

St. John XXIII Parish

150 Gateway Blvd., Don Mills, ON M3C 3E2

Website: <https://stjohn23do.archtoronto.org>

Email: stjohn23do@archtoronto.org

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9AM to 3PM



PARISH BULLETIN | Epiphany of the Lord | 05 January 2025



“They saw the child with his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of

Gold, Frankincense, and

Myrrh.” Matthew 2.12



Saturday Vigil Mass – 5:15pm

Sunday Mass – 9am, 12:15pm, 5:30pm

Weekdays:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 7pm

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday – 9am

Baptism – every Saturday of the month.

Preparation class is required. Talk to Fr. David after any of the Sunday masses.

Confession every Saturday at 4pm or by appointment.

Confirmation – for Grade 7 & up registration for 2025 is in the months of September and October 2024

First Holy Communion – for Grade 2 & up registration for 2025 is on October and November 2024

Wedding – call the office for appointment

Anyone who wants to become

Catholic – call the office for appointment

Parish School-

St. John XXIII Catholic School

175 Grenoble Dr. North York, ON M3C 3E7

Tel. 416-393-5348

Archdiocese of Toronto-

Tel. 416-934-0606 * www.archtoronto.org

Welcome New Parishioners!

Please introduce yourself and your family to me before or after the mass to welcome you to our parish community.

All parishioners are encouraged to register in our community and participate in the church activities. We are here to support each other and grow in our relationship with God and with our neighbors.

For Registration form, ask anyone of the Ushers or Call the office.

Your Pastor,

Fr. David

St. Andre Bessette Jan 7th

Pray for us.

“People who suffer have something to offer to God. When they succeed in enduring their suffering, that is a daily miracle.”



“The star came and stopped where the Child was; and on entering the house they saw the Child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage;” *Matthew 2.1-12*

“Arise, Jerusalem, and look to the East and See, your children gathered from the rising to the setting of the Sun.” These are the words of Prophet Baruch, chapter five, verse five; announcing the re-congregating of humanity anew; a miracle enabled by God alone; after the dispersal at the Tower of Babel.

The Almighty, all powerful came among us; as an ordinary infant, dependent and lying on the manger on Christmas Night, and up to then, we can say, only the Angels, Mary, Joseph, and the Shepherds knew of his Presence among his People.

Epiphany, marks the day of great joy, when the prophecy of Prophet Isaiah was fulfilled; “*Nations shall come to your light, and Kings to the brightness of your dawn.*” This Day was in fulfillment to the promise made to Abraham by God; “*I will make you a Father of a Great Nation and All the Nations of the Earth will be Blessed through You.*”

In the Gospel Reading, St Matthew the Evangelist, himself, a Jew, saw this day as the opening of the doors of Salvation to all Peoples, announcing, that the privilege exclusive to Israel was extended to the whole of humanity!

“Where is the Newborn King of the Jews?” The Magi asked. “We saw his star at its rising and have come to do Him homage.”

These Kings are representative of the Gentile World in all its diversity; coming to Christ. Their coming to Jerusalem was not by chance; this was in the Plan of God, and was the Fulfillment of the Prophecy of Isaiah, in the 1st reading; “*From Midian and Ephah; From Sheba shall come...they come bearing Gold and Frankincense, and proclaiming the Praises of the Lord.*” (Is 60:1-6)

Epiphany is the day of Our First Calling as Gentiles! Our pride is that these first Gentiles responded with great generosity; In a diligent search, making a Journey of Faith following the beckoning of the Star and they witnessed the generosity of the Love of God.

Matthew writes; “*The star came and stopped where the Child was; and on entering the house they saw the Child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage;*” Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts; Gold - signifying his Kingship, Incense- his Divinity and Myrrh - predicting his redemptive Suffering.

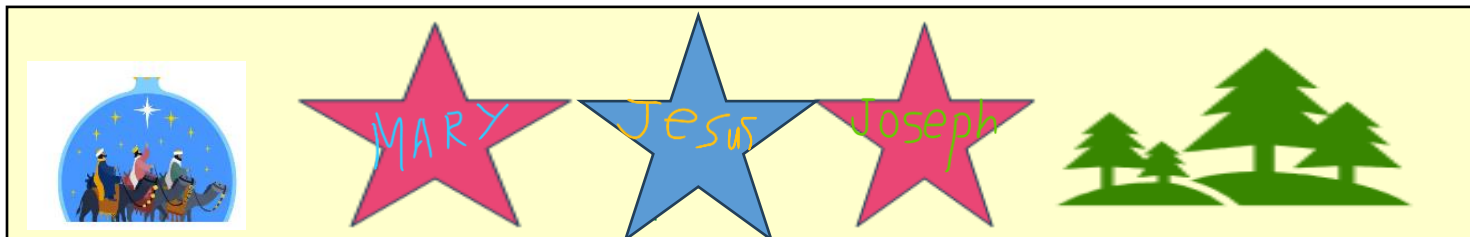
Mathew the Evangelist tells us that the Kings “were overwhelmed with Joy.”

The Star had led them to Jesus. Notice, that it was not they, who discovered Jesus, but Jesus revealed Himself to them!

Their generous response and their journey led them to Him; beginning the Great Procession that continues to our day; “*The Humanity Pilgrimage to God Our Father through Christ Jesus our Savior!* This was in fulfillment of what we proclaim in the Psalm; “Lord every Nation on Earth will adore You.”

But notice the stark contrast, in attitude, between the Magi and the King and people in Jerusalem; I am surprised and shocked at the indifference and fear in Jerusalem!

These two parties asked the same question; “Where is the Newborn King of the Jews?” But with very different Responses! One led to an overwhelming joy for the Magi; the other led by King Herod, jealousy and fear of losing influence and power, led to the deaths of the innocent infants of Bethlehem.



**Compendium of the Catechism
of the Catholic Church**

101. In what sense is the life of Christ a Mystery? 512-521, 561-562

The entire life of Christ is a revelation. What was visible in the earthly life of Jesus leads us to the invisible mystery of his divine sonship: "whoever has seen me has seen the Father" (John 14:9). Furthermore, even though salvation comes completely from the cross and the resurrection, the entire life of Christ is a mystery of redemption because everything that Jesus did, said, and suffered had for its aim the salvation of fallen human beings and the restoration of their vocation as children of God.

102. How did God prepare the world for the mystery of Christ? 522-524

God prepared for the coming of his Son over the centuries. He awakened in the hearts of the pagans a dim expectation of this coming and he prepared for it specifically through the Old Testament, culminating with John the Baptist who was the last and greatest of the prophets. We relive this long period of expectancy in the annual liturgical celebration of the season of Advent.

103. What does the Gospel teach about the mysteries of the birth and infancy of Jesus? 525-530, 563-564

At Christmas the glory of heaven is shown forth in the weakness of a baby; the circumcision of Jesus is a sign of his belonging to the Hebrew people and is a prefiguration of our Baptism; the Epiphany is the manifestation of the Messiah King of Israel to all the nations; at the presentation in the temple, Simeon and Anna symbolise all the anticipation of Israel awaiting its encounter with its Savior; the flight into Egypt and the massacre of the innocents proclaim that the entire life of Christ will be under the sign of persecution; the departure from Egypt recalls the exodus and presents Jesus as the new Moses and the true and definitive liberator.

To read more click the link below:

[Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church](#)

MASS INTENTIONS

Jan 4-Sat, 5:15PM **Vigil Mass** + Lerma Glen Ayala

Jan 5- Sun 9:00AM +Fr. Rudy Imperial

12:15 PM + Fr. Dan Palilio

+ Jeffrey Cortez

5:30 PM The Parishioners

Jan 6 -Mon,7:00PM +Merilyn Baldemor

Jan 7 -Tue, 9:00 AM + Fr. Rudy Imperial

Jan 8 -Wed 7:00 PM Intention of Pete & Fely Lazaga

Jan 9- Thu, 9:00AM Intention of Ailene for Nida D.

Jan 10-Fri, 7:00 PM + Pablo Picache

Jan 11- Sat, 9:00 AM _____

7-day Vigil Lamp Intention –Jan 04-10, 2025

Sanctuary--- Wed Anniversary of Pete & Fely L.

Virgin Mary- +Lerma Ayala

Chapel ---- + Raul Aquino

WORD OF THE WEEK

“EPIPHANY”

--means an appearance or manifestation especially of a divine being; an illuminating discovery, realization, or disclosure;

<http://www.meriam-webster.com>

The Feast of the Epiphany is observed on January 6 in the Latin Rite of the Catholic Church. It will be celebrated on Sunday, January 5, 2025 in Canada and USA.

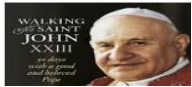
The word Epiphany means a manifestation, a making present, a revealing. There is no doubt that even during those so called "hidden" years the plan, purpose and redemptive implications of the entire saving life, death, ascension, and resurrection of Jesus were being manifested and revealed. They reveal how the ordinary becomes extraordinary when lived in communion with God the Father. <https://www.catholic.org>

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention - January 2025 - FOR THE RIGHT TO AN EDUCATION

"Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected."



Our Patron Saint...



"The family is based upon a marriage which is one and indissoluble and, with respect to Christians, raised to the dignity of a sacrament." Pope John XXIII

St. Andre Bessette Jan 7th

Known to millions simply as Brother Andre, Alfred Bessette was born in St. Gregoire, Quebec, in 1845 Orphaned by the age of 9, he was unschooled, small and sickly. In 1870 he joined the Congregation of Holy Cross. For the next 40 years, he was porter at the College Notre-Dame on Queen Mary Road in Montreal, where he excelled at hospitality. In the course of his duties, he welcomed the sick and afflicted, and it was his habit to pray with them through the intercession of St. Joseph. He gained a reputation throughout the city and, as he was credited with extraordinary favours and with healings, more and more people came to the college to seek out the 'Miracle Man of Montreal'.

Possessed of a deep love for St. Joseph, Brother Andre erected a statue of the saint on the mountain across from the college. Then, assisted by lay friends in 1904, he built a wooden chapel on the mountain. Over the years, the chapel grew into a basilica. Today, St. Joseph's Oratory welcomes more than two million visitors each year. Its founder lived to be 91, was declared blessed in 1982, and canonized on October 17, 2010. St. Andre Bessette is the patron of family caregivers in Canada. *Living with Christ, Jan 2025 edition*

PARISH DEVOTIONS

Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion

-every Saturday before the 9am Mass

Recitation of the Holy Rosary

-before the Mass

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

-Every 1st Friday at 6:00pm communal

Parish Ministries & Programs

- Eucharistic Extraordinary Ministers
- Lectors—Proclaimers of God's words
- Altar Servers & Sacristans
- Ushers
- Catholic Women's League
- Intercessory Prayer Group
- Legion of Mary
- Icon of Our Lady
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- Seniors Breakfast Club

If you are interested to join, please email us at stjohn23do@archtoronto.org and we will direct you to the person leading these groups.

What unites us, is much greater than what divides us." St. John XXIII

IN THE NEWS !!!



Opening of the Holy Door and Mass at Rome's Basilica of Saint Mary Major (ANSA)

Saint Mary Major's Holy Door is open

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2025-01/saint-mary-major-s-holy-door-is-open.html>



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM HIS EMINENCE FRANK CARDINAL LEO

Friday, December 20, 2024



LAUNCH OF THE JUBILEE YEAR IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

Tuesday, December 31, 2024



REFLECTING ON THE SUCCESS OF RENEW TORONTO: A GATHERING OF OVER 750 YOUNG ADULTS

Friday, December 20, 2024

<https://www.archtoronto.org/en/outreach/news/>

****click the link above to read the full text of the news****

Announcements!!!

- ✚ **For those Parents of first Holy Communion Candidates, who have not taken the First Test, please email the office to schedule your child to take Test 1;**
- ✚ **If there are changes in your name or address, please email the Parish Office so we could update your record before printing the Tax Receipt.**
- ✚ **For new Parishioners, please fill up the Parish registration form and submit to the parish office.**





JUBILEE 2025

On December 29th was the opening of the Holy Door of St. John Lateran Cathedral. A solemn Opening of the Jubilee Year. Also, the opening celebrations of the Jubilee Year in Diocesan Cathedrals and Co- Cathedrals around the World.

Jubilee Prayer

The official prayer of His Holiness Pope Francis for the Jubilee Year allows the faithful from all over the world to use the same words to express gratitude to God and request the grace of forgiveness.

THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.
May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the
whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.
May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

Franciscus



¡Feliz Navidad y Feliz ano nuevo *Buon Natale!* *Feliz Natal!*

Joyeux Noël et Bonne Annee *Frohe Weihnachten und Frohes neues Jahr!!*

(Meli Keuliseumaseu!)

Vrolijk Kerstfeest!

(Merikurisumasu!)

(Shèngdàn jí kuàilè!)

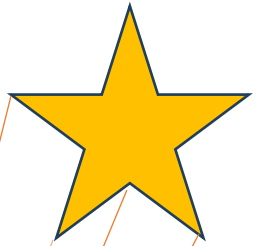
Christmas ki shubhkamnayen

Krismasi Njema na mwaka mpya wenye Furaha!

Maligayang Pasko at Mapayapang Bagong

JESUS

savior of the world



Dear Jesus,

As the star was the guide of the Wise men to pay homage and see your face, we pray that you be our guiding star in our daily lives to be the person you wanted us to be to reach Heaven and be with the Father who loves us so much. St. John XXIII Community

O Come let us adore Him, Christ our Savior!

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

