



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

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 7, 2018

“They fell down and worshipped Jesus”

If Jesus truly is who he claims to be, the eternal Son of God and Saviour of the world, then why is he not recognized by everyone who hears his word and sees his works? John the Evangelist states that when Jesus came into the world *“the world knew him not and his own people received him not”* (John 1:10-11). Jesus was born in obscurity. Only the lowly shepherds recognized him at his birth. Some wise men also found their way to Bethlehem to pay homage to the newborn King of Israel. These men were not Israelites, but foreigners. They likely had read and discussed the Messianic prophecies and were anxious to see when this Messianic King would appear. God led them by means of an extraordinary star across the desert to the little town of Bethlehem where Jesus was born.

In their thirst for knowledge of God, the wise men from the East willingly left everything, their home and country, in pursuit of that quest. In their diligent search they were led to the source of true knowledge - to Jesus Christ, the Light and Wisdom of God. When they found the newborn King they humbly worshiped him and gave him gifts befitting a king. How could they recognize this infant as both divine and human - born of flesh yet sent from heaven? The early church fathers taught that only divine revelation could open the minds and hearts of people enough to recognize and receive Christ as their King and Saviour.

The Lord of the universe who revealed the star of Bethlehem to the Gentiles of the East so they could come and worship Jesus, the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6) and King of Kings (Revelations 19:16), gives each one of us the same light of revelation to recognize and accept Jesus as our Lord and Saviour. Faith is an entirely free gift that God makes to us. It is through the help of the Holy Spirit, who moves the heart and opens the eyes of the mind, that we are able to understand, accept, and believe the truth which God has revealed to us through his Son, Jesus Christ. In faith, the human will and intellect cooperate with grace. *“Believing is an act of the intellect assenting to the divine truth by command of the will moved by God through grace”* (Thomas Aquinas).

To know and to encounter Jesus Christ is to know God personally. In the encounter of the wise men with Jesus we see the plan of God to give his only Son as King and Saviour, not just for the Jewish people but for all the nations as well. The Lord Jesus came that both Jew and Gentile might find true and lasting peace with God. Let us pray today that Jew and Gentile alike will find the Lord and Saviour on their journey of life. Do you bring the light of Jesus Christ to those you meet through the witness of your life and testimony?

“Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for bringing salvation to all the nations. May the gospel of salvation be proclaimed to every nation today and to every person on the face of the earth. Help me to be a good witness of the joy of the gospel to all I meet.”

HELPING OUR NEIGHBOURS IN NEED

The Knights of Columbus will be accepting non-perishable food items after Masses on January 13/14 and January 20/21. Our collected food will be delivered, sorted and stocked by the Knights at Eden Food for Change, our neighbourhood food bank serving those in need in our very own Erin Mills community. Thank you for your support.



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Weekday Mass Attendees

Please note that Fr. Bernard will be away from the parish from January 29 to February 6 inclusive. Weekday Masses will not be celebrated during this time. The Saturday/Sunday Masses the weekend of February 3 and 4 will be celebrated by visiting priests.

Mass for the Intentions Week

MONDAY, JANUARY 8 – 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9 – 8:00 A.M.

Intention Available

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10 – 7:00 P.M.

+ Vincent Borg

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11 – 8:00 A.M.

In reparation for offences committed against the Most Holy Eucharist.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12 – 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13 – 5:00 P.M.

+ Ida Altamura

+ Luigi Natuzzi

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14 – 2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:30 A.M. *Intention Available*

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

12:00 Noon *Intention Available*

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, or call the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board at 905-890-1221.



MAJOR RELIC OF SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER



A first-degree relic of missionary Saint Francis Xavier is coming to the Archdiocese of Toronto, January 12-14, 2018. The forearm of the saint, permanently displayed at the Church of the Gesù in Rome, will be in Canada from December 29 – February 2, as part of a 14-city Canadian visit. In our archdiocese, the relic will be hosted by St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (Jan. 12), St. Francis Xavier Church, Mississauga (Jan. 13) and Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Toronto (January 14). More information about the visit and a full schedule of events can be found at: www.cco.ca/relic

MEET OUR NEWCOMERS!

As mentioned previously, the Saffar family who were affected by the Syrian and Iraqi crisis, arrived safely at the end of November, after more than two years of waiting in Jordan and are now busy settling in. The St Francis of Assisi Refugee Committee would like to invite you to a Meet and Greet get together in the Church Hall after the 12 pm Mass on Sunday January 14th. It is an opportunity for all of us to welcome them and understand how we can help integrate them as new Canadians. We look forward to seeing as many parishioners as possible at this joyful occasion.

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.

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

We thank you for your contributions to the Church in 2017 and advise you that income tax receipts will be issued in February 2018. In order to receive an income tax receipt for contributions to the Church, we strongly suggest you take a box of Offertory Envelopes each year. Offertory Envelopes for 2018 are located at the back of the Church. Brochures outlining our Pre-Authorized Giving Plan and Parish Registration forms are also available at the back of the Church.

IDENTITY IN CHRIST

Co-Ed Young Adult Retreat (18-35) St. Francis Retreat Centre (208501 Highway 9, Caledon) January 19-21, 6:00 PM (Friday) – 1:00 PM (Sunday) Developed for university students, the retreat will focus on our identity as children of God. Register by emailing us at toronto@sistersoflife.org. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us via email or call (416) 463 2722. A deposit is requested to complete registration. The cost for this retreat is \$125 per participant; however, we welcome any donation you are capable of giving.

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