

# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

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## **Pastoral Staff**

Rev. Damian Ali, Pastor

Deacon Don Roberts, Deacon Richard Te

Melinda Mayo, Office Administrator      Joan Cabri, Parish Bookkeeper



*Feast of the Holy Family*

# FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

December 26, 2021

**"I must be in my Father's house"**



What binds families together in mutual love, harmony, and care for one another? The center of family life for the Jewish people was the word of God in the Scriptures. When God made a covenant with Moses and the people of Israel, he gave them a way of life embodied in the Torah or Teaching of Moses (the first 5 books of the Old Testament). This teaching formed them in a way of life that permeated every aspect of life - marriage, home and family life, education, work, celebrations, and customs.

### ***Jesus was born into a family devoted to the word of God***

When God sent his only begotten Son into the world, Jesus was born into a human family as a Jew who was raised according to scriptural teaching and customs of his people. Jesus was born under the law of Moses and was circumcised (the sign of being a covenanted member of Israel) on the eighth day and given his name, *Yeshua* in Hebrew (*Jesus* in English) which means "God saves."

### ***Jesus' journey to the Father's house***

Jews were expected to travel to Jerusalem for the high feasts each year (Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacles). Jesus undoubtedly traveled with his parents every year from Nazareth to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover. This eighty mile journey normally took three days. So families often traveled in large groups for safety and comfort.

Luke records a remarkable incident which happened when Jesus went up to the temple at Jerusalem for his first Passover at the dawn of his manhood (usually the age of twelve for Jewish males). It was at this key turning point in his earthly life that Jesus took the name "father" from Joseph and addressed it to God his Father in heaven. His answer to his mother's anxious inquiry reveals his confident determination to pursue his heavenly Father's will. *Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house? (Luke 2:49)*

### ***Jesus obeyed and served his family at Nazareth***

While Jesus identified himself as Son of the eternal Father in heaven, he, nonetheless, submitted himself with love and obedience to Mary and Joseph. Like all godly parents, Mary and Joseph raised their son in the fear and wisdom of God. Luke tells us that Jesus grew as a man in wisdom, stature, and favor with God and with the people of Nazareth, his home town. He remained at Nazareth until the age of 30 when he was baptized by John at the River Jordan and anointed by the Spirit for his mission as the Messiah and Savior of the world.

God the Father reveals his rich favor, blessing, and joy to all who listen to his word and who follow his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Do you follow and obey the Son who shows us the way to the our Father's house and family in heaven?

### **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/UCokoBfidkSQAZBuk3g-bhw?>

### **MASS TIME CHANGE**

Mass on **Monday, December 27**, will be at **10:00** am. The **Parish Office will be closed** the week between Christmas and New Year, December 27, 2021 to January 4, 2022. There is **NO 5:00PM MASS** and **NO CONFESSION** on Saturday, December 25, 2021 **AND** Saturday, January 1, 2022.

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 27 – 10:00 A.M.

S.I. Henry Kitchura  
S.I. Bob Ewasyn  
S.I. Joan Cabri

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28 – 8:30 A.M.

Intention Available

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29 – 7:00 P.M.

+ Maria Lombardi

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30 – 8:30 A.M.

S.I. Intention Available

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

8:30 A.M. Intention Available

5:00 P.M. S.I. Shannon de Souza

S.I. Jason Thomas

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 1–Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

8:30 A.M. Intention Available

10:00 A.M. S.I. Parish Community

12:00 P.M. S.I. Doug and Monica Stanley

+ Sharron Buchanan

### JANUARY 2– EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

S.I. Parish Community

## A NOTE OF GRATITUDE FROM FR. DAMIAN



St. Francis of Assisi said, "It is in giving that we receive." Our 2021 parish goal for ShareLife was \$130,000, and St. Francis of Assisi parish exceeded that goal by raising \$131,664. This is the third-highest parish total in Mississauga after St. Ignatius Loyola and Merciful Redeemer. What a tremendous accomplishment at a time of challenge during the pandemic!

**Thank you for your generosity.**

## SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD



The Masses for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Day) will be celebrated on New Year's Eve (December 31) at 5:00 p.m. and New Year's Day (January 1) at 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (which will be live streamed) and 12 noon.

## THANK YOU!!



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who donated to their Christmas Collection.

Your very generous contributions will help many families in our parish boundaries this Christmas and in 2022.

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## FORMED®

### PICK OF THE WEEK

December 26, 2021

WATCH

**FORGIVEN—SESSION 1:**  
**WHERE ARE YOU?**  
As we make resolutions for 2021, don't forget about your spiritual well-being! Through our Forgiven series, you can help guide friends and family to new spiritual beginnings!



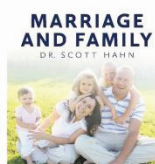
## FORMED Now!

**FORMED NOW!**  
**WHO IS SAINT STEPHEN?**  
This past week, we celebrated the life of St. Stephen, heroic leader of the early Church. Join Dr. Gray and Dr. Barber as they discuss the first Christian martyr.

LEARN

LISTEN

**MARRIAGE AND FAMILY:**  
**LOVE UNVEILED**  
**BY DR. SCOTT HAHN**  
The feast of the Holy Family reminds us to help our own families grow in holiness. With this in mind, join Scott Hahn as he shares his advice on how to bring sanctity into the home.



Our parish has a FORMED subscription.  
To set up your free account visit [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup) and select our parish.

## 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.

## 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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