



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

Charismatic Prayer Goup 905-822-8132
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 1, 2019

"Watch and be ready - the day of the Lord's coming draws near"

HOPE



Why did Jesus compare "the coming of the Son of Man" with the "days of Noah"? Scripture describes both events as a day of judgment and the separation of the just from the unjust. It is a time when the Lord of heaven and earth gathers to himself those who are his own. Separation is an inevitable consequence of the fundamental choices people have made - whether for God or against God. The fundamental choices we make can either lead us towards God and his will for us or they can lead us in a direction that is opposed to God or contrary to his wisdom and plan for our lives and well-being.

The Book of Genesis describes why God chose to separate Noah and his family who were faithful to God from those who had utterly rejected God and corrupted the earth with violence and evil. Why did so many perish when the day of judgment came? They were caught completely unaware and unprepared for the disaster that swept them away. The Lord Jesus warned his disciples and he issues the same warning to us today - be alert and be prepared to meet the Lord today and every day.

Just as God provided a safe haven and place of refuge for Noah and his family in the ark, the Lord provides for us today a place of refuge in the ark of his people - the body of Christ - who listen to his word and obey his voice.

Jesus came to fulfill all the promises of God, including the covenant of peace which God made with Noah. Jesus' first coming was a rescue mission to set us free from sin and condemnation and to give us new life in his Holy Spirit. The Lord Jesus promised that he would return again in glory to complete the work of redemption which he began at his first coming. While we do not know the time of his return, we will not mistake it when it happens. It will be apparent to all, both to the followers of the Lord Jesus and to every inhabitant on the earth as well.

The prophet Isaiah spoke of the Day when the Lord would judge between the nations and establish peace over the earth. In that day the righteous - all peoples who believed in him and who listened to his teaching and instruction - would come to his holy mountain and house to worship him and dwell with him in everlasting peace (Isaiah 2:3-5). The Advent season reminds us that we are living in the time between the first coming and second coming of the Lord Jesus.

The Lord Jesus calls us to be alert and watchful for his coming. He comes to us each and every day and he knocks on the door of our heart and home. Do you listen for his voice and welcome him into your life? Let his word in the Scriptures and the work of the Holy Spirit who dwells in you draw you to a deeper faith, hope, and yearning for his kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy. Those who wait upon the Lord today and listen to his word will not be disappointed. The Lord will come and bring you to his banquet table to feast with him.

"Lord Jesus, you have captured my heart for you. Make me strong in faith, steadfast in hope, and generous in love that I may seek to please you in all things and bring you glory and praise. Keep me ever watchful for the coming of your kingdom today and every day of my life."

ST. MICHAEL'S CHOIR SCHOOL

CONCERT

Toronto's Christmas Tradition featuring St. Michael's Choir School continues at Roy Thompson Hall.

Repertoire to include an array of seasonal favourites. December 8, 2019. For tickets contact Roy Thompson Hall at 416-872-4255.



POINSETTIA PICK-UP

Thank you to everyone who was able to support the 2019 Knights of Columbus Poinsettia Fundraiser. The poinsettias will be available for pick up after all Masses the weekend of December 7 and 8.

Mass Intentions for the Week

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2 – 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3 – 8:00 A.M.

Intention Available

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4 – 7:00 P.M.

+ Xavier Zuzarte

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5 – 8:00 A.M.

In reparation for offenses committed against the Most Holy Eucharist.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 – 7:00 P.M.

S.I. Hatch Family

+ Carmel Fleming

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 – 5:00 P.M.

+ Kam Fong Shun-Tin

+ Bill Kovalchuk

+ Elizabeth Sampson

SUNDAY, DEC. 8 – 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

10:00 A.M. + Eleanor Bazik

+ Jon Kolbiarz

+ Jim O'Brien

12:00 P.M. + Uy, Simon

+ Uy Tan Sinti

+ Uy Co Ligaya Emelda

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration for the 2020-21 school year will take place January 6-17, 2020. 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 14, 2020 (Snow Date: January 16, 2020). For more information, your local Catholic school, visit the Board website at www.dpcdsb.org, or call the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board at 905-890-1221.

REMEMBERING THE PARISH IN YOUR WILL

A bequest is a beautiful way to express your faith and gratitude for a lifetime of blessings! A gift to the parish or any of our diocesan charities in your will creates a lasting legacy that will help the church continue its heritage of service and pastoral care to the faith community. When making your will, please consider a bequest to our parish. To learn more about making a bequest, the Development Office of the Archdiocese at 416-934-3411 ext. 519 or visit www.archtoronto.org/development.

ADVENT RETREAT

Reflections on the Blessed Trinity Saturday, December 14, 2019 - 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. St. Augustine's Seminary 2661 Kingston Rd., Scarborough. COST: \$50, includes lunch CONTACT: St. Augustine's Seminary of Toronto PHONE: 416-261-7207 EMAIL: layspiritualformation@sastoronto.org

A FAREWELL

Our Pastor, Father Bernard Vellozo, is leaving Saint Francis of Assisi on January 1, 2020. A farewell reception will be held Sunday, December 29th following the noon Mass. Parishioners are invited to contribute to a parting gift for Father. Volunteers will be at the doors of the Church after all weekend Masses to collect your cash donations, farewell messages and a count of the number of guests. Please let us know if you plan to attend. For more information, please contact Kathy Valant (905) 823-1693.

2020 OFFERTORY ENVELOPE BOXES



Offertory envelope boxes for 2020 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

2020. Please remember to finish using your 2019 offertory envelopes before using the 2020 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.



Please note that the deadline for donations (included in the 2019 tax receipt) is **December 31, 2019**. Any donations **received after this date** will be counted towards your 2020 tax receipt.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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

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