



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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 9, 2018

"The Word of God came to John"

Peace



Do you recognize the voice of the Lord speaking to you when you listen to the word of God in Scripture? Luke the evangelist tells us that the "word of God came to John in the wilderness" (Luke 3:2). Who was John the Baptist and what is the significance of the word which he received and delivered to the people of his day? Luke tells us that John was the son of Zechariah, a priest who served in the temple at Jerusalem. John stood at a pivotal juncture in the history of God's dealing with his people. He bridged the Old and New Testaments, also known as the Old and New Covenants which God made with his people.

John's prophetic calling and mission preceded his conception and birth. The angel had announced to Zechariah that his barren wife will conceive a son, and "you shall call his name John," and "he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb" (Luke 1:13, 15). When John received his name shortly after birth, his father prophesied that he would be "called the prophet of the Most High who will go before the Lord to prepare his ways" (Luke 1:76). John was called to be a prophet, a spokesman for God.

How did John prepare for the coming of the Anointed (Messiah) King and Savior of the world? Luke tells us that "the word of God came to John" when he was dwelling in the wilderness of Judea (Luke 3:2). John was called from an early age to devote himself to prayer and to the word of God. John not only took the Scriptures to heart, he molded his life according to them, and made himself a servant of the Word of God. John was led by the Spirit into a barren and lonely place away from the noise and distractions of everyday life. There God taught John in the solitude of the desert and prepared him for a prophetic ministry that would turn the hearts of his people to receive their long-awaited Messiah.

How can we, like John the Baptist, prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus Christ - today and every day and when he comes again to bring us fully into his everlasting kingdom? John the Baptist tells us that the first step is conversion and repentance (Matthew 3:2; Luke 3:7). Conversion involves receiving God's word into our heart and mind and allowing his Word to change our attitudes and wrong ways of thinking and judging. Repentance is the deliberate turning away from sin (wrong-doing) and turning to God to receive his pardon, healing, and strength to do what is good and reject what is wrong.

John saw from a distance what Jesus the Messiah would accomplish through his death and resurrection - pardon for our sins, healing and restoration, and eternal life for all who would believe in the Lord Jesus. Are you hungry for the Word of God and do you allow God's word to transform the way you think, speak, and live your life?

"Lord Jesus, you are the Word of God and the Savior of the world. Help me to receive your Word with expectant faith, and to live it with confident hope, and to proclaim it joyfully with love and boldness to all I meet."

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 10 – 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11 – 8:00 A.M.

S.I. Daphne Borniek

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12 – 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13 – 8:00 A.M.

In reparation for offences committed against the Most Holy Eucharist.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14 – 7:00 P.M.

S.I Hatch Family

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15 – 5:00 P.M.

+ Paul Castro

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16 – 3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

8:30 A.M. + Helen & Bill Yanchus
+Mathevadian Fernando

10:00 A.M. + Egidio Pasut
+ Eleanor & Milan Bazik

12:00 P.M. S.I Parish Community

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 will begin on November 26, 2018. Parents/guardians have the option to register online or in-person at their designated Catholic school. The online registration will begin on November 26 at www.dpcdsb.org. For those unable to register at the school during school hours, a registration evening has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 15, 2019 (Snow Date: January 17, 2019). 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.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

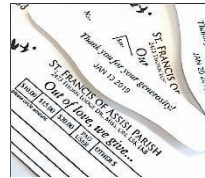
If your home address or telephone number has changed, please send us an email at office@st-francisofassisi.ca.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

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 \$9700 and will be able to help more than 50 families this year.

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. 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.

LECTIO DIVINA WITH CARDINAL THOMAS COLLINS

Lectio Divina means "divine or sacred reading" and is the name given to a spiritual tradition among Christians in which they listen attentively and prayerfully read the word of God. One Sunday each month all are welcome to join Cardinal Thomas Collins St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica. A schedule of dates can be found at archtoronto.org/lectio. Lectio Divina is also livestreamed via the St. Michael's Basilica website at www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live

A PRAYER FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Merciful God, who sent thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation:

Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins,

that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer;

who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

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