



# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

## Pastoral Staff

Rev. Damian Ali, Pastor  
Don Roberts, Richard Te, Richard Noronha, Deacons  
Melinda Mayo, Office Administrator  
Brenda Penney, Parish Bookkeeper  
Lay Pastoral Assistant - Arlene Morgan  
Rickeeann Kitchura - Office Assistant

## 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 - 7:00 PM

### Our Lady of Perpetual Help Rosary

Wednesday during Mass  
Monday & 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

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 27, 2022

**“Watch and be ready - the day of the Lord's coming draws near”**

## HOPE



Why did Jesus compare "the coming of the Son of Man" with the "days of Noah"? Scripture describes both events as a day of judgment and the separation of the just from the unjust. It is a time when the Lord of heaven and earth gathers to himself those who are his own. Separation is an inevitable consequence of the fundamental choices people have made - whether for God or against God. The fundamental choices we make can either lead us towards God and his will for us or they can lead us in a direction that is opposed to God or

contrary to his wisdom and plan for our lives and well-being.

The Book of Genesis describes why God chose to separate Noah and his family who were faithful to God from those who had utterly rejected God and corrupted the earth with violence and evil. Why did so many perish when the day of judgment came? They were caught completely unaware and unprepared for the disaster that swept them away. The Lord Jesus warned his disciples and he issues the same warning to us today - be alert and be prepared to meet the Lord today and every day. Just as God provided a safe haven and place of refuge for Noah and his family in the ark, the Lord provides for us today a place of refuge in the ark of his people - the body of Christ - who listen to his word and obey his voice.

Jesus came to fulfill all the promises of God, including the covenant of peace which God made with Noah. Jesus' first coming was a rescue mission to set us free from sin and condemnation and to give us new life in his Holy Spirit. The Lord Jesus promised that he would return again in glory to complete the work of redemption which he began at his first coming. While we do not know the time of his return, we will not mistake it when it happens. It will be apparent to all, both to the followers of the Lord Jesus and to every inhabitant on the earth as well.

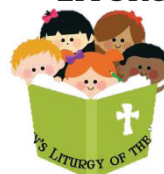
The prophet Isaiah spoke of the Day when the Lord would judge between the nations and establish peace over the earth. In that day the righteous - all peoples who believed in him and who listened to his teaching and instruction - would come to his holy mountain and house to worship him and dwell with him in everlasting peace (Isaiah 2:3-5). The Advent season reminds us that we are living in the time between the first coming and second coming of the Lord Jesus. The Lord Jesus calls us to be alert and watchful for his coming. He comes to us each and every day and he knocks on the door of our heart and home. Do you listen for his voice and welcome him into your life? Let his word in the Scriptures and the work of the Holy Spirit who dwells in you draw you to a deeper faith, hope, and yearning for his kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy. Those who wait upon the Lord today and listen to his word will not be disappointed. The Lord will come and bring you to his banquet table to feast with him.

*"Lord Jesus, you have captured my heart for you. Make me strong in faith, steadfast in hope, and generous in love that I may seek to please you in all things and bring you glory and praise. Keep me ever watchful for the coming of your kingdom today and every day of my life."*

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Please help support the work of the Knights of Columbus in our community. Pre-order your Christmas poinsettias by visiting [www.kofc8668.com](http://www.kofc8668.com) or by scanning the QR code on the posters in the church lobby. The Knights will also be at the back of the church after Mass on the weekends of November 19/20 and November 26/27. Deliveries will be on December 10 & 11.

## LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN



There will be Liturgy of the Word for children in JK to Grade 3 at the 10am Mass next Sunday, November 27th, AND on Sunday, December 4th. With additional volunteers, we hope to eventually be able offer this programme every Sunday.

Mass  for the  
Intentions *Week*

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28 – 7:00 P.M.**

- + Joe De Gennaro
- + The deceased members of the Frank family

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29 – 8:30 A.M.**

- + Diane Clark
- + Renzo Cosolo
- S.I. Cyndi Sawatzky

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30 – 7:00 P.M.**

- + Parish All Souls Intentions
- + The deceased members of the Favez & Angele families

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1 – 8:30 A.M.**

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

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2 – 7:00 P.M.**

- + Joseph and Angela Camilleri
- S.I. Hatch Family
- S.I. Rocca Mansour

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3 – 5:00 P.M.**

- + Ann O'Grady
- + Renzo Cosolo
- S.I. Louise Sawatzky

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4 – 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- S.I. Parish Community

**TIME CHANGE FOR MASS**

There will be a federal by-election taking place on Monday, December 12th. Fr. Damian has been asked to offer the Parish Hall at St. Francis of Assisi Church as a voting location. Voting takes place from 8:30am until 8:30pm. In order to comply with this request, the evening Mass will be cancelled and Mass will instead be offered at 8:30am. Since the hall will be used all day, the Bridge Club will also need to be cancelled on Monday, December 12th. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

**SHARELIFE PARISH CAMPAIGN DEADLINE  
EXTENDED**

The deadline for this year's ShareLife campaign has been extended to December 31, 2022. To date, St. Francis of Assisi parishioners have contributed \$126,825. This is an incredible accomplishment in these very challenging economic times, and with lower than usual post-pandemic Mass attendance. Thank you for your generosity!

We are now very close to achieving our parish goal of \$135,000. Therefore, if you have not yet made your 2022 ShareLife contribution, please do so as soon as possible. Even a small amount can make a big difference in someone's life. ShareLife envelopes are available in the church lobby. You can also donate on-line using a credit card. If you have already donated to ShareLife, but you feel inspired to do more, please know that your gift is very much appreciated. Never has the need been greater. To provide added encouragement and inspiration, a generous donor in the GTA has offered to match all ShareLife gifts in the month of November up to \$1 million. Let us do all we can as individuals, and as a parish, to support the poor and most vulnerable in our community.

**HOLYLAND PILGRIMAGE**

GMT Tours Mississauga is advertising a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Fr. Anish Alex, (Associate Pastor at St. Joseph's Parish Streetsville) from April 18 – 27, 2023. Fr. Anish sometimes celebrates the Monday evening Mass here at St. Francis in place of Fr. Damian. If interested in joining the pilgrimage, copies of the itinerary and registration form are available in the church lobby. Please take one with you.

**FORMED**

Our parish has a subscription to FORMED, a premier online platform filled with over 4,000 Catholic studies, movies, audio dramas, talks, e-books, and even cartoons for our children. Best of all, this material is free to you.

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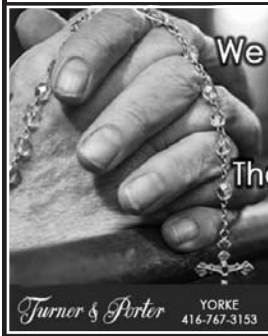
Enter your name and email

This Advent, make a spiritual pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Prepare your heart for Christ's coming so you can enter more deeply into this season. There is an exciting presentation on the celebration of Advent throughout the centuries and different ways you can make Advent great for your kids.

**2023 OFFERTORY ENVELOPE BOXES**

Offertory envelope boxes for 2023 are now available at the back of the church. Please **DO NOT** use these envelopes until January 1, 2023. Thank you for your generosity. If you would rather make your regular offerings through Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG), kindly complete a PAG Form, which are available at the back of the Church with the envelopes, and return to the Office. Please note you still need a box of envelopes for the other Special Collections.

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