

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

2473 Thorn Lodge Dr., Mississauga, ON L5K 1K8

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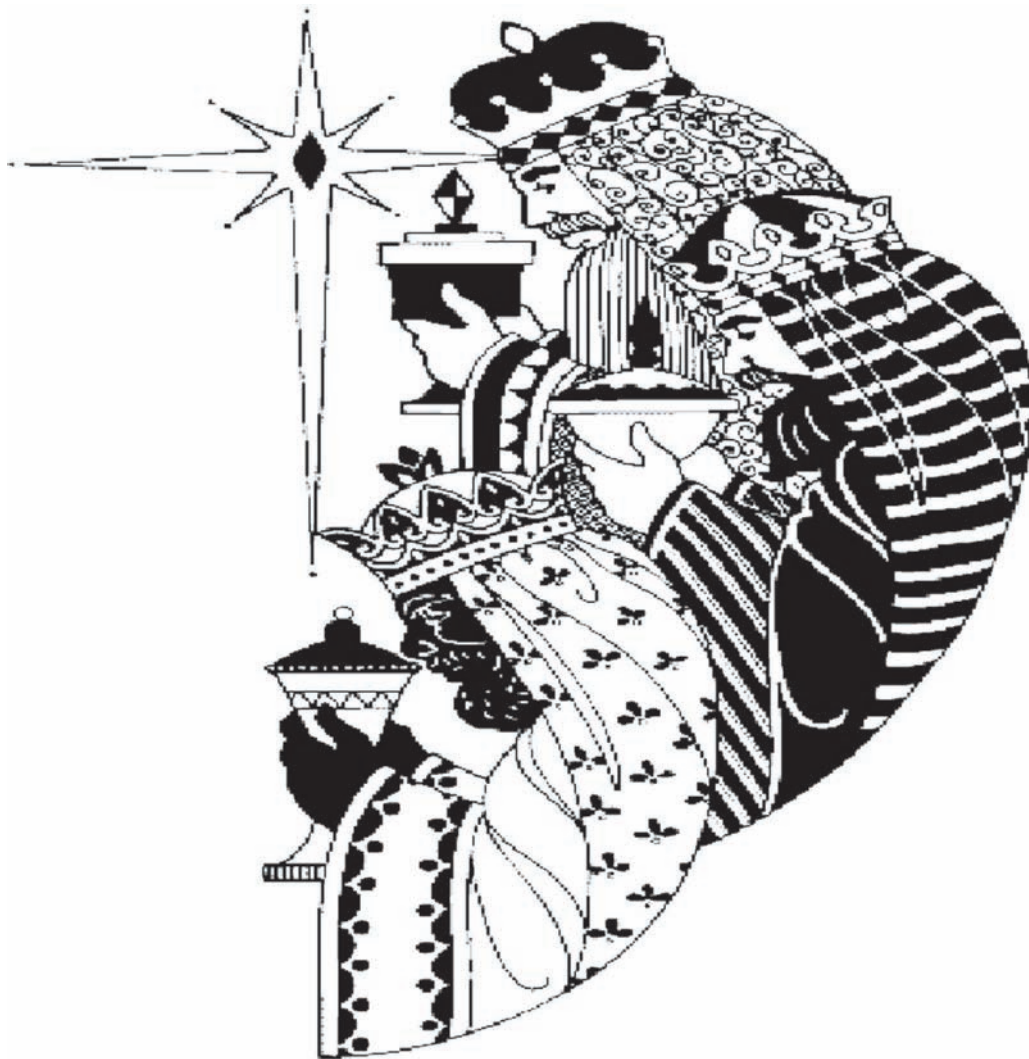
office@st-francisofassisi.ca

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Damian Ali, Pastor

Deacon Don Roberts, Deacon Richard Te

Melinda Mayo, Office Administrator Joan Cabri, Parish Bookkeeper



*Father, You revealed Your Son to the nations
by the guidance of a star. Lead us to
Your Glory in Heaven by the Light of Faith.*

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

January 2, 2022

“...they knelt down and paid him homage”



If Jesus truly is who he claims to be, the eternal Son of God and Savior of the world, then why is he not recognized by everyone who hears his word and sees his works? John the Evangelist states that when Jesus came into the world *the world knew him not and his own people received him not* (John 1:10-11). Jesus was born in obscurity. Only the lowly shepherds recognized him at his birth. Some wise men also found their way to Bethlehem to pay homage to the newborn King of Israel. These men were not Israelites, but foreigners. They likely had read and discussed the Messianic prophecies and were anxious to see when this Messianic King would appear. God led them by means of an extraordinary star across the desert to the little town of Bethlehem where Jesus was born.

In their thirst for knowledge of God, the wise men from the East willingly left everything, their home and country, in pursuit of that quest. In their diligent search they were led to the source of true knowledge - to Jesus Christ, the Light and Wisdom of God. When they found the newborn King they humbly worshiped him and gave him gifts fitting for a king.

The Lord of the universe who revealed the star of Bethlehem to the Gentiles of the East so they could come and worship Jesus, the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6) and King of Kings (Revelations 19:16), gives each one of us the same light of revelation to recognize and accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior. Faith is an entirely free gift that God makes to us. It is through the help of the Holy Spirit, who moves the heart and opens the eyes of the mind, that we are able to understand, accept, and believe the truth which God has revealed to us through his Son, Jesus Christ. In faith, the human will and intellect cooperate with grace. *"Believing is an act of the intellect assenting to the divine truth by command of the will moved by God through grace"* (Thomas Aquinas).

To know and to encounter Jesus Christ is to know God personally. In the encounter of the wise men with Jesus we see the plan of God to give his only Son as King and Savior, not just for the Jewish people but for all the nations as well. The Lord Jesus came, that both Jew and Gentile, might find true and lasting peace with God. Let us pray today that Jew and Gentile alike will find the Lord and Savior on their journey of life. Do you bring the light of Jesus Christ to those you meet through the witness of your life and testimony?

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for bringing salvation to all the nations. May the gospel of salvation be proclaimed to every nation today and to every person on the face of the earth. Help me to be a good witness of the joy of the gospel 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/UCokoBfidkSQAZBuk3g-bhw?>

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.

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

Please let me take this opportunity to wish you peace and joy during the remainder of the Christmas Season and good health throughout 2022.

Every New Year offers the hope of better days ahead. In spite of the ongoing challenges we are facing because of the pandemic, at least we are facing them together. At Christmas, we are reminded that God is with us – “Emmanuel,” and God will never abandon us.

I am profoundly grateful for the generosity of this parish community. Thank you for the kindness and hospitality extended to me during the past year, and especially at Christmas. Thank you to the many parish volunteers for your willingness to offer your time and talent and to accept additional responsibilities during the pandemic. Thank you to all of the parishioners for your financial support of the Sunday offertory collections, diocesan collections and for your dedication to ShareLife.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish runs like a well-oiled machine largely because of the efforts of our parish staff. Please say a special prayer of gratitude to God for Melinda Mayo (Office Administrator), Rickeann Kitchura (Office Assistant), Joan Cabri (Book Keeper) Delia Cabioc (Rectory Cook & Housekeeper) and for our dedicated permanent deacons, Don Roberts and Richard Te.

St. Francis of Assisi said, ***“We have been called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart, and to bring home those who have lost their way.”*** As we continue to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding our parish community, we ask for the grace of Jesus Christ and the intercession of our parish patron to help us accomplish these laudable tasks. May God bless you and everyone you hold dear!

Fr. Damian Ali, Pastor

MONDAY, JANUARY 3– 10:00 A.M.

+ Jean Zielinski

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4 – 8:30 A.M.

S.I. Martina Hatch

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5 – 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6– 8:30 A.M.

S.I. For an increase in vocations to the Priesthood,
Religious Life and Permanent Diaconate.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7 – 7:00 P.M.

S.I. Hatch Family

S.I. Lead and Fred Padilla

+ Joseph and Angela Camilleri

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8–5:00 P.M.

+ Purissima Melchiorre

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9– BAPTISM OF THE LORD

S.I. Parish Community

FORMED

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

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.

PLEASE NOTE:

The parish office will be closed on Monday, January 3, 2022. Mass on that day will be celebrated at 7:00 p.m. as usual.


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