

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

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Pastoral Staff

Rev. Bernard Vellozo, Pastor

Deacon Don Roberts, Deacon Richard Te

Emily Nail, Youth Coordinator Mabel Mendes Parish Secretary Joan Cabri, Parish Bookkeeper



He is Risen! Alleluia, Alleluia

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

March 27, 2016

“John saw the empty tomb and believed”



What was it like for the disciple who had stood at the cross of Jesus and then laid him in a tomb on Good Friday, to come back three days later and discover that the sealed tomb was now empty? John, along with Peter, was the first apostle to reach the tomb of Jesus on Easter Sunday morning. Like Mary Magdalene and the other disciples, John was not ready to see an empty tomb and to hear the angel's message, Why do you seek the living among the dead (Luke 24:5)? What did John see in the tomb that led him to believe in the resurrection of Jesus? It was certainly not a dead body. The dead body of Jesus would have disproven the resurrection and made his death a tragic conclusion to a glorious career as a great teacher and miracle worker. When John saw the empty tomb he must have recalled Jesus' prophecy that he would rise again after three days. Through the gift of faith John realized that no tomb on earth could contain the Lord and giver of life. John saw and believed (John 20:8).

John had to first deal with the empty tomb before he could meet the risen Lord later that evening along with the other apostles who had locked themselves in the upper room out of fear of the Jewish authorities (John 20:19-23). John testified as an eye-witness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ: What we have seen, heard, and touched we proclaim as the eternal word of life which existed from the beginning (1 John 1:1-4). John bears witness to what has existed from all eternity. This "word of life" is Jesus the word incarnate, but also Jesus as the word announced by the prophets and Jesus the word now preached throughout the Christian church for all ages to come.

One thing is certain, if Jesus had not risen from the dead and appeared to his disciples, we would never have heard of him. Nothing else could have changed sad and despairing men and women into people radiant with joy and courage. The reality of the resurrection is the central fact of the Christian faith. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Lord gives us "eyes of faith" to know him and the power of his resurrection. The greatest joy we can have is to encounter the living Christ and to know him personally as our Lord and Savior. Do you accept the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection with skeptical doubt and disbelief or with trusting faith and joyful wonderment?

"Lord Jesus Christ, you have triumphed over the grave and you have won for us new life and resurrection power. Give me the eyes of faith to see you in your glory. Help me to draw near to you and to grow in the knowledge of your great love for us and your great victory over sin and death."



A BLESSED EASTER TO YOU ALL!

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS



Adoration during the day on Friday, April 1, **will not take place.**

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be sung at 3:00 p.m.

Mass will be celebrated at 7:00 p.m. followed by a Holy Hour of Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – APRIL 3, 2016



All are invited to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday with us for the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3:00 p.m. followed by the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 4:00 p.m.

Mass Intentions  for the Week

MONDAY, MARCH 28

+ Rita De Silva & Sath Van

TUESDAY, MARCH 29

INTENTION AVAILABLE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

INTENTION AVAILABLE

THURSDAY, MARCH 31

INTENTION AVAILABLE

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

S.I. Hatch Family

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

Vigil Mass for 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER - 5:00 P.M.

+ Maria Socorro Cabioc

+ Irene Lee

+ Kam-Fong Shun Tin

SUNDAY, APRIL 3RD - 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

9:30 a.m. + Pastor Miranda

11:00 a.m. + Maria Marchiori

+ Michel Crete

+ Vincenzo Iannello

12:30 p.m. + Breda Morrissey

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



Working wonders overseas through the Pastoral Mission Fund...

"This workshop has helped me to reflect on my priestly call, a privileged service in God's Kingdom; and has reenergized me and my brother priests to be better in our service. Given our rural and remote location, serving people who live in poverty can be draining at times. This workshop and dialogue has made a renewing impact for many of us. It has given us hope and strength to renew our enthusiasm and we do hope it continues in the future. We are deeply grateful and offer our prayers of support to ShareLife who made it financially possible for us to come together."

—St. Justine de Jacobis Pastoral Office, Catholic Eparchy of Segenelty, Eritrea.

Next ShareLife Sunday is April 17, 2016
Please give generously. You can work wonders!

April - Autism Awareness Month

World Autism Awareness day - April 2, 2016

We recognize the importance of accommodation for individuals with autism, who bring rich gifts and contributions to our parish communities.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Please pray for the boys and girls in our parish schools who will be receiving Jesus for the first time.

St. Francis of Assisi School – Sunday, April 10th

St. Margaret of Scotland – Sunday, April 17th

Christ the King & Other Schools – Sunday, April 24th

2016 ACTS RETREATS

St. Francis of Assisi is this year's parish for the upcoming 3-day retreats at Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre, Mississauga.

A – Adoration – God's Call, your acceptance and answer

C – Community – love and caring for each other

T – Theology – "studying" through scripture and our faith

S – Service – to God and his people

Come to renew yourself spiritually, to strengthen your Faith and to apply it to your daily life.

Women: May 12–15 and October 27–30

Men: May 16–29 and November 10–13

Priority registration until **April 12, 2016**. Register at the Parish Office or call Queen of Apostles at 905.278.5229



"The Second Greatest Story Ever Told"

A DVD series on Divine Mercy

Beginning Thursday, March 31, 2016

St. Francis of Assisi Prayer Group will be presenting a DVD series on Divine Mercy – 'The Second Greatest Story Ever Told' - narrated by Fr. Michael Gaitley. This series will be inspirational for us, as we journey together in "The Year of Mercy". The series will run every Thursday for 10 weeks, beginning Thursday, March 31ST from 7:30p.m. - 9:30 p.m. in Parish Hall. All are welcome.



**Knights of Columbus –
Our Lady of Peace Council**

Dinner/Dance – Saturday, April 30th

6:30 p.m. – Reception

7:30 p.m. – Dinner

at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish Hall

Tickets: Couple \$70; Single: \$40 or Table of 8 - \$260

Please see the bulletin board for details.

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