

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)

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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

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

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

DEVOTIONS

Holv Hour

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

Rosary & Our Lady of Perpetual Help

6:30 PM Mondays

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. 3 905-822-8132 ext. 4 RCIA 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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 29, 2017

"Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven"

What is the good life which God intends for us? And how is it related with the ultimate end or purpose of life? Is it not our desire and longing for true happiness, which is none other than the complete good, the sum of all goods, leaving nothing more to be desired? Jesus addresses this question in his sermon on the mount. The heart of Jesus' message is that we can live a very happy life. The call to holiness, to be saints who joyfully pursue God's will for their lives, can be found in these eight beatitudes. Jesus' beatitudes sum up our calling or vocation - to live a life of the beatitudes. The word beatitude literally means "happiness" or "blessedness".

God gives us everything that leads to true happiness

What is the significance of Jesus' beatitudes, and why are they so central to his teaching? The beatitudes respond to the natural desire for happiness that God has placed in every heart. They teach us the final end to which God calls us, namely the coming of God's kingdom (Matthew 4:17), the vision of God (Matthew 5:8; 1 John 2;1), entering into the joy of the Lord (Matthew 25:21-23) and into his rest (Hebrews 4:7-11). Jesus' beatitudes also confront us with decisive choices concerning the life we pursue here on earth and the use we make of the goods he puts at our disposal.

Jesus tells us that God alone can satisfy the deepest need and longing of our heart. Teresa of Avila's (1515-1582) prayer book contained a bookmark on which she wrote: Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you. All things pass - God never changes. Patience achieves all it strives for. Whoever has God lacks nothing-God alone suffices.

Is God enough for you? God offers us the greatest good possible - abundant life in Jesus Christ (John 10:10) and the promise of unending joy and happiness with God forever. Do you seek the highest good, the total good, which is above all else?

The beatitudes are a sign of contradiction to the world's way of happiness

The beatitudes which Jesus offers us are a sign of contradiction to the world's understanding of happiness and joy. How can one possibly find happiness in poverty, hunger, mourning, and persecution? Poverty of spirit finds ample room and joy in possessing God as the greatest treasure possible. Hunger of the spirit seeks nourishment and strength in God's word and Spirit. Sorrow and mourning over wasted life and sin leads to joyful freedom from the burden of guilt and spiritual oppression.

God reveals to the humble of heart the true source of abundant life and happiness. Jesus promises his disciples that the joys of heaven will more than compensate for the troubles and hardships they can expect in this world. Thomas Aquinas said: "No one can live without joy. That is why a person deprived of spiritual joy goes after carnal pleasures." Do you know the happiness of hungering and thirsting for God alone?

"Lord Jesus, increase my hunger for you and show me the way that leads to everlasting peace and happiness. May I desire you above all else and find perfect joy in doing your will."

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

We thank you for your contributions to the Church in 2016 and advise you that income tax receipts will be issued mid-February 2017. In order to receive an income tax receipt for contributions to the Church, we strongly suggest you take a box of Offertory Envelopes each year. Offertory Envelopes for 2017 are located at the back of the Church. Brochures outlining our Pre-Authorized Giving Plan and Parish Registration forms are also available at the back of the Church.

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 from January 30 to February 7 inclusive. Weekday Masses will not be celebrated during this time. The Saturday/Sunday Masses the weekend of February 04/05 will be celebrated by visiting priests



MONDAY, JANUARY 30 – 7:00 P.M.

NO MASS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31 - 8:00 A.M.

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1 – 7:00 P.M.

NO MASS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2 – 8:00 A.M.

NO MASS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3 - 7:00 P.M.

NO MASS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4 – VIGIL MASS

5:00 P.M.

+ Xavier Zuzarte

+ Jose Benin

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5 - FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8.00 A.M.

S.I. Parish Community

9:30 A.M.

Intention Available

11:00 A.M.

Intention Available

12:30 P.M.

+ Jane Camilleri

Special Mass for World Day for Consecrated Life St. Paul's Basilica, Toronto Sunday, January 29 at 3:00 p.m.

World Day for Consecrated Life will be celebrated in the Church on Thursday, February 2, 2017 and in parishes on the weekend of January 28/29, 2017. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

All are welcome to come to a special Mass presided by Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick today Sunday, January 29 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Basilica, Toronto to celebrate with and pray for these men and women religious who are such a vital and important part of the life and ministry of the Church in our Archdiocese.

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A Lenten Reflection With Fr. Jacques Phillipe

On Friday March 3rd St Joseph Parish in Mississauga is hosting a Lenten reflection with Fr. Jacque Phillipe. The topic is "How to Open to the Work of the Holy Spirit". Tickets are \$10.00. For more information call St. Joseph's Workshop at 905-568-8777 or email at info@st-josephsworkshop.com

"Although the life of a person is in a land full of thorns and weeds, there is always space in which the good seed can grow. You have to trust God......Pope Francis

Marriage Weekend

Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto has designated February 12 as Marriage Sunday. In an open letter to married couples throughout the Archdiocese, Archbishop Thomas Collins assures married couples of his prayers and gratitude for those who nurture and strengthen the bond of matrimony. The Archbishop also prays and extends loving support to those who have lost a spouse or experienced a broken relationship. For information go to www.archtoronto.org/marriage.

REFUGEE FAMILY NEWS

Our family is happy that the January 16th interview was a success. In addition, they received their medicals on January 19th. This is great progress. The Canadian embassy advised them to expect a wait of 4 to 6 months while the security checks are in progress. Please continue to pray for their safe and timely arrival in our parish.

---St. Francis of Assisi Refugee Committee

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Senior Men's High School Retreat, February 11, 2017 at Blessed Sacrament Parish

The Office of Vocations is hosting a high school retreat for men in Grades 11 and 12 at Blessed Sacrament Parish, Toronto on Saturday, February 11 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to help young men cultivate a deeper prayer life and relationship with the Lord. Priests and seminarians will deliver talks on practical aspects of faith. Opportunities for Mass, Adoration, confession and socializing. For more information please call 416-968-0997 or email vocations@archtoronto.org.

Winter Walk to School Day

On February 1st Dufferin-Peel Catholic School Board is having a Walk to School Day. This is a chance to be stewards of the earth by providing an opportunity to reduce gas emissions (and traffic congestion). Please watch for an increased number of pedestrians around the schools at opening and dismissal times.

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CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION

Thanks to all of you who registered for the Sacrament of Confirmation on January $14^{\rm th}$ and $21^{\rm st}$. Confirmation Registration for 2017 is now closed. If you missed these sessions you are most welcome to register in 2018.

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