



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Bernard Vellozo, Pastor
 Deacon Don Roberts
 Deacon Richard Te
 Emily Nail, Youth Coordinator
 Mabel Mendes, Parish Secretary
 Joan Cabri, Parish Bookkeeper

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 held on the 4th Sunday of 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: 7:30 PM
 (or by appointment)

MASS

Sunday Eucharist
 Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM (fulfills the Sunday obligation)
 Sunday: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM & 12:30 PM
Children's Liturgy at: 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM Mass

Weekday Eucharist
 Mondays / Wednesdays / Fridays 7:00 PM
 Tuesdays / Thursdays 8:00 AM

* Morning Prayer / Evening Prayer
 (One half hour before Mass)

DEVOTIONS

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 First Fridays (excluding holidays) 9:30 AM - 7:00 PM

Holy Hour
 Fridays (excluding holidays) 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Rosary & Our Lady of Perpetual Help
 Mondays 6:30 PM

Divine Mercy
 Fridays (excluding holidays) 3:00 PM

PARISH LIFE

Legion of Mary (Wed 7:30 PM) 905-822-8132
 Knights of Columbus (Mike Genua) 416-804-3457
 Social Committee 905-822-8132
 Ministry of Consolation & Hope 905-822-8132 ext. 3
 RCIA 905-822-8132 ext. 4
 St. Vincent de Paul 905-822-8132 ext. 5
 J.O.Y. Social Club club55@st-ignatius-loyola.com
 Youth Group 905-822-8132 ext. 6
 Catholic Cemeteries 416-733-8544
 Charismatic Prayer Group 905-822-8132 Ext. 3
 (Thursdays 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.)

SCHOOLS

St. Francis of Assisi 905-822-3183
 St. Margaret of Scotland 905-820-5115
 Christ the King 905-569-0220
 Iona Catholic Secondary 905-823-0136

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 14, 2016



"Jesus fasted forty days and was tempted by the devil"

Are you ready to follow the Lord Jesus wherever he wishes to lead you? After Jesus' was baptized by John the Baptist at the River Jordan, he withdrew into the wilderness of Judea - a vast and mostly uninhabitable wilderness full of danger. Danger from scorching heat by day and extreme cold at night, danger from wild animals and scorpions, plus the deprivation of food and the scarcity of water.

Why did the Holy Spirit lead Jesus into such a lonely place - right after Jesus was anointed and confirmed by the Father for his mission as Messiah and Savior? Jesus was following the pattern which God had set for Moses and for Elijah - both were led on a forty day journey of prayer and fasting to meet with God on his holy mountain (Exodus 24:18 and 1 Kings 19:8). God tested Moses and Elijah to prepare them for a prophetic mission - to speak God's word (Exodus 33:11; Deuteronomy 18:15; 34:10) and to lead

God's people into the way of holiness and righteousness, a way marked by love of God and love of neighbor. While Moses and Elijah each prayed and fasted in the desert wilderness of Sinai, God fed them with his life-giving word. Their time of solitude with God enabled them to be renewed in faith, hope, and love for the call God had given them. Jesus likewise went into the wilderness to prepare himself for the mission entrusted to him by spending forty days and nights in solitude and prayer to his Father in heaven.

Spiritual preparation in the forty days of lent

What lesson can we learn from Jesus' temptation in the wilderness? How can we hope to fight temptation and overcome sin in our own personal lives? When Jesus went out into the wilderness to fight temptation by the devil, he was led by the Holy Spirit. Jesus did not rely on his own human strength and will-power for overcoming temptation. He relied on the Holy Spirit to give him strength, wisdom, courage, and self-control. The Lord Jesus knows that we cannot fight temptation on our own. We need the strength and guidance of the Holy Spirit to help us. The Lord Jesus gives us his Holy Spirit to help us in our weakness (Romans 8:26) and to be our guide and strength in times of testing (1 Corinthians 10:13). The Lord gives grace to those who humbly acknowledge their dependence on him (James 4:6) and he helps us to stand firm against the attacks of Satan who seeks to destroy us (1 Peter 5:8-10; Ephesians 6:10-18). The Lord Jesus is ever ready to pour out his Spirit upon us that we may have the courage we need to repent of our sins and to turn away from them, and to reject the lies and deceits of Satan. God wants us to "fight the good fight of the faith" (1 Timothy 6:12) with the strength and help which comes from the Holy Spirit. Do you seek God's wisdom and guidance for overcoming sin and avoiding the near occasions of sin?

The forty days of Lent is the annual retreat of the people of God in imitation of Jesus' forty days in the wilderness. We are called to journey with the Lord in a special season of prayer, fasting, almsgiving, repentance, and renewal as we prepare to celebrate the feast of Easter, the Christian Passover. The Lord gives us spiritual food and supernatural strength to seek his face and to prepare ourselves for spiritual combat and testing. We, too, must follow in the way of the cross in order to share in the victory of Christ's death and resurrection. As we begin this holy season of preparation and renewal, let's ask the Lord for a fresh outpouring of his Holy Spirit that we may grow in faith, hope, and love, and embrace his will more fully in our lives.

"Lord Jesus, your word is life and joy for me. Fill me with your Holy Spirit that I may have the strength and courage to embrace your will in all things and to renounce whatever is contrary to it."

PARISH LENTEN DEVOTIONS 2016

DAILY MASS: Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 7 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday at 8 a.m.

ROSARY: Mondays at 6:30 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday from 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

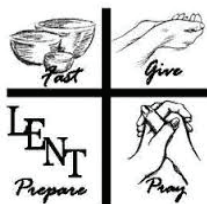
THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY: Sung on Fridays at 3:00 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Friday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

CONFESSIONS: 2nd and 4th Friday of every month following the 7:00 p.m. Mass and Saturday from 4:00 to 4:45 p.m.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE: Monday, March 14th from 7:30 p.m.

Please see the posters on the bulletin board at the back of the church for other Lenten activities that are happening throughout the Archdiocese of Toronto.



Mass Intentions  for the Week

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

INTENTION AVAILABLE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

INTENTION AVAILABLE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

INTENTION AVAILABLE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

INTENTION AVAILABLE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

INTENTION AVAILABLE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Vigil Mass for the 2nd Sunday in Lent

5:00 P.M.

INTENTION AVAILABLE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

2nd Sunday in Lent

8:00 a.m. S.I. Parish Community

9:30 a.m. + Francisco, Severina, Dionisio & Conrado Castro

11:00 a.m. + Mary Fitzgerald Forsyth

12:30 p.m. + Melwyn Aruja

+ Nat Prior

Please call the parish office, 905-822-8132, Ext. 3, to arrange a Mass Intention.

A message from Ann.....

I was overwhelmed by the love and generosity of the beautiful St. Francis of Assisi Parish community last weekend as we celebrated my retirement as the secretary of the parish. I thank you with all my heart. I especially want to thank Fr. Bernard and the Social Committee for all their hard work organizing my farewell reception. Through your generosity, I received a beautiful silver bracelet from Tiffany & Co. and a cheque. It has been a joy and privilege to work for you these many years and I will miss you all very much. Please pray for me as I enter this new phase in my life, as I will certainly pray for you. May our loving and merciful God continue to surround us with His blessings.

2016 CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION CLOSED

Thank you to all those parents who registered their children for Confirmation on Saturday, February 6 and 13. Registration is now closed. Parents who did not do so are welcome to register their children in the fall.



JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY
Spiritual Works of Mercy

2. Counsel the doubtful
Instruct the ignorant “If we look at the present time, we can perhaps say what is most urgent to counsel, provoking questions, in particular questions concerning the meaning of life and the future, “the fundamental questions which pervade human life: Who am I? Where have I come from and where am I going? Why is there evil? What is there after this life?” - St. John Paul II, Fides et Ratio, 1.

Lived out in the Archdiocese of Toronto:

Alpha for Catholics

Campus Ministries in the Archdiocese of Toronto

Catholic Christian Outreach

For more information about the Jubilee Year of Mercy, please check the Archdiocese of Toronto website: www.archtoronto.org



Together we are continuing to work wonders...

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.” Matthew 5:7 (NRSVCE)

Our Lord encourages us with a timely reminder about what our actions truly should be – to show mercy to others. Does showing mercy mean to take the time delivering food for the local food bank in our neighbourhood? Do we have time to help by serving on a weekend in the soup kitchen in our city or praying for a family who is dealing with a personal crisis? Or maybe the refugee family who needs some volunteer help resettling their family to a new life here in Canada. In essence, ShareLife becomes that connective bridge between the pulpit and the street. When we are called to action in the Catholic community, we know of so many ways we can make a difference by working together in the lives of those in need. Annually, we share in helping over 114,000 individuals, thanks to the support received through our collective efforts. Please help us celebrate our ShareLife’s 40th anniversary by supporting our annual Archdiocesan appeal during this Lenten season! —Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto.

Sunday March 13, 2016 is ShareLife Sunday
Please give generously. You can work wonders!

MEN’S LENTEN DAY OF RETREAT

Saturday, February 27, 2016

9:30a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

At Queen of Apostles renewal Centre, Mississauga. Deacon Doctor Greg DeMarchi will preach on “God’s mercy as an entrance to prayer and spiritual life”. Coffee cart with muffin on arrival and full hot meal at lunch is included. To register, please call 905-278-5229.

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