



# 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

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 8, 2019

## "Prepare the way of the Lord"

### Peace



What kind of Messiah did God promise to send to his people and how would he bring God's kingdom to them? The prophet Isaiah foresaw the day when God would raise up a Messianic King long after King David's throne had been overthrown and vacant for centuries. God promised that he would raise up a new king from the stump of Jesse, the father of King. This messianic king would rule forever because the Spirit of God would rest upon him and remain with him.

Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah would be equipped with the gifts of the Spirit. This king would establish the kingdom of God, not by force of human will and military power, but by offering his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sin of the world. Through his death on the cross, Jesus, the true Messiah King, would defeat Satan, overcome death, and win pardon and reconciliation for sinners. God's plan of redemption included not only the Jewish people but all the nations of the earth as well.

Why did John the Baptist prophesy that the Messiah would come and "baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire"? Fire in biblical times was often associated with God's presence and with his action in the lives of his people. When the Holy Spirit was poured out on the day of Pentecost, tongues of fire appeared over the heads of the apostles and disciples of Jesus. The fire of the Holy Spirit purifies and cleanses us of sin, and it inspires a reverent fear of God and of his word in us.

John the Baptist's life was fuelled by one burning passion - to point others to Jesus Christ and to the coming of his kingdom. Scripture tells us that John was filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb by Christ himself, whom Mary had just conceived by the Holy Spirit. Like the prophets of the Old Testament, John devoted his entire life to prayer and the word of God. John pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who would take away the sins of the world by offering his life on the cross as the atoning sacrifice for our sins and the sin of the world.

Jesus tells us that John the Baptist was more than a prophet. John was the voice of the Consoler who is coming. He completed the cycle of prophets begun by Elijah. What the prophets had carefully searched for and angels longed to see, now came to completion as John made the way ready for the coming of the Messiah, God's Anointed Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. With John the Baptist, the Holy Spirit begins the restoration to the human race of the "divine likeness", prefiguring what would be achieved with and in the Lord Jesus.

John's baptism was for repentance - turning away from sin and taking on a new way of life according to God's word. Our baptism in Jesus Christ by water and the Spirit results in a new birth and entry into God's kingdom as his beloved sons and daughters. The Lord Jesus gives us the fire of his Spirit so that we may radiate the joy and truth of the Gospel to a world in desperate need of God's light and truth. His word has power to change and transform our lives that we may be lights pointing others to Christ. Like John the Baptist, we too are called to give testimony to the light and truth of Jesus Christ. Do you point others to Christ in the way you live, work, and speak?

### 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.

**St. Ignatius Loyola** - Dec. 19 - 9:30-11:30 a.m., 4-6 and 7-8:30 p.m.

**Merciful Redeemer** - Dec. 16 - 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

**St. Christopher** - Dec. 18 - 10 a.m.—12 p.m., and 7-8:30 p.m.

### CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

#### MASS SCHEDULE

**Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24**

5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

**Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25**

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

**Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God**

(Holy Day of Obligation)

**Tuesday, December 31, 2019** - 5:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 1, 2020** - 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 9 – 7:00 P.M.**

- + Antony Joseph
- + Nelly Sugiri
- + Tek Tjan

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10 – 8:00 A.M.**

- + Damaso Mendoza

### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11 – 7:00 P.M.**

Intention Available

### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12 – 8:00 A.M.**

In reparation for offenses committed against the Most Holy Eucharist.

### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13 – 7:00 P.M.**

Intention Available

### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 – 5:00 P.M.**

- + Rosario Tentativa
- + Tan Naisoy
- + Choling Tan

### **SUNDAY, DEC. 15 – 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- 8:30 A.M.** S.I. Parish Community
- 10:00 A.M.** + Kenneth Arathoon
- + Manuel Madruga
- + Regina Crespi
- 12:00 P.M.** + Ignacio Uy Tan
- + Inosencio Tan
- + Tan Chua Yantin

## **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](http://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](http://www.dpcdsb.org), or call the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board at 905-890-1221.

## **THEOLOGY ON TAP**

All young adults (19-39), are invited to join us for an evening of thought-provoking conversation on Sunday Worship and Sunday Rest. The next one is being held on December 9 at Boston Pizza, 50 Courtney Park Dr. East, with guest speaker Fr. Charles Egbulefu of Transfiguration of our Lord Church in Etobicoke. Munchies will be provided. Bring a friend! For more info contact the Office of Catholic Youth at 416-599-7676 or [youngadult@ocytoronto.org](mailto:youngadult@ocytoronto.org).

## **CARMEL HEIGHTS CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**

The Carmel Sisters are having an ongoing Christmas Bazaar. Come any time Monday to Saturday from 9:30-11:00 a.m., 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. and 6:00-7:00 p.m. There are lots of Christmas items and a large selection of gift items. Everything is on display. They are located at 1720 Sherwood Forrest Circle.

## **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](mailto:office@st-francisofassisi.ca).



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