



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 Rosary

Wednesday during Mass
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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

March 24, 2019

“Unless you repent you will perish”

What causes suffering or affliction and what does God want to teach us through it? The people of Israel suffered greatly under the oppressive rule of Egypt for more than 400 years. Did they suffer unjustly or was God angry with them? God was faithful to his people Israel even in the midst of their affliction and ill treatment by their Egyptian taskmaster. God in his mercy did not forget them nor forsake them. Throughout their long history of exile and suffering God made them strong and they grew in number. God listened to their plea for mercy and freedom. And God raised up a savior for them, called Moses, whom he taught and tested in the wilderness until he was ready to hear and obey God's call.

Jesus on a number of occasions warned the people to turn away from sin before it was too late to repent and receive God's mercy and pardon. Luke recounts two disasters which Jesus addressed with the people. The first incident occurred in the temple at Jerusalem. Pilate, who was the Roman governor of Jerusalem at the time, ordered his troops to slaughter a group of Galileans who had come up to Jerusalem to offer sacrifice in the Temple. We do not know what these Galileans did to incite Pilate's wrath, nor why Pilate chose to attack them in the holiest of places for the Jews, in their temple at Jerusalem. The second incident which Jesus addressed was a natural disaster, a tower in Jerusalem which unexpectedly collapsed, killing 18 people. The Jews often associated such calamities and disasters as a consequence of sin.

The real danger and calamity which Jesus points out is that an unexpected disaster or a sudden death does not give us time to repent of our sins and to prepare ourselves to meet the Judge of heaven and earth. Jesus gives a clear warning - take responsibility for your actions and moral choices and put sin to death today before it can destroy your heart, mind, soul, and body as well. Unrepentant sin is like a cancer which corrupts us from within. If it is not eliminated through repentance it leads to a spiritual death which is far worse than physical destruction.

Why does God judge his people? He judges to purify and cleanse us of all sin that we might grow in his holiness and righteousness. God is patient, but for those who persistently and stubbornly rebel against him and refuse to repent and change their course, there is the consequence that they will lose both their soul and body to hell. Are God's judgments unjust or unloving? When God's judgments are revealed in the earth, the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness. To pronounce God's judgment on sin is much less harsh than what will happen if those who sin are not warned to repent and turn back to God.

God, in his mercy, gives us time to get right with him, but that time is now. We must not assume that there is no hurry. Jesus warns us that we must be ready at all times. Tolerating sinful habits and excusing unrepentant sin and wrongdoing will result in bad fruit, painful discipline, and spiritual disease that leads to death and destruction. The Lord in his mercy gives us both grace and time to turn away from sin, but that time is right now. If we delay, even for a day, we may discover that grace has passed us by and our time is up. Do you hunger for the Lord's righteousness (moral goodness) and holiness?

HOLY WEEK & EASTER MASS SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday April 18 - Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30 p.m. followed by Adoration until midnight.

Good Friday April 19 - Passion of the Lord at Noon and 3:00 p.m. with Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday April 20 - Blessing of Easter Baskets at 11:00 a.m.

Easter Vigil Saturday April 20 - The Vigil Mass will begin at 8:00 p.m. (Please note that this Mass is about 2 hours in length.)

Easter Sunday April 21 - Resurrection of the Lord 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon

LENTEN RECONCILIATION



On April 11 at 7:00 p.m., we will have 5 priests to hear Confessions. Please mark your calendars and plan on going to Confession in preparation for Easter.

Reconciliation is also available at:

St. Joseph's Parish - Mon., April 8 from 7:00 p.m.

Merciful Redeemer - Wed., April 10 from 10-12, 3-5, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

St. Ignatius Loyola - Thur., April 11 at 9:30-11:30 a.m., 4:00-6:00 p.m. & 7:00-8:30 p.m.

St. Christopher - Mon., March 19 from 7:00-9:00 p.m.



How can you "Live the Gospel" when life is so busy?

Many people help those in need by volunteering at a local organization. But if your schedule doesn't allow for it, you can still make a huge impact in your community by supporting ShareLife-funded agencies. Next Sunday is the first ShareLife collection. Over the next week, please reflect on your ability to "Live the Gospel" by making a sacrificial gift to our parish ShareLife campaign.

Next Sunday, March 31 is ShareLife Sunday. PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY.

PARISH LENTEN DEVOTIONS 2019

DAILY MASS: Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 7 p.m., Tuesday & Thursday at 8 a.m.

ROSARY: Monday and Wednesday at 6:40 p.m.

THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY: Sung on Friday at 3:00 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Friday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 2nd and 4th Friday of every month following the 7 p.m. Mass and Saturday from 4-4:45 p.m.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE INFORMATION MEETING



On Wednesday, April 10 at 7:30 p.m. please join us for an information meeting

regarding the Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. You will hear about the 9 day Pilgrimage being led by Fr. Bernard Vellozo from November 8 - 16, 2019. Michael Kwadrans from International Heritage Tours will be present to answer any questions. Please contact the parish office at 905-822-8132 if you wish to attend.

LENTEN RETREAT



"The Church is Marian in her essence." Mary is the image of what we are to be: the more Marian we become, the more Church we become. Fr. Charles Anang, Associate Professor of Systematic Theology at St. Augustine's Seminary, will lead the Retreat. March 30, 2019. For more information contact St. Augustine's Seminary of Toronto at 416-261-7207.

MONDAY, MARCH 25 – 7:00 P.M.

+ Encarnacion Alvarez

TUESDAY, MARCH 26 – 8:00 A.M.

Intention Available

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27 – 7:00 P.M.

Carole-Ann Givens

THURSDAY, MARCH 28 – 8:00 A.M.

In reparation for offenses committed against the Most Holy Eucharist

FRIDAY, MARCH 29 – 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

SATURDAY, MARCH 30 – 5:00 P.M.

Intention Available

SUNDAY, MARCH 31 – 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

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

10:00 A.M. Intention Available

12:00 P.M. + Encarnacion Alvarez

WOMEN OF THE WORD TORONTO

Women of the Word Toronto invites you to their 10th Anniversary Forum, "Living Truth, Beauty and, Goodness." This year's speakers include Fr. Michael Della Penna, Dr. Josephine Lombardi, and Gizela Cardoso. The event will be emceed by Celeste Giraldo Estrada. April 13 at The Royalton in Woodbridge. Cost is \$60.00 and includes light breakfast and plated lunch. Contact WoW-Toronto at 416-453-0402.

TAIZÉ LENTEN PRAYER SERVICE

On March 26 St. Patrick's Parish is having a Taize Lenten Prayer Service. As part of your Lenten journey, you are invited to join us for a beautiful evening of prayer, song, silence and reflection in the style of Taizé. For further information please call 905-270-2301 or email the parish at info@stpatrickparish.ca

PLEASE STAY ON THE LINE...

YOUR CALL IS IMPORTANT TO US

While you wait for warmer spring weather and the chance to spend more time in the great outdoors, please consider volunteering in our church gardens. We meet at 9 A.m. on Saturday mornings, but if that time does not work for you, we will accommodate you. All ages are welcome, including high school students who need volunteer hours. We begin our work in April. Now is the time to register. Contact Dolores at 905-822-5297. Your call is important to us! - St. Francis of Assisi Garden Committee

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