



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Damian Ali, 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

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 23, 2020

Do not return evil for evil.

If someone insults you or tries to take advantage of you, how do you respond? Do you repay in kind? Jesus approached the question of just retribution with a surprising revelation of God's intention for how we should treat others, especially those who mistreat us. When Jesus spoke about God's law, he did something no one had done before. He gave a new standard based not just on the requirements of justice - giving each their due - but based on the law of grace, love, and freedom.

The Old Testament is full of references to the command that we must be merciful: You shall not take vengeance or bear any grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am the LORD (Leviticus 19:18). If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink (Proverbs 25:21).

What makes a disciple of Jesus Christ different from everyone else? What makes Christianity distinct from any other religion? It is grace, treating others, not as they deserve, but as God wishes them to be treated - with loving-kindness and mercy. Such love and grace has the power to heal. The Lord Jesus suffered insult, abuse, injustice, and death on a cross for our sake. Since God has been merciful towards us through the offering of his Son, Jesus Christ, we in turn are called to be merciful towards our neighbour, even those who cause us grief and harm. How can we possibly love those who cause us harm or ill-will? With God all things are possible. He gives power and grace to those who believe and accept the gift of the Holy Spirit. His love conquers all, even our hurts, fears, prejudices and grief.

Was Jesus exaggerating when he said we must be perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect (Matthew 5:48)? Jesus' command seems to parallel two passages from the Old Testament Scriptures. The first is where God instructed Abraham to "be perfect/blameless" before God (Genesis 17:1). The original meaning of "perfect" in Hebrew and the Aramaic dialect which Jesus spoke is "completeness" or "wholeness".

The second passage that seems to parallel Jesus' expression - "be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect" - is the command that God gave to Moses and the people of Israel to "be holy, for I am holy" (Leviticus 11:44,45; 19:2). God created each one of us in his own image and likeness (Genesis 1:26,27). That is why he calls us to grow in maturity and wholeness so we can truly be like him - a people who loves as he loves and who chooses to do what is good and to reject what is evil (Ephesians 4:13-16).

God knows our sinfulness and weaknesses better than we do - and he assures us of his love, mercy, and help. That is why he freely gives us his power, strength, and gifts so that we may not lack anything we need to do his will and to live as his sons and daughters. Do you want to grow in your love for God and for your neighbour? Ask the Holy Spirit to purify and transform you in the image of the Father that you may know and live in the joy and freedom of the Gospel.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS



Mark your calendars for our Ash Wednesday Mass on Wednesday, February 26 at 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Masses in neighbouring parishes are:

St. Christopher's Parish - Wed., Feb. 26 at 9:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Merciful Redeemer - Wed., Feb. 26 at 12:15 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

St. Ignatius Loyola - Wed., Feb. 26 at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

SHARELIFE

Monthly pre-authorized giving (PAG) is an easy way to spread your ShareLife contribution over the course of a year. The ShareLife package you received by mail includes a response form with a PAG option. Simply submit a void cheque with the completed form to your parish office, or drop it in the offertory basket at any time. Contact ShareLife at slife@archtoronto.org or 416-934-3411 if you have any questions about pre-authorized giving.



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24 – 7:00 P.M.

+ Sonia Lim

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25 – 8:00 A.M.

Intention Available

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

8:00 A.M. Intention Available

7:00 P.M. Intention Available

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27 – 8:00 A.M.

In reparation for offenses committed against the Most Holy Eucharist.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28 – 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29 – 5:00 P.M.

S.I. Parish Community

SUNDAY, MARCH 1 – 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

8:30 A.M. + Joaquin and Amalia Deposo

+ Rafaella Lawig

S.I. Ida Regio

10:00 A.M. + Chris Squire

12:00 P.M. Intention Available

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION
REGISTRATION**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25 at 7:00 p.m.

In order to register for Confirmation, please bring the following with you to the meeting:

1. **PHOTOCOPY OF THE CANDIDATE'S CATHOLIC BAPTISM CERTIFICATE**

2. \$50 for the Confirmation resource fee

3. The name of your Confirmation Sponsor. A Confirmation Sponsor must fulfill the following conditions:

- a. Confirmed Catholic
- b. 16 years of age or older
- c. Practicing Catholic
- d. Not be the parent of the Candidate

IF YOU MISS THIS SESSION, YOU ARE MOST WELCOME TO REGISTER FOR CONFIRMATION IN 2021.

DYNAMIC WOMEN OF FAITH



Catholic Women's Conference on March 28 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Le Tre Port Banquet Hall, 1075 Queensway E., Miss. Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Edward Curtis. To register go to www.dynamicwomenfaith.com or call 416-907-1042. On Friday March 27 there is a Mother Daughter The speakers are Dr. Sandra Sagrati and Dorothy Pilarski.

YOUNG DISCIPLES RETREAT

On March 7 the Office of Vocations invites male and female young disciples aged 12-17 — especially those engaged in parish service — to attend a full-day retreat themed "Love in Service." We ask those interested to register at their parish office. The retreat will take place at St. Edward the Confessor Parish, 75 Churchill Ave., North York For more info call the Office of Vocations at 416-968-0997.

SOAP FOR HOPE

Did you know that washing with soap helps decrease skin infections, diarrhea and pneumonia? Being clean allows a person to have dignity and self-esteem. Please help Canadian Food for Children to help those most in need – the poorest of the poor. With just one bar of soap, from each parishioner, we will make a difference. Boxes will be available at the back of the church the weekend of March 7/8 and March 14/15.

EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES OF THE WORLD

Please join us on, February 29 to Sunday, March 8, (Church is Closed Monday, March 1) as we host the Vatican approved Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibit. The exhibit, which was designed and created by Venerable Carlo Acutis, features panels that each tell the story of a Eucharistic miracle and allow you to "virtually visit" the places where the miracles took place. St. Josephine Bakhita Parish 3200 Thomas St., Mississauga. For more information call 905-826-1143.

2020 LIFT JESUS HIGHER RALLY

March 7 at Metro Toronto Convention Centre. The theme of this year's rally is "Jesus, Light of the World" featuring talks by Ralph Martin, Christy Dupuis, Msgr. Gregory Smith and keynote guest speaker Fr. James Mallon. An adult High Mass will be celebrated by His Eminence Cardinal Thomas Collins. A separate youth event is also taking place. For more info call (647) 243-9441 or go to contact@lljhr.ca.

QUEEN OF APOSTLES RETREAT

Queen of Apostles Retreat Centre is offering a retreat from March 6 – 8, 2020. Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre, 1617 Blythe Road, Mississauga. To register or for more information call 905-278-5229.


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In the time of need, it's your faith and trust that guides you to the comfort of your Parish.



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