

# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

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

Tel: 905-822-8132 Fax: 905-822-6620

[stfrancisofassisimi.archtoronto.org](http://stfrancisofassisimi.archtoronto.org)

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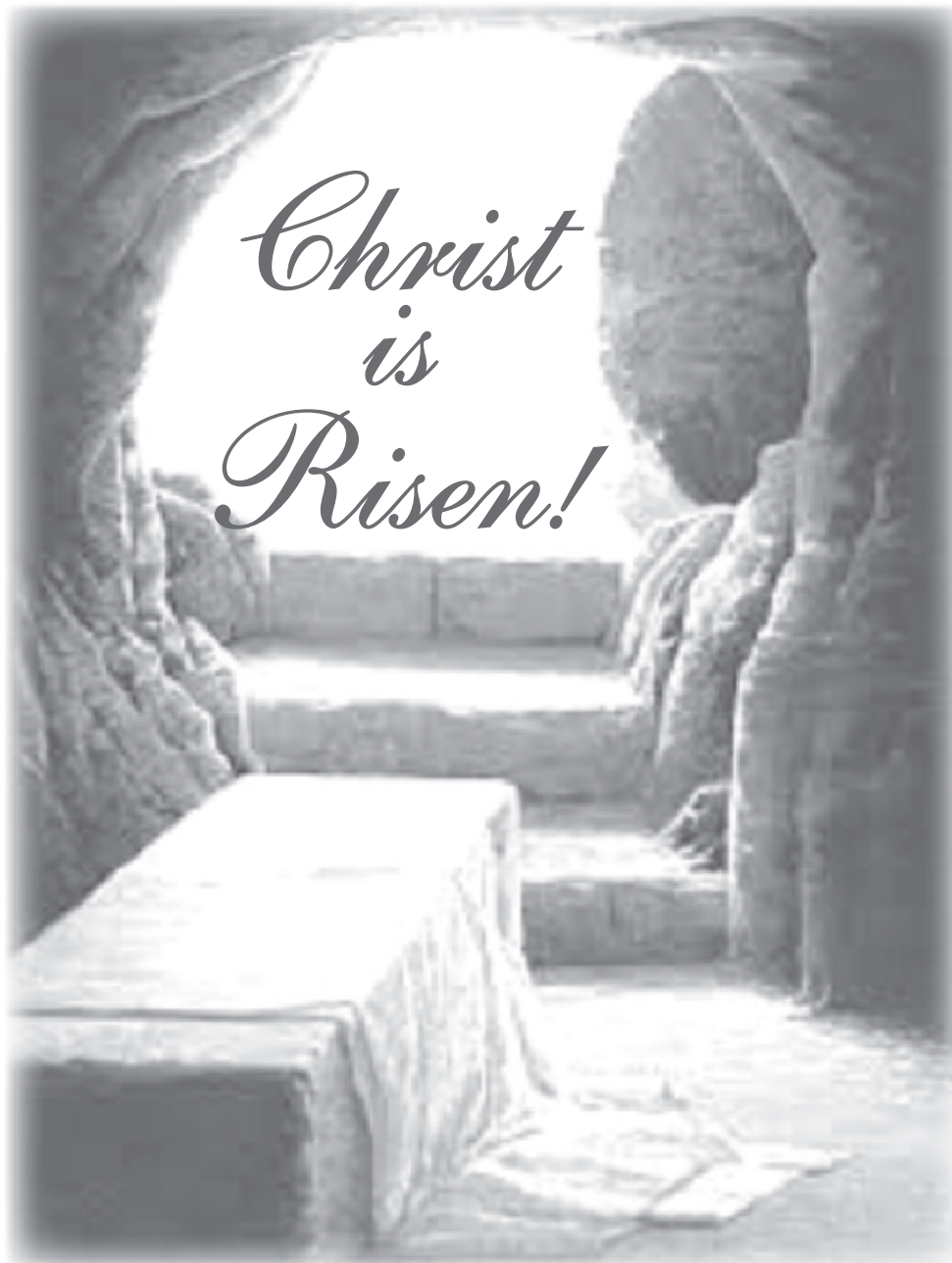
## Pastoral Staff

Rev. Damian Ali, Pastor

Don Roberts, Richard Te, Richard Noronha, Deacons

Brenda Penney, Parish Bookkeeper

Arlene Morgan, Lay Pastoral Assistant Rickeeann Kitchura, Office Assistant



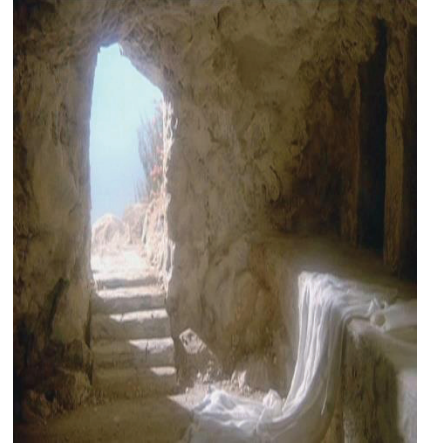
# EASTER SUNDAY

## THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

### April 9, 2023

#### "John saw the empty tomb and believed"

What was it like for the disciple who had stood at the cross of Jesus and then laid him in a tomb on Good Friday, to come back three days later and discover that the sealed tomb was now empty? John, along with Peter, was the first apostle to reach the tomb of Jesus on Easter Sunday morning. Like Mary Magdalene and the other disciples, John was not ready to see an empty tomb and to hear the angel's message, Why do you seek the living among the dead (Luke 24:5)? What did John see in the tomb that led him to believe in the resurrection of Jesus? It was certainly not a dead body. The dead body of Jesus would have disproven the resurrection and made his death a tragic conclusion to a glorious career as a great teacher and miracle worker. When John saw the empty tomb he must have recalled Jesus' prophecy that he would rise again after three days. Through the gift of faith John realized that no tomb on earth could contain the Lord and giver of life. John saw and believed (John 20:8).



John had to first deal with the empty tomb before he could meet the risen Lord later that evening along with the other apostles who had locked themselves in the upper room out of fear of the Jewish authorities (John 20:19-23). John testified as an eye-witness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ: What we have seen, heard, and touched we proclaim as the eternal word of life which existed from the beginning (1 John 1:1-4). John bears witness to what has existed from all eternity. This "word of life" is Jesus the word incarnate, but also Jesus as the word announced by the prophets and Jesus the word now preached throughout the Christian church for all ages to come. One thing is certain, if Jesus had not risen from the dead and appeared to his disciples, we would never have heard of him. Nothing else could have changed sad and despairing men and women into people radiant with joy and courage. The reality of the resurrection is the central fact of the Christian faith. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Lord gives us "eyes of faith" to know him and the power of his resurrection. The greatest joy we can have is to encounter the living Christ and to know him personally as our Lord and Saviour. Do you accept the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection with sceptical doubt and disbelief or with trusting faith and joyful wonderment?



***"Lord Jesus Christ, you have triumphed over the Grave and you have won for us a new life and resurrection power. Give me the eyes of faith to see you in your glory. Help me to draw near to you and to grow in the knowledge of your great love for us and your great victor over sin and death." AMEN***

## A BLESSED EASTER TO YOU ALL

### PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

#### **NEW PARISH SECRETARY TO BEGIN MAY 1, 2023**

*My name is Ella Alvares and I am looking forward to taking up duties as the new Parish Secretary at St Francis of Assisi Parish. My family and I have been long-term residents of Mississauga. At home with me are my dad and my son. Among my hobbies are reading, music and cooking (especially those special dishes from my late mother's collection). I particularly relish time spent with my sisters and their families, who mean a lot to me. As the Parish Secretary, I will endeavour to get to know as many parishioners as possible. I am also eager to help*

*Fr. Damian, the Lay Pastoral Assistant and the other parish staff. I will do my part to make sure St. Francis of Assisi Parish remains a vibrant faith-filled church community. To this end I ask for your prayers. Looking forward to working with you all!*

***Ella***



**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RCIA PARTICIPANTS ON  
THEIR INITIATION IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH!**

At the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 8, six adult women completed their initiation as Roman Catholics at St. Francis of Assisi Church:

**Baptism, Confirmation & Eucharist**

Kathryn Eden  
Dila Karasahin  
Nayana Jayawardena  
Sasi Jayawardena

**Reception into Full Communion with the Catholic Church,  
Confirmation & Eucharist**

Melissa Singh

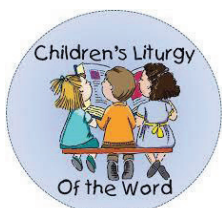
**Confirmation**

Elizabeth Jablonski

The priests, deacons, office staff and parishioners at St. Francis of Assisi Church thank these faith-filled women for their dedication to the initiation process. They are an inspiration to us all! We look forward to seeing our new Catholics at Sunday Mass, social gatherings and other parish events. We promise them our on-going prayers and support.

If you, or someone you know, is an adult who is not baptized or baptized in another Christian tradition, and would now like to explore the Roman Catholic faith with a view to becoming Catholic, please consider participating in our next RCIA journey beginning in September 2023. Adult Catholics who have not yet celebrated First Communion and/or Confirmation are also invited to participate so they can complete their initiation.

**For more information, or to register for the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults), please contact Fr. Damian at the Parish Office.**



**NEXT CHILDREN'S LITURGY**  
APRIL 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 10am Mass Only

**MONDAY, APRIL 10 – 10:00 A.M.**

Mass Intention Available

**TUESDAY, APRIL 11 – 8:30 AM**

+ Iolanda Zicarelli

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12- 7:00 P.M.**

+ José Da Costa Amaral

+ Jean Zielinski

+ Mary Robillard

**THURSDAY, APRIL 13 – 8:30 A.M.**

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

**FRIDAY, APRIL 14 – 7:00 P.M.**

+ Ann (Delorey) Hubert

+ José Da Costa Amaral

+ Jose Mendoza

**SATURDAY, APRIL 15 – 5:00 P.M.**

+ William & Helen Yanchus

+ Manuel, Maria & John Calhau

+ Jose & Virginia Martins

**SUNDAY, APRIL 16 – DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

S.I. Parish Community



**2023 Divine Mercy Novena Prayers**

Good Friday, April 7 – 11:30am

Holy Saturday, April 8 – 11:30am

Easter Sunday, April 9 – 11:30am

Easter Monday, April 10 – 10:45am (after Mass)

Easter Tuesday, April 11 – 9:00am (after Mass)

Easter Wednesday, April 12 – 7:45pm (after Mass)

Easter Thursday, April 13 – 9:00am (after Mass)

Easter Friday, April 14 – 3:00pm (Sung Chaplet as usual)

Easter Saturday, April 15 – 11:30am

**Feast of the Divine Mercy - Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Regular Sunday Masses – 8:30am, 10:00am, 12:00pm**

**Sung Chaplet of Divine Mercy – 2:30pm**

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament –Opening  
Prayers**

3:00pm

**Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)**

3:15pm

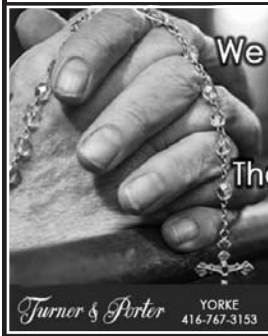
**Closing Prayers & Reposition of the Blessed  
Sacrament**

3:50pm

**Confessions resume**

4:00 until 5:00pm

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