



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 6:30

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 22, 2020

Jesus frees us from spiritual blindness and sin

Do you recognize the light of God's truth and power in your life? God wants to remove every obstacle that might hinder us from recognizing the light of his truth and wisdom for our lives. Saul, the first king of Israel, failed to recognize God's light and power to save him from his enemies. God replaced Saul with David, the youngest of Jesse's eight sons. God saw something in David which Jesse and his other sons did not recognize - a man after God's own heart who delighted in doing what was pleasing to the Lord. David was a man of courage and vision who defeated his enemies and united his people. His strength and success came not from himself but from God who anointed him with the power and wisdom of his own Spirit.

What can keep us from the light of God's truth, wisdom, and strength for our lives? Sin blinds us and causes us to stumble and fall - unable to rise on our own or to walk in the freedom of God's love and truth. Sin clouds the mind in moral confusion, and it grows in darkness and resists the light of God's truth. Only God's light can uncover the darkness of sin and free us to walk in the path of holiness and peace with God.

When the disciples saw a man who had been blind from birth, they asked Jesus what kind of sin had caused this blindness. The Jews had understood that many infirmities were the result of human folly and sin. While sin can lead to physical, mental, and spiritual infirmities, not all sickness is the direct result of sin. Sickness can befall us for a variety of reasons. Jesus answered that God had allowed this infirmity for a greater purpose which God wanted to demonstrate as a sign of his presence and power. Jesus then made a claim which only God could rightfully make. Jesus stated unequivocally, I am the light of the world. In so many words Jesus was saying that he is the one true source of power and light which sustains life and overcomes the darkness of sin, confusion, and spiritual blindness. Jesus' mighty works - his miraculous signs - confirmed the truth of his message and claim to divine authority and equality with his Father in heaven. One of his greatest signs was the healing of a man who had been blind from birth.

When Jesus approached the blind man he first awakened hope in him - the hope which God offers those who seek his help. Jesus then did something quite remarkable for the blind man, both to identify with this man's misery and to draw expectant faith in him as well. Jesus touched the man's eyes with his own spittle mixed with dirt and bid him to wash in the Pool of Siloam which was close to the Temple. What is the significance of the healing of the blind man at the Pool of Siloam? It is certainly more than just a miraculous event. It is a "sign" that points to the source of the miraculous life-giving water which Jesus offers through the gift and work of the Holy Spirit. Do you want the Holy Spirit to pour out on you his renewing power of faith, vision, and healing love?

"Jesus, in your name the blind see, the lame walk, and the dead are raised to life. Come into our lives and heal the wounds of our broken hearts. Give us eyes of faith to see your glory and hearts of courage to bring you glory in all we say and do."

LENTEN RECONCILIATION

On Thursday, March 26 we will hold our Lenten Day of Confession. A priest will be available from 9:30-11:30 a.m., 2:30-4:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Please mark your calendars and plan on going to Confession in preparation for Easter. Reconciliation is also available at:

St. Ignatius Loyola - Thur., April 2 at 9:30-11:30 a.m., 4:00-6:00 p.m. & 7:00-8:30 p.m.

St. Christopher - Tues., March 31 from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER MASS SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday April 9 - Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30 p.m. followed by Adoration until midnight.

Good Friday April 10 - Passion of the Lord at 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. with Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m.

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

Easter Vigil Saturday April 11 - The Vigil Mass will begin at 8:00 p.m.

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

Mass Intentions for the Week

MONDAY, MARCH 23 – 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

TUESDAY, MARCH 24 – 8:00 A.M.

Intention Available

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25 – 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

THURSDAY, MARCH 26 – 8:00 A.M.

In reparation for offenses committed against the Most Holy Eucharist.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27 – 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

SATURDAY, MARCH 28 – 5:00 P.M.

+ Jonalyn Sagisi

SUNDAY, MARCH 29 – 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

8:30 A.M. Intention Available

10:00 A.M. Intention Available

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



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.

March 29 is ShareLife Sunday. Please give generously.

CORONA VIRUS UPDATE

For the duration of this health emergency, Cardinal Collins has decreed that the following be implemented in all parishes, missions and chaplaincies throughout the Archdiocese of Toronto:

Mass – In view of the requirements of the Government of Ontario, during this medical emergency, beginning Tuesday, March 17, 2020, I instruct that all public Masses be cancelled, both during the week and on the weekend. Churches will be available for individual private prayer. The priests of the archdiocese will celebrate Mass every day privately for the intentions of the people.

The faithful will be able to watch, via livestream, a Mass which will be celebrated every day at 7:30 a.m. at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica, which will be followed by the Angelus and the Rosary. I will personally celebrate this Mass as much as is possible.

So many of our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world are deprived of the opportunity to celebrate the Holy Eucharist, for many reasons. Due to this health emergency we also will now experience their suffering. Perhaps this sacrifice will help us to cherish more profoundly the great gift of the Holy Eucharist. There is no substitute for personally participating in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, which is the source and summit of our life in Christ, and we pray for the time when this may be universally available once more.

Baptism – Individual Baptism is allowed with immediate family and following the regulations established by the health authorities.

RCIA – I dispense the catechumens from the scrutinies. Information will be sent out later on the Triduum and reception into the Church.

First Holy Communion, First Reconciliation and Confirmation will be postponed for the duration of the emergency.

Sacrament of Reconciliation – All those who wish to receive the sacrament should contact a priest. The sacrament is to be celebrated not in a confessional but rather in another location, where confidentiality may be ensured and where the distance required by the health officials can be maintained.

Marriage – Marriages without Mass may take place with the immediate family members, provided they follow the regulations established by the health authorities.

Marriage Preparation is very important. At this time, however, marriage preparation classes are cancelled and pastors are to arrange for individual couples to be prepared properly for marriage.

Visits to the Sick and Homebound - All visitors must take direction from the health care facility. Parishes should also take care to contact the homebound and vulnerable.

Funerals – During this emergency, there will be no vigils or wake services. The Rite of Committal will take place with the immediate family at the cemetery. There will be no funeral Mass at this time, but we encourage the celebration of a funeral Mass at a later date when it is possible.


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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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