

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 | Feast of the Epiphany | 04 January 26



On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage, Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of: (Matthew 2.12)



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



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 2026 is in the months of August and September 2025

First Holy Communion – for Grade 2 & up
registration for 2026 is in the months of August and September 2025

Wedding – Talk to Fr. David after any of the Sunday Masses

Anyone who wants to become

Catholic – Talk to Fr. David after any of the Sunday Masses

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

The Most Holy Name of Jesus
January 3rd

“Jesus, Son of the Living God, have Mercy on us.”



“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 in the first reading of today 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 prophesy 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, they made 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, jealous and in fear of losing influence and power, this led to the deaths of the innocent infants of Bethlehem.



CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

II. THE MYSTERIES OF JESUS' INFANCY AND HIDDEN LIFE

The mysteries of Jesus' infancy

527 Jesus' circumcision, on the eighth day after his birth,²⁰⁹ is the sign of his incorporation into Abraham's descendants, into the people of the covenant. It is the sign of his submission to the Law²¹⁰ and his deputation to Israel's worship, in which he will participate throughout his life. This sign prefigures that "circumcision of Christ" which is Baptism.²¹¹

528 The Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Saviour of the world. the great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (magi) from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee.²¹² In the magi, representatives of the neighbouring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation. the magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, in the messianic light of the star of David, the one who will be king of the nations.²¹³ Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and worship him as Son of God and Saviour of the world only by turning towards the Jews and receiving from them the messianic promise as contained in the Old Testament.²¹⁴ The Epiphany shows that "the full number of the nations" now takes its "place in the family of the patriarchs", and acquires Israelitica dignitas²¹⁵ (is made "worthy of the heritage of Israel"). To read more click this link. [Catechism of the Catholic Church - IntraText](#)

MASS INTENTIONS

Jan 03-Sat,5:15PM Vigil Mass +The Parishioners

Jan 04- Sun 9:00AM + Isidro Cabilin

12:15 PM + Lerma Glen Ayala

5:30 PM + Nida Donado

Jan 05-Mon,7:00PM Thanksgiving of Sally Sunga

Jan 06-Tue, 9:00 AM +Carmelita Estanislao

Jan 07- Wed. 9:00am + Francesca & Pietro Gulli

Jan 08 -Thu, 9:00 AM Thanksgiving of Zeny Crescini

Jan 09 -Fri,7:00 PM Thanksgiving of Rosabella Duave

Jan 10-Sat,9:00AM Thanksgiving of Lita Varnamo

7-day Vigil Lamp Intention – Jan 03- 09, 2026

Sanctuary--- Thanksgiving of Cora de Villa

Virgin Mary- Thanksgiving of Cora de Villa

WORD OF THE WEEK

“EPIPHANY”

-means an appearance or manifestation especially of a divine being; an illuminating discovery, realization, or disclosure: <http://www.merriam-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 7, 2024 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.

Click the link to read more <https://www.catholic.org>

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention - January 2026 - FOR PRAYER WITH THE WORD OF GOD

"Let us pray that praying with the word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church."



Our Patron Saint...



"We have a wonderful opportunity here in this world, and I believe that God has placed us here for a reason." Pope John XXIII

The Most Holy Name of Jesus Jan 3rd

Since New Testament times, the name of Jesus has been honoured. Paul writes that "at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2.10-11)

The monogram of the name of Jesus, **IHS** (from the Greek **IHSOUS**), was widely promoted in the 15th century by John of Capistrano and Bernardine of Siena, although the use of the letters of the name of Jesus as an emblem can be traced to the 8th century.

Living with Christ January 2026 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



Pope to US youth: Be open to what God has in store for you!

Click the link to read more **Vatican News**: [Pope to US youth: Be open to what God has in store for you! - Vatican News](#)



PILGRIMS GATHER FOR MASS TO CLOSE THE YEAR OF JUBILEE

Tuesday, December 30, 2025



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM HIS EMINENCE FRANK CARDINAL LEO

Wednesday, December 24, 2025



CARDINAL LEO AFFIRMS CONCERNS OF CANADIAN BISHOPS RE: BILL C-9

Friday, December 05, 2025

Click the link to read more **Archdiocese News**: [Archdiocese of Toronto - News](#)

Announcements!!!

Registered Parishioners, if you have changes in your address, please email the office to update your information;

Parents of all First Holy Communion Candidates, please email the office to schedule your child for Test 2;

New to the Parish? Please register, fill up a Parish Registration Form and submit to the Office or to Fr. David.



≈ Did you know??? ≈

Here are some interesting facts about the Epiphany:

Meaning of the Feast of the Epiphany

Epiphany means "manifestation." It is when God makes Himself known on earth. The Feast of the Three Wise Men commemorates the first manifestation of Christ, demonstrated through the adoration of the Wise Men from the East upon meeting Jesus (Mt 2:1-2). According to Professor Franco Cardini of the University of Florence, author of *The Three Wise Men: History and Legend*, the Wise Men are symbols of the past, present, and future, as well as representations of the Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit).

The Bible Does Not Specify There Were Three Wise Men

Although it is commonly believed that three Wise Men visited the Infant Jesus, the Bible does not mention an exact number. This assumption is based on the three gifts they presented, a detail mentioned in **Matthew 2:11**.

Each Gift from the Wise Men Has a Meaning

According to the Bible, the Wise Men gave Jesus gold, frankincense, and myrrh as part of their homage. In Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter *Admirabile Signum*, he explains the meanings behind these gifts:

- **Gold:** Honors Jesus' royalty, as it is a gift for kings.
- **Frankincense:** Honors Jesus' divinity, as recognized by the Wise Men.
- **Myrrh:** Represents Jesus' humanity, foretelling His death and burial.

The Star of the East May Have Been a Natural Phenomenon

The star is a significant element in Matthew's account, as it guided the Wise Men to the house where Jesus lay. Known as the Star of Bethlehem or the Star of Jesus, some believe it may have been a shooting star or another astronomical event.

Were the Wise Men Really Kings?

Although they are often called the "Three Kings," the Bible does not refer to them as kings but as *magi*, meaning "wise men." Some scholars believe they may have been priests or astrologers.

The Day of the Three Wise Men holds deep significance for Catholics, symbolizing the first revelation of Jesus to the world. It also serves as a reminder that faith is a lifelong journey—a journey requiring the same perseverance and love that the Wise Men showed on their quest to meet Jesus. [Read more](#)

at: [Five Facts About the Three Wise Men, the Epiphany and a Gift For You](#) | CRS



May the Lord grant our wishes this Christmas or on His appointed time!

MERRY CHRISTMAS