



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

DEVOTIONS

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

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Wednesday during Mass
Rosary Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 6:40

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
Ministry of Consolation & Hope 905-822-8132 ext. 3
RCIA 905-822-8132 ext. 4
St. Vincent de Paul 905-822-8132 ext. 5
Catholic Cemeteries 416-733-8544

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 2, 2018

“Raise your heads, your redemption is drawing near”

Hope



How good are you at reading signs, especially signs which God sends our way? The people of Jesus' time expected that the coming of the Messiah would be accompanied by extraordinary signs and wonders. Jesus' first coming was clouded in mystery and surprising wonderment: Even though he was the rightful heir to the throne of King David, he was born in obscurity in a cave at Bethlehem, near the place where David had watched over his father's sheep some 1000 years before. A choir of mighty angels chose to announce the good news to a small band of lowly shepherds keeping their night watch nearby. Learned magi from the East, who recognized a great omen in the heavenly sky, followed the star until it led them to Bethlehem. They alone found the child with his mother and paid him homage as the newborn king of Israel. When Jesus humbly submitted to baptism at the River Jordan, the heavenly Father spoke audibly for those nearby who were willing to listen, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased."

Jesus, during his public ministry performed numerous signs. While many believed in Jesus, many also questioned his signs and refused to believe his claim to be the Messiah sent by the heavenly Father to suffer and die for our sake and for our salvation on the cross of Calvary. Jesus' last and greatest sign during his earthly ministry was his rising from the tomb on the third day after his crucifixion. This sign demonstrated his power to defeat death itself and to give abundant everlasting life to all who believed in him.

Jesus told his disciples that his final great sign would be his return in glory at the end of the age. He would come this second time as Judge and Merciful Redeemer to vindicate those who accepted him as Lord and Savior and to punish those who rejected him. Jesus declared that this last sign at the end of the world would be unmistakable. All would recognize and "see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory" (Luke 21:27).

Jesus' prophetic description of the end of time and the day of judgment was not new to the people of Israel. The prophets had foretold these events many centuries before. Jesus speaks of the second coming as a known fact, a for certain event we can expect to take place. This coming will be marked by signs that all will recognize; signs which will strike terror in those unprepared and wonder in those who are ready to meet the Lord. When the Lord returns he will establish final justice and righteousness over the earth by overthrowing his enemies and by vindicating those who have been faithful to him. The anticipation of his final judgment is a sign of hope for all who trust in him.

The Advent season which precedes Christmas and Epiphany reminds us that we are a pilgrim people, aliens and exiles in this age who long for our true home with God in his heavenly kingdom, and who await with joyful hope the return of the Lord Jesus at the end of the age. When will the Lord Jesus come again? No one but the Father in heaven knows the day. The end times begin with the first coming of Jesus Christ (his Incarnation which we celebrate at Christmas and Epiphany) and culminates in his final return on the Day of Judgment.

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. 13 - 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Merciful Redeemer - Dec. 14 - 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

St. Martin of Tours - Dec. 20 - 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

St. Christopher - Dec. 11 - 10:00 to 10:30 a.m., 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. and 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24

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

Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25

10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon

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

Monday, December 31, 2018 - 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 1, 2019 - 10:00 a.m. and
12:00 noon

Mass  for the
Intentions *Week*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3 – 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4 – 8:00 A.M.

Intention Available

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5 – 7:00 P.M.

+Kathleen Daley

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6 – 8:00 A.M.

In reparation for offences committed against the Most Holy Eucharist.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7 – 7:00 P.M.

S.I Hatch Family

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8 – 5:00 P.M.

+ Kam Fong Shun-Tin

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9 – 2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

8:30 A.M. S.I. Parish Community

10:00 A.M. + Regina Crespi

+ Eleanor & Milan Vazik

+ Flavia and Franco Castello

12:00 P.M. S.I. For the Beatification of the Servant
Of God Frank Duff

+ Jacinto Tavares

+ Jozef Zeleznicki

**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 8.

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

A reminder that the Chaplet of Divine Mercy continues throughout the year. Join us Fridays at 3:00 p.m. The essential purpose of the Chaplet is to simply pray to The Divine Mercy, remembering the Lord's passion and asking for the Lord's intercession for sinners. Chaplet runs for 25-30 minutes. New people are always welcome.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

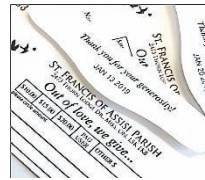
Kindergarten registration for the 2019-20 school year has begun. Parents/guardians have the option to register online or in-person at their designated Catholic school. Online registration will begin on November 26 at www.dpcdsb.org. For more information, parents/guardians should contact their local Catholic school, visit the Board website at www.dpcdsb.org, or call the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board at 905-890-1221.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU

On behalf of the parish, Fr. Bernard would like to thank the Refugee Committee for all of their hard work. Their tireless efforts have ensured that the Saffar family has settled comfortably into Canada and can now call it home. May God bless all of you.

2019 OFFERTORY ENVELOPE BOXES



Offertory envelope boxes for 2019 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 2019. Please remember to finish using your 2018 offertory envelopes before using the 2019 ones.

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.



POINSETTIA PICK-UP

Thank you to all who were able to support the 2018 Knights of Columbus Poinsettia Fundraiser. The poinsettias will be available after all Masses the weekend of December 8/9.

**ST. MICHAEL'S CHOIR SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS AT ROY THOMSON HALL**

A musically rich blend of both secular and sacred carols to usher in the Christmas season. St. Michael's Choir School graduates are some of Canada's most celebrated professional and amateur musicians. Sunday, December 9 at 3:00 p.m. and Monday, December 10 at 7:00 p.m. For tickets and more information contact Roy Thomson Hall.

ADVENT RETREAT: WAITING IN HOPE

Dr. Josephine Lombardi will lead a reflection on the theological virtues: faith, hope and charity, with special attention given to the virtue of hope and examine the obstacles to being people of hope and how we can "wait on" the Lord during the season of Advent and throughout the year. St. Augustine's Seminary December 15, 2018. For more information call 416-261-7207.

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