

# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

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

## Pastoral Staff

Rev. Bernard Vellozo, Pastor

Deacon Don Roberts, Deacon Richard Te

Melinda Mayo, Parish Secretary Joan Cabri, Parish Bookkeeper

*He is Risen*



# EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

April 16, 2017

## **"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 Savior. Do you accept the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection with skeptical 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 victory over sin and death."*

## **A BLESSED EASTER TO YOU ALL**

### **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY APRIL 23, 2017**

Celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday on April 23rd with a Holy Hour here at St. Francis. At 3 p.m. the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed. The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be sung with the rest of the hour devoted to Adoration.

### **DON'T FORGET**

If you have a change of address or telephone number, please call the Office at 905-822-8132.

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

#### **Weekday Mass Attendees**

**Please note that Fr. Bernard will be away from the Parish on Monday April 24 and Tuesday April 25. Weekday Masses will not be celebrated on those days.**

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### **MONDAY, APRIL 17 – 7:00 P.M.**

S.I. Cassandra Sawatsky  
+ Peter Drozdiuk

### **TUESDAY, APRIL 18– 8:00 A.M.**

S.I. Cassandra Sawatsky

### **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19 – 7:00 P.M.**

S.I. Cassandra Sawatsky

+ Maria Gilda Dimaano

+ Anthony Machado

### **THURSDAY, APRIL 20 – 8:00 A.M.**

S.I. Cassandra Sawatsky

+ Tom and Dean McMillen

### **FRIDAY, APRIL 21 – 7:00 P.M.**

S.I. Cassandra Sawatsky

+ Scarlett Johnston

### **SATURDAY, APRIL 22– 5:00 P.M.**

S.I. Cassandra Sawatzky

S.I. Maureen Colaco

+ Maria Gilda Dimaano

### **SUNDAY, APRIL 23 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**8:00 A.M.** Intention Available

**9:30 A.M.** S.I. Parish Community

**11:00 A.M.** + Rosemarie Sudaria Ortanez

**12:30 P.M.** S.I. Cassandra Sawatzsky

+ Chaman Kashkari

+ DeGouveia Family deceased members

## CALL FOR CONSCIENCE CAMPAIGN

The Government of Canada passed legislation in June 2016, legalizing euthanasia/assisted suicide. Despite wording in the legislation intended to protect doctors and facilities, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario is forcing health care workers to participate in ending the lives of their patients. No other country does this. Provinces across Canada do not do this. Yet, Ontario refuses to protect doctors who object to assisted suicide/euthanasia. Please visit [www.CanadiansforConscience.ca](http://www.CanadiansforConscience.ca) to learn more, join the "Call for Conscience" and write directly to your elected Member of Provincial Parliament asking them to protect conscience rights.

## CONSCIENCE RIGHTS IN A FAITH CONTEXT

On Monday May 15 the Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute presents: A Catholic response to euthanasia and physician-assisted death. Keynote address from Cardinal Gerhard Muller, Prefect, Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (Vatican). Event takes place at St. Michael's Cathedral with evening prayer at 7:00 followed by the keynote address at 7:30. For more information go to [www.ccbi-utoronto.ca](http://www.ccbi-utoronto.ca)



Living the Gospel by evangelizing our faith in the greater world...

St. Anthony's parish in the Diocese of Guntur in India has nine mission stations which are between 10-15 kilometres away from the parish. There are nearly 350 Catholic families and five hundred children going to school from these areas. As the mission stations are a distance from the parish, the faithful do not experience many religious activities. Father Mayakuntala Kumar, pastor of the parish, with the support of the Pastoral Mission Fund and ShareLife, is conducting a Children Faith Formation Camp to help the children to become rooted in the Catholic faith. With our support, Father Kumar is helping to evangelize the faith not only for today, but for the future as well.

**Next ShareLife Sunday is May 7, 2017**

**Please give generously.**

## BRING LIFE TO OTTAWA

For anyone moved by the Holy Spirit to work to protect our fellow humans from abortion, euthanasia and assisted suicide, please join us for a day trip to our nation's capital by coach on **Thursday, May 11** to attend the annual **March for Life** event. A coach will leave from St. Francis of Assisi at 6:30 a.m. right after the 6 a.m. Mass. Cost is \$40. For more info call John Killackey at 905-820-9232

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Please pray for the boys and girls in our parish schools who will be receiving Jesus for the first time.

St. Francis of Assisi School – Sunday,

April 30<sup>th</sup>

St. Margaret of Scotland – Sunday,

May 7<sup>th</sup>

Christ the King & Other Schools –

Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup>



## SPRING PLANTERS & BASKETS

Help support Knights of Columbus activities in your community by ordering beautiful spring flower planters and baskets. Order your **SPRING BASKETS** (10", 12" & 16" sizes, \$20.00 - \$29.00) after all Masses April 22/23, April 29/30 & May 6/7. Flowers will be delivered May 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Need further information? Call Wayne Ferrell 905-607-598 or Mike Genua at 416-804-3457.

## OFFERTORY COLLECTION CHANGE

Please note that there will be no Building and Maintenance Fund collection the weekend of April 22/23 even though there is an envelope for it in the offertory envelope box. The blue envelope can be recycled.



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