



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Damian Ali, Pastor
Don Roberts, Richard Te, Richard Noronha, Deacons
Brenda Penney, Parish Bookkeeper
Arlene Morgan, Lay Pastoral Assistant
Rickeyeann 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

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 8, 2023

"They fell down and worshiped Jesus"



If Jesus truly is who he claims to be, the eternal Son of God and Saviour 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.

John Chrysostom (347-407), in his homily on this passage from Matthew 2, explains the significance of the star of Bethlehem:

"Note how fitting was the order of events: the wise men saw the star, were received by the Jews and their king; they heard prophecy to explain what had appeared; the angel instructed them; and then they journeyed from Jerusalem to Bethlehem by the guidance of the star. From all this we learn that this was not an ordinary star, for no other star has this capacity to guide, not merely to move but to beckon, to "go before them," drawing and guiding them along their way. The star remained after bringing them to the place, in order that the child might also be seen. For there is nothing conspicuous about the place. The inn was ordinary. The mother was not celebrated or notable. The star was needed to manifest and illumine the lowly place, until they had reached their destination at the manger." [The Gospel of Matthew, Homily 7:3]

The Lord of the universe who revealed the star of Bethlehem to the Gentiles of the East so they could come and worship Jesus, gives each one of us the same light of revelation to recognize and accept Jesus as our Lord and Saviour. 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 believe the truth which God has revealed to us through his Son, Jesus Christ. "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 Saviour, 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 Saviour 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.

HELPING OUR NEIGHBOURS IN NEED



The Knights of Columbus will be accepting non-perishable food items after all Masses the weekend of January 28 and 29. Our collected food will be delivered, sorted and stocked by the Knights at Eden Food for Change, our neighbourhood food bank serving those in need in our very own Erin Mills community. Thank you for your support.

YOUTH CHOIR

Children grade 2 and up are invited to join the St. Francis of Assisi Youth Choir. Rehearsals will be held on Saturday at 10:30 a.m. starting on January 7, 2022. The choir will be a part of the Saturday 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass starting January 21, 2023. We'd love for your children to join us! If you have questions, please contact Arlene Morgan at 905-822-8132 ext. 6.



MONDAY, JANUARY 9 – 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10 – 8:30 A.M.

Intention Available

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11 – 7:00 P.M.

+ Ernesto Marchiori

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12 – 8:30 A.M.

For married couples and those preparing for marriage.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13 – 7:00 P.M.

+ Sylvia Leal

S.I. Sandra Shoufani

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14 - 5:00 P.M.

+ Donald Kelly

+ Deceased members of the Goes Family

SUNDAY, JAN. 15 – 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

S.I. Parish Community

AND ADDRESS on the first 4 envelopes you use in JANUARY 2023. Please remember to finish using your 2022 offertory envelopes before using the 2023 ones.

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.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If your home address or telephone number has changed, please send us an email at stfrancisofassisimi@archtoronto.org.

BRIDGE CLUB

Bridge Club will resume on Monday, January 9, 2023 (1:00 – 4:00p.m.)

PRAYER LIST FOR THE SICK

With a new year starting we will start a new Prayer List for the Sick. Please email stfrancisofassisimi@archtoronto.org or call the office to add the name of someone you know to include on our list.

TAX RECEIPT TIME

Tax receipts will once again be sent out by the Archdiocese in the New Year.

We still have two envelope numbers with no name attached. Envelope #311 and an envelope being used from **2021** - #66.

Please contact the parish office with your information.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI?

1. What was Saint Francis's birth name and the name with which he was baptized?
2. Was Saint Francis an ordained priest?
3. What was the name of the song that Francis wrote in 1224 to honor God's image in creation?
4. With what Christian tradition is Saint Francis most closely associated?
5. Where did Saint Francis rebuild a church after he heard the voice of God?

Answers will be in next week's bulletin.

HOPELINE – A NEW HOTLINE TO HELP WITH ACCESS TO PALLIATIVE CARE

Thanks to funding from ShareLife and co-ordination from Catholic Charities, the Archdiocese of Toronto now has a "hotline" for palliative care information called *HopeLine*, which is operated by Saint Elizabeth Health Care. By calling 416-619-5700, anyone in the Archdiocese of Toronto area, from Oshawa to Midland to Oakville, can learn more about what palliative care can do for you and your family, how to get access to palliative care services nearby, and how to advocate for better care.

A call to the *HopeLine* will prompt callers to leave a name, phone number and the location a person is calling from. Saint Elizabeth staff will get back to callers with relevant information. The hotline is not for crisis situations, but is intended for families and individuals trying to plan for hospice and palliative care.

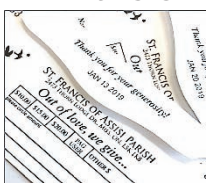
FORMED

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There are 3 easy steps to Sign Up on FORMED:

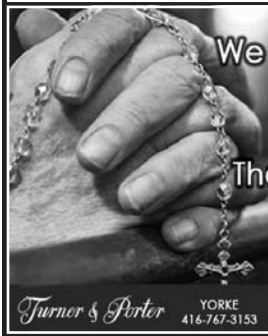
1. Visit <http://signup.formed.org/>
2. Enter our parish code: L5K
3. Enter your name and email

2023 OFFERTORY ENVELOPE BOXES



Offertory envelope boxes for 2023 are now available at the back of the church. Please take any box and **PRINT YOUR NAME**

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