

# 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

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

**MARCH 19, 2017** 

#### "A Spring of Water Welling Up To Eternal Life"



Would you do a favour for someone who snubbed you or treated you like an enemy? Jesus did just that and more! He treated the Samaritans, the sworn enemy of the Jews, with great kindness and respect. The Samaritans who lived in the middle region of Israel between Galilee and Judea, and the Jews who lived in the rest of the land of Israel had been divided for centuries. They had no dealings with one another, avoiding all social contact, even trade and intermarriage. If their paths crossed it would not be unusual for hostility to break out. When Jesus decided to pass through Samaria he stopped at Jacob's well because it was mid-day and he was both tired from the journey and thirsty. Jacob's well was a good mile and a half from the nearest

town, called Sychar. It wasn't easy to draw water from this well since it was over a hundred feet deep. Jesus had neither rope nor bucket to fetch the water.

When a Samaritan woman showed up at the well, both were caught by surprise. Why would a Samaritan woman walk a mile and a half in the mid-day heat to fetch her water at a remote well rather than in her local town? She was an outcast and not welcomed among her own townspeople. Jesus then did something no respectable Jew would think of doing. He reached out to her, thus risking ritual impurity and scorn from his fellow Jews. He also did something no strict Rabbi would dare to do in public without loss to his reputation. He treated the women like he would treat one of his friends – he greeted her and spoke at length with her. Jesus' welcoming approach to her was scandalous to both Jews and Samaritans because this woman was an adulteress and public sinner as well. No decent Jew or Samaritan would even think of being seen with such a woman, let alone exchange a word with her! What is the point of Jesus' exchange with the Samaritan woman about water? Water in the arid land was scarce. Jacob's well was located in a strategic fork of the road between Samaria and Galilee. One can live without food for several days, but not without water. Water is a source of life and growth for all living things. When rain came to the desert, water transformed the wasteland into a fertile field. The kind of water that Jesus spoke about was living, running, fresh, pure water. Fresh water from a cool running stream was always preferred to the still water one might find in pool or reservoir. When the Israelites complained about lack of water in the wilderness, God instructed Moses to strike the rock and a stream of fresh living water gushed out (Exodus 17:6). Even though the Israelites did not trust God to care for them in the wilderness, God nonetheless gave them abundant water and provisions through the intercession of his servant Moses. Do you thirst for God and for the life of the Holy Spirit within you?

#### LENTEN RECONCILIATION

Mark your calendars for our Lenten Reconciliation service with individual confessions on Tuesday April 4, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Reconciliation is also available at:

**St. Joseph's Parish** - Tues. March 28 at 7-9 p.m. **Merciful Redeemer** - Wed. March 29 at 7:00 p.m. **St. Ignatius Loyola** - Thur. March 30 at 9:30-11:30 a.m., 4:00-6:00 p.m. & 7:00-8:30 p.m.

**St. John of the Cross** - Mon. April 3 at 7:00-9:00 p.m. **St. Francis Xavier** - Thur. April 6 at 7:00 p.m.

#### DON'T FORGET

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

#### HOLY WEEK & EASTER MASS SCHEDULE

**Holy Thursday** - Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 p.m. followed by Adoration until midnight.

**Good Friday** - Passion of the Lord at Noon and 3:00 p.m. with Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m.

**Easter Vigil -** The Vigil Mass will begin at 8:00 p.m. (Please note that this Mass is 2+ hours in length.) **Easter Sunday** - Resurrection of the Lord 8:00 a.m.,

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

#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

There will be Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 6:30 p.m. This is followed by Holy Mass at 7:00 p.m. and Holy Hour at 7:30 p.m.



#### **MONDAY, MARCH 20 - 7:00 P.M.**

+ Tom & Dean McMillen

**TUESDAY, MARCH 21-8:00 A.M.** 

Intention Available

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22 - 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

THURSDAY, MARCH 23 - 8:00 A.M.

S.I. In reparation for offences committed against the Most Holy Eucharist

FRIDAY, MARCH 24 - 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

**SATURDAY, MARCH 25 – VIGIL MASS** 

5:00 P.M.

+ Gerry Mayo

SUNDAY, MARCH 26 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8.00 A.M.

S.I. Parish Community

9:30 A.M.

+ Frank Toste

J.30 A.IVI.

+ Esma Toste

+ Avelino Branco

11:00 A.M.

+ Sophia Slivinska

+ Tina Luciano & Margaret Johnson

+ Robert Sandford

12:30 P.M.

Intention Available

#### CALL FOR CONSCIENCE CAMPAIGN

Now that Canada has legalized assisted suicide/euthanasia, did you know that doctors in Ontario are forced to provide direct referrals for patients seeking to end their lives? Doctors who object feel a direct referral is akin to being an accomplice to assisted suicide. No foreign jurisdiction in the world that has legalized euthanasia/assisted suicide has forced health care workers or facilities to act against their conscience. In the coming weeks. members of Ontario's Provincial Parliament will review Bill 84 which deals with legal issues related to euthanasia/assisted suicide. Please visit www.CanadiansforConscience.ca to learn more about this issue, and to send an electronic letter to our MPP Charles Sousa - csousa.mpp@liberal.ola.org about this important matter. If you prefer to mail a letter to Mr. Sousa (mailing address 120 Lakeshore Road West, Mississauga Ontario L58 1E8)

#### WOMEN'S SPRING RETREAT

Women's Lenten Retreat at Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre on March 31 - April 2. The theme is: "The Call to Peace" and will be preached by the Centre team. For further info or to register, please call 905-278-5229.



# Living the Gospel by providing for homeless youth...

On a given night, 6,000 people across Canada between 16 and 24 have nowhere to call home. This represents

20 per cent of the total homeless population. In Toronto, estimates of homeless youth range from 900 to 2,000 nightly. The ShareLife-supported Rights of Passage program at Covenant House have been active in making a positive difference in the lives of homeless youth on the streets of Toronto. 75 % of these youth have been matched with mentors and have also made progress in strengthening their life skills and family relationships, getting them ready for life on their own. In addition, the ShareLife funded Youth In Transition programs helps youth in foster care to transition to independent living.

#### St. Ignatius Loyola Lenten Mission

"St. Ignatius Loyola Parish invites you to come on out for a parish mission led by Fr. Ben St. Croix, CC. on Monday, March 27, Tuesday, March 28 and Wednesday, March 29 from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. The theme for our mission will be "Behold, I make all things new!" (Rev 21:5). Fr. Ben will speak on various topics that include knowing the love of God, surrender and knowing His will in our lives, the gift of faith, the importance of community, what is the new evangelization, and how you are called to be part of it. Come and discover, or rediscover, the love God has for you personally, and the beautiful plan He has for your life! Everyone is invited.

#### 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 <a href="https://www.dynamicwomenfaith.com">www.dynamicwomenfaith.com</a>

#### LECTIO DIVINA WITH CARDINAL THOMAS COLLINS

Lectio Divina means "divine or sacred reading" and is the name given to a spiritual tradition among Christians in which they listen attentively and prayerfully read the word of God. One Sunday each month all are welcome to join Cardinal Thomas Collins St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica. A schedule can be found at archtoronto.org/lectio.

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