



# 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

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 4, 2022

## "Prepare the way of the Lord"

### Peace



What kind of Messiah did God promise to send to his people and how would he bring God's kingdom to them? The prophet Isaiah foresaw the day when God would raise up a Messianic King long after King David's throne had been overthrown and vacant for centuries. God promised that he would raise up a new king from the stump of Jesse, the father of King. This messianic king would rule forever because the Spirit of God would rest upon him and remain with him.

Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah would be equipped with the gifts of the Spirit. This king would establish the kingdom of God, not by force of human will and military power, but by offering his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sin of the world. Through his death on the cross, Jesus, the true Messiah King, would defeat Satan, overcome death, and win pardon and reconciliation for sinners. God's plan of redemption included not only the Jewish people but all the nations of the earth as well.

Why did John the Baptist prophesy that the Messiah would come and "baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire"? Fire in biblical times was often associated with God's presence and with his action in the lives of his people. When the Holy Spirit was poured out on the day of Pentecost, tongues of fire appeared over the heads of the apostles and disciples of Jesus. The fire of the Holy Spirit purifies and cleanses us of sin, and it inspires a reverent fear of God and of his word in us.

John the Baptist's life was fuelled by one burning passion - to point others to Jesus Christ and to the coming of his kingdom. Scripture tells us that John was filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb by Christ himself, whom Mary had just conceived by the Holy Spirit. Like the prophets of the Old Testament, John devoted his entire life to prayer and the word of God. John pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who would take away the sins of the world by offering his life on the cross as the atoning sacrifice for our sins and the sin of the world.

Jesus tells us that John the Baptist was more than a prophet. John was the voice of the Consoler who is coming. He completed the cycle of prophets begun by Elijah. What the prophets had carefully searched for and angels longed to see, now came to completion as John made the way ready for the coming of the Messiah, God's Anointed Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. With John the Baptist, the Holy Spirit begins the restoration to the human race of the "divine likeness", prefiguring what would be achieved with and in the Lord Jesus.

John's baptism was for repentance - turning away from sin and taking on a new way of life according to God's word. Our baptism in Jesus Christ by water and the Spirit results in a new birth and entry into God's kingdom as his beloved sons and daughters. The Lord Jesus gives us the fire of his Spirit so that we may radiate the joy and truth of the Gospel to a world in desperate need of God's light and truth. His word has power to change and transform our lives that we may be lights pointing others to Christ. Like John the Baptist, we too are called to give testimony to the light and truth of Jesus Christ. Do you point others to Christ in the way you live, work, and speak?

### CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

#### MASS SCHEDULE

**Christmas Eve, Sat., Dec. 24** - 4:30pm, 6:30pm, 8:30pm, 10:30pm  
**Christmas Day, Sun., Dec. 25** - 8:30am, 10:00am, and 12:00 noon. Mass on **Mon., Dec. 26, 2022** (Boxing Day) - has been moved to 10:00am (NO 7:00pm Mass on December 26).  
**New Year Sat., Dec. 31, 2021** - 5:00pm  
**Sun., Jan. 1, 2022** - 8:30am, 10:00am and 12:00 noon

### ADVENT RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is the best way to prepare our hearts and souls for Christmas. Please take advantage of the opportunities available.

**Wednesday, December 14, 2022** - 9:30AM - 11:30AM - (2 priests available), 2:30PM - 4:30PM - (2 priests available), 7:45PM - 9:00PM (AFTER 7PM MASS) - (5 priests available)

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 5 – 7:00 P.M.**

S.I. Donald Wolf  
S.I. Caroline Quismorio  
+ Edward Sawatzky

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6 – 8:30 A.M.**

S.I. Alexandra Isa  
+ Eliseo Tibon  
+ Mario Moniz

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7 – 7:00 P.M.**

S.I. Andy Sawatzky  
S.I. Greg Sawatzky  
+ Gerald and Donna Sawatzky

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8 – 8:30 A.M.**

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

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9 – 7:00 P.M.**

+ Purissima Melchiorre  
+ Christina Veronica Connally  
+ Danielle Rodrigues

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 – 5:00 P.M.**

S.I. James Sawatzky  
S.I. Bob and Gail Ewasyn  
S.I. Rob and Kass Sawatzky

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 – 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

S.I. Parish Community

**GRATITUDE FOR A WONDERFUL PASTA  
NIGHT**

The Parish Social Committee would like to thank everyone who came to our Pasta Dinner in the Parish Hall on Saturday, November 26th. It was our first indoor, post-lockdown social event, and it was a huge success and a lot of FUN! We had delicious food provided by La Felicita Catering. Our door prize recipients were surprised and delighted. In addition, our raffle raised \$450 for ShareLife. Congratulations to all the winners!

As with any large event, our Pasta Night could not have happened without our dedicated group of volunteers. There are so many people who helped, and we are very grateful to all of you! Thank you to the Knights of Columbus and the members of the Legion of Mary. Sincere appreciation and special mention also go to Betty Chong, Rickeeann Kitchura, Susan Turnbull, Steve Pappas and Arlene Morgan. We are very grateful to our sponsors who donated the door prizes: Springbank Greenhouse, Joe DaCosta, Gary Betts, Dr. Solan Guzman, and Franca Dimita. Finally, THANK YOU to Father Damian, who came up with the idea this special evening and who brought us all together for food, fun and especially fellowship. St. Francis Social Committee - Jackie Pappas, Carmen Pulis, Merly Talag & Kathy Valant

**CALLING YOUNG CAROLERS**

Does your child enjoy singing or have a musical talent to share? All children from grades 1 to 8 are invited to sing before the 4:30pm Christmas Eve Mass. Children interested are asked to attend 3 one-hour practices in the church at 3pm on the following Saturdays: December 3, December 10 & December 17. We look forward to hearing the beautiful voices of our children on Christmas Eve! To sign-up your child, please email Ms. Arlene at [amorgan@archtoronto.org](mailto:amorgan@archtoronto.org) or call 905.822.8132 ext. 6.

**ADVENT CELEBRATION FOR YOUTH**

Guess WHO is coming to visit us on Sunday, December 18th? Come and join us to find out as we transform our Parish Hall into an Advent Wonderland. From 3:30-6:00pm, we welcome families with children of all ages to decorate Christmas cookies and Christmas ornaments. Don't forget to bring your camera to take a memorable photo with our very special visitors from the North Pole. It's only \$5.00 per child to participate in all of these pre-Christmas activities. Please visit our website to [SIGN-UP](#) now to join in this celebration in preparation for Christmas. For more information, please contact Ms. Arlene at ext. 6.

**RCIA RITES DURING THE 5PM MASS & THE  
10AM MASS DECEMBER 3 & 4, 2022**

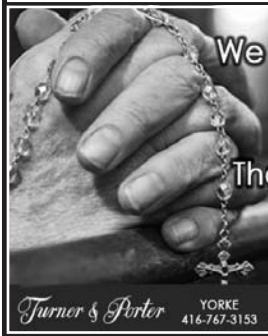
The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the process whereby adults who are not Catholic explore the Catholic faith with the hope of eventually being baptized or received into the Catholic Church. During the initiation process, formal ceremonies called "rites" our important role in initiating new members.

On Saturday, December 3rd, during the 5pm Mass, Melissa Singh will celebrate the Rite of Welcome for Baptized Candidates. On Sunday, December 4th, during the 10am Mass, Kathryn Eden, Nayana E. Jayawardena, Sasi Jayawardena and Dila Karasahin, preparing for baptism next Easter, will celebrate the Rite of Acceptance. After celebrating the Rite of Acceptance, Kathryn, Nayana, Sasi, and Dila will be known as "catechumens."

Please pray for all of our RCIA participants as they continue their journey in faith.



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