

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 Ella Alvares, Parish Secretary Carmen Pulis, Part-Time Office Assistant Arlene Morgan, Lay Pastoral 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 Every 2nd & 4th Friday during Holy Hour (6:15pm to 6:45pm).

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. Closed Monday, Saturday and Sunday 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 Wednesday during Mass
Rosary Monday & Wednesday at 6:40 PM
Divine Mercy Friday at 3:00 PM

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
Men of St Francis (Kurtis Chong)	647-378-3537
RCIA	905-822-8132 ext. 3
St. Vincent de Paul	905-822-8132 ext. 5
Catholic Cemeteries	416-733-8544

SCHOOLS

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Second Sunday of Lent March 16, 2025

Jesus Transfigured in Glory

"Lord Jesus, keep me always alert to you, to your presence in my life, and to your lifegiving word that nourishes me daily. Let me see your glory." Amen.



MONDAY, Mar. 17 - 7:00PM

- T Dany Quijalvo
- T Rosaline Fleese
- Eduardo Castro & Parents
- **TUESDAY, Mar. 18 8:30AM**
- T Peter Hai Tran

WEDNESDAY, Mar. 19 - 7PM

- T Matteo Lombardi
- † Josef Zeleznitzky
- Souls in Purgatory

THURSDAY, Mar. 20 - 8:30AM

S.I. For healing and reconciliation for those in troubled marriages and divided families.

FRIDAY, Mar. 21 - 7:00 PM

- T Kathleen Oppenheimer
- † Neil Sweeney
- † Myrtle Cornelius

SATURDAY, Mar. 22 - 5:00PM

- Ashley & Gail Pereira.
- † Raphael Chan
- S.I. Anna Maria Piraino

SUNDAY, Mar 23 - 8:30AM, 10AM & 12 PM

Third Sunday of Lent



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
Last week's answer:

Palm Sunday

Answer will be in Next Week's Bulletin: What are the "3 R's" of Lent?

A Brief History of the Stations of the Cross

Tradition holds that our Blessed Mother visited daily the scenes of our Lord's passion. After Constantine legalized Christianity in the year AD 313, this pathway was identified by visible markings and religious symbols. St. Jerome (342-420), living in Bethlehem during the latter part of his life, attested to the crowds of pilgrims from various countries who walked in the footsteps of Jesus to Calvary.

In the 16th century, devotional books became available with prayers linked to each station. At the end of the 17th century, stations in churches became more popular, but the number of stations varied. In 1731, Pope Clement XII permitted stations to be erected in all churches and fixed the number at 14. In 1742, Pope Benedict XIV exhorted all priests to enrich their churches with the Stations of the Cross, with each station accompanied by an image and a cross. Contemporary versions of the Way of the Cross include a 15th Station acknowledging Christ's resurrection as an integral part of the Lord's salvific work.

The celebration of the Stations of the Cross is a popular devotion among Catholics on the Fridays of Lent, and particularly on Good Friday. Community celebrations are usually accompanied by songs and prayers. Pope John Paul II led an annual public Stations of the Cross event at the Roman Coliseum on Good Friday. While his health prevailed, the Pope himself carried the cross from station to station, but when age and infirmity limited his strength, others carried the cross.

A plenary indulgence (remittance of all temporal punishment due to sin) is granted for those who piously exercise the Way of the Cross and meet the usual conditions for receiving a plenary indulgence: 1. Sacramentally confess your sins; 2. Receive Holy Communion; 3. Pray one Our Father, one Hail Mary and one Glory Be for the intentions of the Holy Father; 4. Have the interior disposition of complete detachment from all sin, even venial sin.

2025 STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON THE FRIDAYS

DURING LENT (Immediately after the 7Pm Mass)

- March 21 Stations of the Cross for Peace
- March 28 The Way of the Cross by Pope Francis
- April 4 A Family-Centred Way of the Cross

April 11 - Mary's Way of the Cross

Good Friday(7PM)

April 18 – Everyone's Way of the Cross

Fr. Damian's Suggestions for a Fruitful Lenten Journey (Ash Wednesday Homily 2025)

- **1.** *Forgive promptly*. Avoid grudges which can lead to long-term alienation. Apologize when you offend someone, but then try to change your behaviour so you don't offend others so often.
- **2.** *Practice thoughtfulness*. Think seriously about the needs of others family, coworkers, students, parishioners. Deliberately choose to put the needs of others before your own at least once every day.
- 3. *Pray every day*. If you're really short on time, every morning pray an "Our Father" and ask God to bless and protect you and those you love. Then, every night, before you fall asleep, say a "Hail Mary," thank God for all the blessings in your life, and then offer an "Act of Contrition." If possible, pray together as a family, perhaps before or after supper. And, if it has been a really tough day, and you have nothing to say, just listen. God always has a lot to say to us.
- **4.** *Go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation*, now, at the beginning of Lent, and again just before Easter, and more often if necessary. We heal faster by going to the very source of mercy for help.
- **5.** *Go to Mass every Sunday*, but also a few times during the week. At Mass, Jesus offers himself to us in the Holy Eucharist.
- **6.** Complete at least one act of charitable service individually, as a married couple, or as a family. Doing something good for others, especially for those who are vulnerable and in need, is always rejuvenating and life-giving, and an experience worth sharing.
- 7. Be "pilgrims of hope," which is our mission during this Jubilee Year. Even though 2025 is "the year of the Lord's favour," right now we see many challenges ahead of us. People are worried about tension between Russia and Ukraine, Israel and Palestine, and now even between the United States and Canada, but we believe that God is ultimately in charge. Jesus also assures us that every cross leads to resurrection and new life. That is why we have hope.



"How We Got Here" Book Talk

When: Wednesday, March 19 Where: St. Francis Xavier Church,

Mississauga. Time: 7:30 pm

CANCELLED AND WILL BE RESCHEDULED.

<u>Archdiocese of Toronto Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse(USCCB)</u>

In 2014, Pope Francis established the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors. Two important initiatives were highlighted: education and prayer. In 2016, Pope Francis requested that National Bishops Conferences choose an appropriate day to pray for the survivors and victims of sexual abuse. In 2018, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops offered recommendations and guidelines for this Day of Prayer. The purpose of this day is to pray for survivors, increase awareness and express contrition for the role that members of the Church played in wrongs committed. Our Archbishop, Cardinal Francis Leo, has decided that March 16, 2025, the Second Sunday of Lent, is the Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse in the Archdiocese of Toronto.

Prayer for Healing Victims of Abuse

God of endless love, ever caring, ever strong, always present, always just: You gave your only Son to save us by the blood of his cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace, join to your own suffering the pain of all who have been hurt in body, mind, and spirit by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear the cries of our brothers and sisters who have been gravely harmed, and the cries of those who love them. Soothe their restless hearts with hope, steady their shaken spirits with faith. Grant them justice for their cause, enlightened by your truth.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts, heal your people's wounds and transform brokenness into wholeness. Grant us the courage and wisdom, humility and grace, to act with justice. Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors. Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Joe DaCosta

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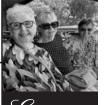
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