collection for those in need at Christmas. With your help the Society raised over \$9000 and will be able to help more than 50 families this year.

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