

St. Joseph Parish

5440 Durie Road, Streetsville, ON L5M 2J5

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Parish Priest: Fr. Marc-André Campbell

Assistant Priest: Fr. Russell Asch

Deacons: Lionel Gomes & George Jurenas

Advent





The feast of the birth of Christ gives hope to all. Hope for a better world, hope for an end to conflict violence and peace. The Prophet Isaiah reminds us of that as he writes: "The People who walked in Darkness have seen a great light... for a child is born to us, a son is given us... they name him... Prince of Peace" (Is 9,1-6). In the dark of this world, hope is born in the Person of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

Throughout this year we have felt darkness seemingly advance. We have witnessed acts of great brutality and barbarity both in our land and abroad. It is with all this in mind, that we celebrate Christmas. This feast is not just a local custom or a cultural celebration. We celebrate Christmas invoking the Prince of Peace, praying for light to shine in our darkness.

May our act of worship and adoration of the Prince of Peace lead us to action. Wherever we are and whenever we can, let us be people of peace and reconciliation. Let us boldly invite others to bow before the Infant Jesus humbly acknowledging that without him, true peace is not possible.

Happy Christmas to all! ~ Fr. Marc André Campbell

 **Mass Intentions**

Monday, December 22 7:00 am 8:30 am	† Walter Teodoro † Antonio Pavao
Tuesday, December 23 7:00 am 8:30 am	† Visitacion & Alejandro Reototar † Renato Comarin
Wednesday, December 24 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00pm & 12:00 midnight	<i>No Morning Masses</i> <i>Vigil of Christmas</i>
Thursday, December 25 8:00, 9:30, 11:00, am & 12:30 pm	<i>Christmas Day</i> <i>The Nativity of the Lord</i>
Friday, December 26 8:30 am ----- 7:30 pm 8:00 pm	† Francis Mendonca † DECEASED † HOLY HOUR & BENEDICTION
Saturday, December 27 9:00 am	† John & Philomena Pires † Larry Sousa & Family

Parish Office Closed
From December 24, 2014
and will reopen January 3, 2015

A CHILD IS BORN

In appearance, just another of the world's many children. A Child is born in a stable in Bethlehem. He is born in a condition of extreme deprivation: poor among the poor. But the One who is born is "the Son" *par excellence: Filius datus est nobis*. This Child is the Son of God, of one being with the Father. Foretold by the Prophets, he was made man by the power of the Holy Spirit in the womb of a Virgin, Mary.

In the austere poverty of the crib we contemplate "a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger" (Lk 2:12). In the vulnerable and weak newborn babe who cries in the arms of Mary, "the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men" (Tit 2:11). Let us pause in silence and worship!

O Child, who willed to have for your crib a manger;

O Creator of the universe, who stripped yourself of divine glory;

O Redeemer, who offered your vulnerable body in sacrifice for the salvation of humanity!

May the radiance of your birth *light up the night of the world*.

May the power of your message of love thwart the proud snares of the evil one.

May the gift of your life make us understand ever more clearly the worth of the life of each human being.

Too much blood is still being shed on the earth! Too much violence and too many conflicts trouble the peaceful coexistence of nations! You come to bring us peace. You are our peace! You alone can make of us "a people purified" and belonging to you for ever, a people "zealous for good deeds" (Tit 2:14). *For to us a Child is born, to us a son is given!* What an unfathomable mystery is hidden in the humility of this Child! We would like to touch him; we would like to embrace him.

You, Mary, who keep watch over your all-powerful Son, *grant us your eyes* to contemplate him with faith; *grant us your heart* to worship him with love.

In his simplicity, the Child of Bethlehem teaches us to rediscover the real meaning of our existence; he teaches us "to live sober, upright and godly lives in this world" (Tit 2:12).

~ from Homily of JOHN PAUL II, Christmas Eve 2003



CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE	
Christmas Eve Wednesday December 24	4 pm , 6pm, 8 pm, 10pm & 12 midnight
Christmas Day Thursday December 25	8 am , 9:30 am, 11 am, & 12:30 pm
New Year's Eve Wednesday December 31	5:30 pm
New Year's Day Thursday January 1	9:30 am, 11 am & 12:30 pm
Note: There will be NO 7:00 am Mass on: December 24, 25, 26, 31, New Years Day & Jan 2.	

THANK YOU ST. JOSEPH PARISHIONERS

For World Mission we raised \$1,092.00.
For Shepherds Trust we have raised \$8,254.00 to date.

CATHOLIC SPONSORSHIP 1 YEAR COMMITMENT

Since 1989, the Human Family in Christ has been taking care of poor children in Bolivia through a sponsorship program. A donation of \$180 a year provides food, clothes, medicine and scholastic material to a sponsored child. Sponsors will receive a photo and information on the child's family background. The sponsor will also receive a receipt for income tax purposes.

Contact Marie Morrison at (905) 821-9012.

Or visit stjosephsstreetsville.com for additional details.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Thank You to everyone that contributed to the great success of our Christmas events. The Bake & Craft sale last weekend netted just over \$2,000.00. The Tree of Hope Angel ornaments were sold out; we will be donating \$1,193.00 to The Human Family in Christ.

Thank You & God Bless to all who helped with donating, selling and organizing these events.



OUR LADY'S PILGRIM STATUE

Those wishing to have Our Lady of Fatima statue visit their home for nine (9) days, please call the Parish office (905) 826-2766, to arrange for members of the Legion of Mary to bring the statue and join the host family for prayers.



LOST & FOUND

Over the year(s) many rosaries, car & house keys, gloves, glasses etc have been left behind at the church. Please check the Lost & Found Box in the usher's room, located off the main entrance of the Church or with the Church Office.



CD of the week Spotlight

This digitally-mastered presentation combines classic recordings of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen's timeless reflections on the meaning of the Incarnation of Jesus, mixed with Gregorian Chant and seasonal music. It is sure to become a family favorite!



CHURCH BULLETIN ADVERTISING

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the advertisements for our church bulletin beginning January 2015. Please support the bulletin and advertise your product or service. Call Liturgical Publications at (905) 624-4422.

FIRST COMMUNION / CONFIRMATION 2015

REGISTRATION IS NOW CLOSED.

Next First Communion session dates (for parents):
Thursday Jan. 22nd at 7pm or Saturday Jan. 24th at 10am.

Next Confirmation session dates (Parent & Confirmandi):
Tuesday Jan. 27th at 7 pm or Saturday Jan. 31st at 10 am.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE 2015

....at St. Joseph over 2 weekends.

Friday March 6, 8pm-10pm & Saturday March 7, 10am-5pm
Friday March 13, 8pm-10pm & Saturday March 14, 10 am - 5pm. Couples must attend both days both weekends!

To register please call the parish office: 905-826-2766

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2015-2016

.... will take place at our elementary schools (listed on the bulletin cover) on:

- Monday, January 26 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 28 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Thursday, January 29, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Friday, January 30 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

* Snow Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2015, 7:00 pm. - 9:00 pm.

Information about how to register can be found at dpcdsb.org/CEC/Schools

ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL COLLECTION

You may still make a donation to the annual special collection for SVDP, our wonderful group that assists our less fortunate brothers and sisters is this weekend.



Last Christmas SVDP provided Christmas gift baskets and assistance for 200 families as well as providing ongoing assistance throughout the year to those in need. You may drop the special St Vincent de Paul envelope into the collection basket over the next 2 weeks.

Your support is needed and greatly appreciated!

The BIBLE STUDY



Acts of the Apostles provides us more than a history of the First Christians - it is the story about the Early Church with the Holy Spirit as the protagonist. Christ did not leave His Apostles alone - He sent the Holy Spirit to guide, instruct and equip them. Enrich and deepen your faith as you learn how the Apostles continued Christ's mission on earth through the Power of the Holy Spirit.

Join us for **ACTS: THE SPREAD OF THE KINGDOM**, a 20 week study Monday evenings at St Joseph parish hall beginning Jan 5th (from 7pm -9pm).

Cost is \$5 to register - \$35 for materials.

For more information or to register: Call Michele at 905-826-2766 or email: michele@stjosephsstreetsville.com.
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