



# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

### Pastoral Staff

Rev. Damian Ali, Pastor  
Deacon Don Roberts  
Deacon Richard Te  
Melinda Mayo, Office Administrator  
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 usually held on two Sundays 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  
(or by appointment)

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 - 4:00 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

#### *Weekday Eucharist*

Mondays / Wednesdays / Fridays 7:00 PM  
Tuesdays / Thursdays 8:30 AM

### DEVOTIONS

#### *Holy Hour*

Fridays (excluding holidays) 6:00 PM - 6:50 PM

#### *Our Lady of Perpetual Help Rosary*

Wednesday during Mass  
Wednesday at 6:40

### 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  
RCIA 905-822-8132 ext. 3  
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 5, 2021

## "The Word of God came to John"

### Peace



Do you recognize the voice of the Lord speaking to you when you listen to the word of God in Scripture? Luke the evangelist tells us that the "word of God came to John in the wilderness" (Luke 3:2). Who was John the Baptist and what is the significance of the word which he received and delivered to the people of his day? Luke tells us that John was the son of Zechariah, a priest who served in the temple at Jerusalem. John stood at a pivotal juncture in the history of God's dealing with his people. He bridged the Old and New Testaments, also known as the Old and New Covenants which God made with his people.

John's prophetic calling and mission preceded his conception and birth. The angel had announced to Zechariah that his barren wife will conceive a son, and "you shall call his name John," and "he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb" (Luke 1:13, 15). When John received his name shortly after birth, his father prophesied that he would be "called the prophet of the Most High who will go before the Lord to prepare his ways" (Luke 1:76). John was called to be a prophet, a spokesman for God.

How did John prepare for the coming of the Anointed (Messiah) King and Savior of the world? Luke tells us that "the word of God came to John" when he was dwelling in the wilderness of Judea (Luke 3:2). John was called from an early age to devote himself to prayer and to the word of God. John not only took the Scriptures to heart, he molded his life according to them, and made himself a servant of the Word of God. John was led by the Spirit into a barren and lonely place away from the noise and distractions of everyday life. There God taught John in the solitude of the desert and prepared him for a prophetic ministry that would turn the hearts of his people to receive their long-awaited Messiah.

How can we, like John the Baptist, prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus Christ - today and every day and when he comes again to bring us fully into his everlasting kingdom? John the Baptist tells us that the first step is conversion and repentance (Matthew 3:2; Luke 3:7). Conversion involves receiving God's word into our heart and mind and allowing his Word to change our attitudes and wrong ways of thinking and judging. Repentance is the deliberate turning away from sin (wrong-doing) and turning to God to receive his pardon, healing, and strength to do what is good and reject what is wrong.

John saw from a distance what Jesus the Messiah would accomplish through his death and resurrection - pardon for our sins, healing and restoration, and eternal life for all who would believe in the Lord Jesus. Are you hungry for the Word of God and do you allow God's word to transform the way you think, speak, and live your life?

*"Lord Jesus, you are the Word of God and the Saviour of the world. Help me to receive your Word with expectant faith, and to live it with confident hope, and to proclaim it joyfully with love and boldness to all I meet."*

### SUNDAY MASS ON YOUTUBE



Mass is being live streamed on our Parish YouTube Channel on Sunday morning beginning at 10:00 a.m. and every Wednesday at 7pm (preceded by the Rosary at

6:40pm).

The link to our parish YouTube channel is:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCokoBfidkSQAZ\\_Buk3g-bhw?](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCokoBfidkSQAZ_Buk3g-bhw?)

### DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET ON FRIDAYS



We have resumed the practice of gathering in St. Francis of Assisi Church for Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00 p.m. Since congregational singing is still not permitted, a recorded version of

the sung chaplet will be played. Each participant must wear a face covering and physical distancing (6-feet) between members of different households is required. All are welcome.

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 6 – 7:00 P.M.**

+ Carmen and Nieves Rimando  
+ Jean Zielinski

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7 – 8:30 A.M.**

Intention Available

### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8 – 7:00 P.M.**

+ Purissima Melchiorre  
+ Gottfried and Anna Mutter  
S.I. Ann and Joseph Chesla

### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9 – 8:30 A.M.**

S.I. For married couples and those preparing for marriage.

### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10 – 7:00 P.M.**

Intention Available

### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11 – 5:00 P.M.**

+ Eleanor and Melian Bazik  
+ Ann Marie Radko

### **DECEMBER 12 – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

S.I. Parish Community

## FORMED

Our parish now has a subscription to FORMED, a premier online platform. Best of all, this material is free to you.

There are 3 easy steps to Sign Up on FORMED:

1. Visit <http://signup.formed.org/>
2. Enter our parish code: L5K
3. Enter your name and email

## SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

The Christmas Collection for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will take place this weekend. Special donation envelopes are in your offertory envelope boxes or you may take a collection envelope located on a table at the back of the church. Your generosity to families in need at Christmas is most appreciated.

## 2022 OFFERTORY ENVELOPE BOXES



Offertory envelope boxes for 2022 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 2022. Thank you for your continued support.

## PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING

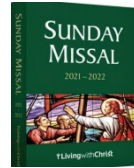
If you would rather make your regular offerings through Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG), kindly complete a PAG Form and return to the Office. Please note you still need a box of envelopes for the other Special Collections.

## SHARELIFE UPDATE



In this time of pandemic, you have responded generously to our annual appeal. We are grateful for all of your support and for the work of all the ShareLife agencies. This year we have not only met our goal but have exceeded it! We have now reached 102% of our \$130,000 goal. Thank you for your generosity and all you are doing for ShareLife!

## SUNDAY MISSALS FOR 2021-2022



Sunday Missals for the new Liturgical Year, which starts on the weekend of November 28, will be on sale after all Masses this weekend. The cost is \$5 each and the correct change would be greatly appreciated.

## ADVENT RECONCILIATION

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** – Thursday, Dec. 16 9:30-11:30am, 2:30-4:30pm and 7-9:30pm

**St. Ignatius Loyola** - Dec. 21 9:30-11:30am, 4-6pm, 7-8:30pm

**Merciful Redeemer** - Dec. 15 10am-12pm, 1-3pm, 7-9pm

**St. Christopher** - Dec. 20, 21 and 22 10-11am, 6:30-8:30pm

## HEALING AND RECONCILIATION EFFORT

As we journey with the Indigenous community, this fund will support healing and reconciliation efforts, recognizing the trauma experienced from the residential school system. We acknowledge the journey to reconciliation is one that will continue for years to come. For more information and additional resources, please visit:

[www.archtoronto.org/residentialschools](http://www.archtoronto.org/residentialschools). If you would like to make a donation you can by going to the parish website and clicking on the Donate button.

## MEDITATING ON THE ADVENT WREATH



Next time we look at the flickering candles of the wreath, perhaps we can call to mind the invitation to prepare our hearts for Christ's coming at Christmas and be filled with hope as "The true light, which enlightens everyone, [is] coming into the world" (Jn. 1:9).





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