

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

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Pastoral Staff

Rev. Damian Ali, Pastor

Don Roberts, Richard Te, Richard Noronha, Deacons

Brenda Penney, Parish Bookkeeper

Ella Alvares, Parish Secretary

Carmen Pulis, Part-Time Office Assistant

Arlene Morgan, Lay Pastoral Assistant



ADVENT

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024

Joyful Anticipation of the Messiah

“Lord Jesus, fill me with your Holy Spirit and give me joy in seeking you more earnestly. Increase my faith in all your promises, my hope in the joy of heaven, and my love for You as my All.”



MONDAY, Dec. 23 - 7:00 PM

S.I. Arlene Morgan

S.I. Delia Cabioc

S.I. Deacon Don Roberts

TUESDAY, Dec. 24(Christmas Eve) - 5pm

† Mary, Linley & Dorothy Forsythe

S.I. Noronha & Angulo Family

S.I. Manalo & Quiogue Family

TUESDAY, Dec. 24 - 8pm

Mass Intentions Available

TUESDAY, Dec. 24 - 11pm

No Mass Intentions

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 25(Nativity Of The Lord)

8:30am, 10am, 12pm

No Mass Intentions

THURSDAY, Dec 26 - 8:30 AM

S.I. In Reparation for sins committed against the Most Holy Eucharist

FRIDAY, Dec 27 - 7:00 PM

† Miguel Ernesto Crespo

† Peter Kinh Tran

† Daisy De La Torre

SATURDAY, Dec 28-Holy Innocents, 10am

Mass Intentions Available

SATURDAY, Dec 28- (Sunday Vigil Mass), 5pm

† Louise & Kim Killackey

† Connie Glebe

S.I. Anna Maria Piraino

SUNDAY, Dec 29 - 8:30 AM, 10 AM & 12 PM

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

2025 OFFERTORY ENVELOPE BOXES

Offertory envelope boxes for 2025 are available at the back of the church after all masses. Please take any box and **PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS on the envelopes you use in the month of JANUARY 2025.** Just as a reminder we cannot issue tax receipts without this information.



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.



2024 DONATION TAX RECEIPTS

2024 is coming to a close. All donations you wish to include for your 2024 Tax Receipt must be received no later than **December 31, 2024.** Thank you for your continued generous support.



CHRISTMAS PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday December 23, 2024 - Closed

Tuesday December 24, Christmas Eve – 9am to 12pm

Wednesday December 25, Christmas Day – Closed through Wed. Jan. 1(New Year's Day)

January 2, 2025 – Regular office hours resume 9am to 3pm.



MASS SCHEDULE DURING THE 2024 CHRISTMAS SEASON

NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Christmas Eve - Tuesday, December 24 – 5pm, 8pm and 11pm (No 8:30am Mass)

Christmas Day – Wednesday, December 25 - 8:30am, 10am and 12pm (No 7pm Mass)

Feast of Saint Stephen – Thursday, December 26 – 10am

Feast of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

Friday, December 27 – Holy Hour – 6pm and Mass – 7pm

Holy Innocents - Saturday, December 28 – 10am

Feast of the Holy Family – December 28 and 29

Saturday Confessions – 4pm, Vigil Mass – 5pm

Sunday Mass - 8:30am, 10am and 12pm.

Sunday, December 29 – 5pm - **Special Mass at St. Michael's Cathedral to open the Jubilee Year. All are Welcome!**

Monday, December 30 – 7pm Mass

Tuesday, December 31 – 8:30am Mass – (Does not fulfill Jan. 1 Obligation)

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Tuesday, December 31 – 5pm

Wednesday, January 1 – 10am and 12pm (No 8:30am & 7pm Mass)

Thursday, January 2 – Regular Mass schedule resumes.

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Saturday, January 4 – 5pm, Confessions – 4pm

Sunday, January 5 – 8:30am, 10am and 12pm



CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Loving Father, Help us remember the birth of Jesus that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.

Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be Your children and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.



Greetings from the Pastor:

Dear Parishioners, Friends and Visitors,

The Prophet Isaiah wrote: “*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.*” Isaiah’s prophecy was fulfilled in the birth of Jesus Christ, “*Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God ... Prince of Peace,*” in a humble stable in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago. Our Saviour’s birth was shrouded in mystery: angels sang, shepherds visited, the Wise Men presented their gifts.

The world into which Jesus came was filled with political oppression and economic strife.

Jesus continues to offer His peace, love and joy to a world marked by political turmoil and economic uncertainty. Jesus comes to us today, and every day, when we pray and celebrate the Sacraments, and even in situations we might never expect to find Him. Jesus opens His arms and His Sacred Heart to us, regardless of where we find ourselves in our relationship with Him. The God who draws all people to Himself invites even those who have wandered far away to return to Him, and Jesus always shows the Way. The parish is here to provide whatever help and support you may need. Now is the time to respond to God’s call, especially as the Church prepares for a new Jubilee Year.

When you look at the Nativity Scene in church or at home, what do we see? Whom do we see? What gifts are you bringing to Jesus this Christmas? What gifts are you hoping to receive from Him? Rest assured ... you will not be disappointed!

Jesus has wonderful gifts and surprises in store for all of us. We need only place our faith and hope in Him.

Merry Christmas everyone!

Fr. Damian Ali, Pastor

Joe DaCosta

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