

# 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

Mabel Mendes, Parish Secretary Joan Cabri, Parish Bookkeeper

# Christmas



the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.

Luke 2:10

# NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

December 25, 2016

**"From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace"**



How can the fullness of Jesus be found in him as infant? Perhaps he is teaching that the fullness of grace requires being empty. How difficult it is to empty ourselves of expectations, desires, longings, comforts, thoughts and opinions. How difficult it is to abide in Jesus fully, to practise what he preaches, to be obedient to the point of no self-concern or preservation. Yet that is what he is calling us to do as his followers, his servants, his friends. He invites us to follow him – to leave behind what we cling to, and to let go of what keeps us from making him our priority and our very life.

*Jesus, receive me as your Christmas gift.*

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## Fr. Bernard's Christmas Message

Dear parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi: As we commemorate once again, the birth of our Saviour, I want to express my sincere gratitude to all of you for your faith, faithfulness and generosity. May our loving Father continue to bless us all now and in the New Year. I share with you a beautiful prayer composed by Pope John XXIII, who was canonized with Pope St. John Paul II.

O sweet Child of Bethlehem,  
grant that we may share with all our hearts in this profound mystery of Christmas.  
Put into the hearts of men and women this peace for which they sometimes seek so desperately  
and which You alone can give to them.  
Help them to know one another better, and to live as brothers and sisters,  
children of the same Father.  
Reveal to them also Your beauty, holiness and purity.  
Awaken in their hearts love and gratitude for Your infinite goodness.  
Join them all together in Your love. And give us Your heavenly peace. Amen.



# MERRY CHRISTMAS



## NEW YEAR'S EVE HOLY HOUR

Holy Mass will be celebrated at 5:00 p.m. on New Year's Eve followed by a holy hour from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. This will be a wonderful opportunity for us to thank the Lord for all the blessings and graces received in the past year and to ask Him to guide us in the year ahead.

## Mass for the Intentions Week

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 26 – 7:00 P.M.

+ Martina Hatch

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27 – 8:00 A.M.

*Intention Available*

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28 – 7:00 P.M.

*Intention Available*

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29 – 8:00 A.M.

In reparation for offences committed against the Most Holy Eucharist.

### FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH -

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30 – 7:00 P.M.

*Intention Available*

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD –

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31 VIGIL MASS

5:00 P.M. *Intention Available*

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup> – SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

8:00 A.M. S.I. Parish Community

9:30 A.M. + Tom & Dean McMillen & Scarlett Johnston

11:00 A.M. + Martina Hatch

12:30 P.M. *Intention Available*

## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

### **Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24**

6:00 p.m. (Children's Christmas Pageant),  
8:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

### **Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25**

9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

### **Feast of the Holy Family**

December 30 – 7:00 p.m.

### **Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God**

Saturday, December 31 – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 1, 2017 – 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m.,  
11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

## PARKING REGULATIONS – CHRISTMAS SEASON

During the Christmas Season, the church typically experiences an increase in attendance. Parishioners are reminded to observe all parking regulations when attending St. Francis of Assisi Church. The Parish will not be responsible for any tickets received for parking violations.



### REGISTRATION DATES FOR KINDERGARTEN

January 24 - 27, 2017 - 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

January 24, 2017\* - 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

\*Snow Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 –  
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

If your child was born in 2012 or 2013, he or she can  
start Kindergarten in September 2017.



## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION UPDATE.....

Baptized Catholics in Grade Seven and up are invited to consider receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. This sacrament completes one's Christian initiation, empowers him/her to witness to Jesus Christ, and presumes a relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. If you would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, kindly attend ONE of the following meetings with your parent(s): **SATURDAY, JANUARY 14 at 10 a.m. OR SATURDAY, JANUARY 21 at 10 a.m.**

In order to register for Confirmation, please bring the following with you to the meeting:

### 1. **PHOTOCOPY OF THE CANDIDATE'S CATHOLIC BAPTISM CERTIFICATE**

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE:** Please provide the full name and complete address of the Church where you were baptized, especially if you were baptized overseas. If there is a fax number, please include it. This information can be **PRINTED** on the reverse side of the Baptism Certificate

2. \$20 for the Confirmation resource fee
3. The name of your Confirmation Sponsor. A Confirmation Sponsor must fulfill the following conditions:
  - a. Confirmed Catholic
  - b. 16 years of age or older
  - c. Practising Catholic
  - d. Not be the parent of the Candidate

Each meeting will be held in St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall (Basement).

These are the only 2 registration sessions being held for Confirmation in January 2017. If you miss these sessions, you are most welcome to register for Confirmation in 2018



### **Becoming Experts in Humanity** **January 7, 2017 - 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.** **St. Augustine's Seminary of Toronto**

Dr. Josephine Lombardi will explore some of the facts that frustrate freedom and our ability to do God's Will. Register online [www.staugustines.on.ca](http://www.staugustines.on.ca)  
Phone 416.261.7207, Ext. 235



## DAILY TV MASS

NCBC's daily TV Mass (Monday – Saturday) is now available anytime and anyplace on their new website, on their new YouTube Channel and in the near future on an APP for use on Apple or Android devices.



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