



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Bernard Vellozo, Pastor
Deacon Don Roberts
Deacon Richard Te
Melinda Mayo, 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)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Closed Daily: 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

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

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

joysocialclub@st-ignatius-loyola.com

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

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 26, 2017

“Why are you anxious?”

What do the expressions “serving two masters” and “being anxious” have in common? They both have the same root problem – being divided within oneself. The root word for anxiety literally means “being of two minds”. An anxious person is often “tossed to and fro” and paralyzed by fear, indecision and insecurity. Fear of some bad outcome cripples those afflicted with anxiety. It’s also the case with someone who wants to live in two opposing kingdoms – God’s kingdom of light, truth and goodness or Satan’s kingdom of darkness, sin and deception – following God’s standards and way of happiness or following the world’s standards of success and happiness. Who is the master in charge of your life? Our “master” is whatever governs our thought-life, shapes our ideals and controls the desires of our heart and the values we choose to live by. We can be ruled by many different things – the love of money and possessions, the power of position and prestige, the glamour of wealth and fame and the driving force of unruly passions, harmful desires and addictive cravings. Ultimately the choice of who is our master boils down to two: God or “mammon”. What is mammon? Mammon stands for “material wealth or possessions” or whatever tends to “control our appetites and desires”. There is one master alone who has the power to set us free from slavery to sin, fear, pride and greed and a host of other hurtful desires. That master is the Lord Jesus Christ who alone can save us from all that would keep us bound up in fear and anxiety. Jesus used an illustration from nature – the birds and the flowers – to show how God provides for his creatures in the natural order of his creation. God provides ample food, water, light and heat to sustain all that lives and breathes. How much more can we, who are created in the very image and likeness of God, expect our heavenly Father and creator to sustain not only our physical bodies, but our mind, heart and soul as well? God our father is utterly reliable because it is his nature to love, heal, forgive and make whole again. Jesus taught his disciples to pray with confidence to their Heavenly Father: *Give us this day our daily bread*. What is bread but the very staple of life and symbol of all that we need to live and grow. Anxiety is neither helpful nor necessary. It robs us of faith and confidence in God’s help and it saps our energy for doing good. Jesus admonishes his followers to put away anxiety and preoccupation with material things and instead to seek first the things of God – his kingdom and righteousness. Anxiety robs the heart of trust in the mercy and goodness of God and in his loving care for us. God knows our needs even before we ask and he gives generously to those who trust in him. Who is your master – God or mammon?



PARISH LENTEN MISSION

Please mark your calendars! Fr. Fred Mazzerella will preach at all Masses on the second Sunday of Lent. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday he will continue developing his Mission themes as follows:

Monday 7:00 p.m. Mass – The Family

Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Mass – Love and Marriage

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Mass – Faith and Gratitude

WOMEN’S SPRING RETREAT

A retreat for women will be held at the Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre in Mississauga on the weekend of March 31-April 2. The theme will be *The Call to Peace* and will be preached by the centre team. For further information or to register, please call 905-278-5229.

PARISH LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

Mark your calendars! Beginning Thursday February 23rd, St. Francis of Assisi Prayer Group will be hosting our annual Parish Life in the Spirit Seminars. The seminars will start at 7:30 in the Parish hall and run for six weeks, ending just before Holy Week. More announcements are to follow as we come closer to the event. If you have any questions, please contact the Parish office or speak with Deacon Don after Mass.

Income Tax Receipts

We thank you for your contributions to the Church in 2016 and advise you that income tax receipts are available in the basement of the church

Mass Intentions for the Week

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27 – 7:00 P.M.

+ Leandro Valenton

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 – 8:00 A.M.

Intention Available

WEDNESDAY, March 1 – 7:00 P.M.

Ash Wednesday

THURSDAY, March 2 – 8:00 A.M.

Intention Available

FRIDAY, March 3 – 7:00 P.M.

+ Hatch Family

S.I. For Priests and Deacons living and deceased.

SATURDAY, March 4 – VIGIL MASS

5:00 P.M. + Louiza Maria Dias

SUNDAY, March 5 – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00 A.M. + Ellen Nantel

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

11:00 A.M. + Aria Coletta

+ Michel Crete

+ Carmen Hodgson

12:30 P.M. *Intention Available*

A WORD ABOUT MASSES FOR THE DECEASED

Often times, a priest celebrating a funeral Mass will imply that the deceased is at peace or even go as far as to state that he/she is in heaven. While done with good intentions, in order to comfort a grieving congregation, this practice is fraught with errors. Firstly, no one but God alone knows the final disposition of the soul of someone who has passed on. Secondly, when the family of the deceased is convinced that their loved one is in heaven, they may not feel the need to pray for them. And finally, since we believe in Purgatory, we also believe that offering Masses, prayers and sacrifices can alleviate suffering and hasten the soul's entry into God's presence in Heaven. So, I earnestly urge all parishioners to offer Masses and prayers for the souls of their deceased loved ones.

Fr. Bernard

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

March 17-19 is a weekend of discovery for a lifetime of love! Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a weekend for couples to spend together. It allows couples time to take a fresh look at their marriage and to re-discover themselves as individuals and as a couple. The weekend format helps couples to communicate openly and honestly without group sharing, therapy or marriage counselling. For more information contact Gerard & Marge at 905-792-1925 or go to www.wwme.org.

Just a Reminder.....

In accordance with the prescriptions of canon 1253, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops decrees that Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence.

Aid to Women Baby Bottles for Life

Aid to Women is a Christian, volunteer-based, charity offering pro-life options and practical help to pregnant women in crisis, enabling them to choose life for their unborn children. Thanks to the overwhelming generosity of our parishioners we were able to raise \$6,956.46. Thank you to all parishioners who supported the Baby Bottle campaign last May.

25th Annual Lift Jesus Higher Rally Saturday, March 4 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Metro Toronto Convention Centre

Join us for the largest single-day Catholic event in Canada! Hear inspired testimonies and talks by Sr. Ann Shields, Peter Herbeck and keynote guest speaker Bishop Scott McCaig. There will be a Eucharistic Adoration procession and Holy Mass with Cardinal Thomas Collins. There will also be a separate youth event (13-18 years) with great music, dynamic talks, inspirational skits, Eucharistic Adoration and Holy Mass with Bishop Scott.

www.lift-jesus-higher-rally.ca

Retreat Day for Ministers of Care Finding Jesus in Those Who Suffer

On Saturday March 25, 2017, the 10th Annual Retreat Day for Ministers of Care will take place at Our Lady of Fatima Parish, 101 Malta Ave, Brampton. Contemplate the face of Jesus in those who suffer. Time for personal reflection, group sharing, fellowship and Mass with Cardinal Thomas Collins. This retreat is intended for new or experienced ministers of care seeking ongoing formation in caring ministry. Pre-registration and payment required by March 20, 2017. For more information contact Sally Amaral, Office of Formation and Discipleship 416-721-3741 or email at samaral@archtoronto.org.

Dynamic Women of Faith Conference and Calling all Girls

Dynamic Women of Faith is holding two events. The first is *Catholic Women's Conference* which is on March 25, 2017. There will be a number of speakers and His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins will celebrate the opening Mass. The second is *Calling All Girls* on March 24, 2017. This is an evening of short, high powered talks for mothers and daughters. For further information on these events go to www.dynamicwomenfaith.com

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