

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 | 2nd Sunday of Lent | 25 February 2024

**“This is my Son,
the beloved;
with whom I am
well pleased,
listen to Him!”**

Mark 9.7

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 2nd Saturday & 3rd Sunday 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

ST. GREGORY OF NAREK (Feb 27th)

Pray for us.

“The voice of a sighing heart, its sobs and mournful cries, I offer up to you, O Seer of Secrets, placing the fruits of my wavering mind as a savory sacrifice on the fire of my grieving soul to be delivered to you in the censer of my will.”

St. Gregory of Narek



**“This is My Beloved Son, With Whom I am Well Pleased
Listen to Him.” (Mark 9:7)**

The Story of Abraham in today’s 1st Reading is very well known to us; God tests Abraham to sacrifice his only Son and Abraham obeyed God trusting in his provision! Notice however, that the Lord God does not allow Abraham to go through with the Sacrifice and God, himself, provides the Lamb of the Sacrifice. The Lord Blessed Abraham for his trust in Him. With the Sacrifice Abraham became the model of Faith; For his trust in God, his absolute obedience and his generous giving was without question.

In the Gospel Reading today, God unlike Abraham confirms that He would go through with the Sacrifice of His Son for our Salvation.

The Disciples of Christ had been following Jesus for some time and had come to believe that he was the Promised Messiah. They were expecting great returns as Christ’s close friends. But Jesus had been predicting, anything but placement in a government to come, rather three times, He had revealed to them, the Will of His Father;

“Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem and everything written by the Prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. He will be handed over to the Chief Priest and the Scribes, and they will condemn him to death and hand him over to the Gentiles who will mock him, spit upon him, scourge him, and put him to death, but after three days he will rise.” (Lk. 18:31-33, Mt. 20:18-19, Mk. 10:33-34)

These predictions did not sit well with his Disciples, who had up to that time witnessed Christ perform many wonderful signs and Miracles; turning water into wine in the wedding at Cana, the great catch of Fish curing the sick, feeding the multitude or driving out demons, restoring the sight of the blind and the lame walking.

Luke writes, the Disciples “understood nothing of this; the Word remained hidden from them and they failed to comprehend what he said.” (Lk. 18: 34)

The shock of Christ’s Passion, His Crucifixion and Death would have a devastating effect on the Disciples and the Probable Question was; Would the disciples have Faith strong enough to survive the shock as they witness their master, arrested, tortured, crucified and dead on the Cross?

The Disciples needed encouragement and Strength;

Today, the second Sunday of Lent, the Church offers us this Gospel of encouragement; in the Account of the Transfiguration of Christ. Before starting His Journey to Jerusalem, where he is to die, Jesus went up a Mountain commonly identified as Mt. Tabor, to Pray together with Apostle Peter, James and John. And there, God in His Generosity, gave the Apostles the Full and Definitive Revelation of their Master in Glory. They Witnessed their Master in His Glory in Heaven.

And in the Experience of this Glory, Elijah and Moses appeared with Jesus. Elijah representing the Prophets and Moses, the Covenant. Both appeared in bodily Form that the 3 Apostles could recognize.

Moses and Elijah had previously gone up the mountain to receive God’s Revelation, but unlike their two episodes, in Transfiguration, it was not Jesus who received the Revelation of God rather, it’s in Jesus that God revealed himself.

Luke the Evangelist reveals the topic that Elijah, Moses and Jesus discussed, Christ’s Exodus, from this World, back to the Glory of God, having sealed the New Covenant with his people.

The Apostles were overwhelmed by the Vision in the Glory of God, so much so that Peter wants this Glorious Experience prolonged! Then Came the Voice of God the Father; *“This is My Beloved Son, With Whom I am Well Pleased Listen to Him.”*

The Apostles were commanded to be attentive to Christ this Final phase in God’s Revelation; where in Christ, the Will of the Father would be fully revealed and fulfilled

In the talk with Moses and Elijah, the Disciples learn of the soon coming Exodus of their Master. Learning They learnt the bitter truth: The Cross was inevitable if the God’s infinite love for humanity and creation was to be revealed.

Meditating on this Gospel Passage, we too who are preparing to re-live the decisive events of Christ’s death and Resurrection, require strength and Graces from God to understand the significance of God’s Love in our lives as disciples of his Son. This Glimpse of our Master in the Glory of Heaven should encourage us in our Faith in God! Like Abraham, we too are called and take on a Journey of Faith, renouncing all our securities and abandoning ourselves into God’s Will.



COMPENDIUM OF THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

CHAPTER THREE

The Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic

171. What is the meaning of the affirmation “Outside the Church there is no salvation”? 841-845

This means that all salvation comes from Christ, the Head, through the Church which is his body. Hence, they cannot be saved who, knowing the Church as founded by Christ and necessary for salvation, would refuse to enter her or remain in her. At the same time, thanks to Christ and to his Church, those who through no fault of their own do not know the Gospel of Christ and his Church but sincerely seek God and, moved by grace, try to do his will as it is known through the dictates of conscience can attain eternal salvation.

172. Why must the Church proclaim the Gospel to the whole world? 849-851

The Church must do so because Christ has given the command: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19). This missionary mandate of the Lord has its origin in the eternal love of God who has sent his Son and the Holy Spirit because “he desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Timothy 2:4).

173. In what sense is the Church missionary? 852-856

The Church, guided by the Holy Spirit, continues the mission of Christ himself in the course of history. Christians must, therefore, proclaim to everyone the Good News borne by Christ; and, following his path, they must be ready for self-sacrifice, even unto martyrdom.

174. Why is the Church apostolic? 857,869

The Church is apostolic in her origin because she has been built on “the foundation of the Apostles” (Ephesians 2:20). She is apostolic in her teaching which is the same as that of the Apostles. She is apostolic by reason of her structure insofar as she is taught, sanctified, and guided until Christ returns by the Apostles through their successors who are the bishops in communion with the successor of Peter.

175. In what does the mission of the Apostles consist? 858-861

The Word “Apostle” means “one who is sent”. Jesus, the One sent by the Father, called to himself twelve of his disciples and appointed them as his Apostles, making them the chosen witnesses of his Resurrection and the foundation of his Church. He gave them the command to continue his own mission saying, “As the Father has sent me, so I also send you” (John 20:21); and he promised to remain with them until the end of the world.

(to be continued)- Catechism of the Catholic Church <https://www.vatican.va/archive/compendium>

MASS INTENTIONS

- Feb 24-Sat, 5:15PM Vigil Mass-
+Louis & Dina Comeau
- Feb 25-Sunday 9:00 AM + Pietro Gulli
12:15 PM + Felino Fullon
5:30 PM + The Parishioners
- Feb 26-Mon, 7PM- + Chielo Lungay
- Feb 27-Tue, 9AM For All Souls in Purgatory
+Mario Esconde
- Feb 28-Wed,7PM Healing of Herbert K.
- Feb 29-Thu,9AM For the Youth of the Parish
- Mar 01- Fri, 7PM- + Jose Flora
- Mar 02- Sat, 9AM- +Anthony Delfino

7-day Candle Offering–Feb 24-Mar 01, 2024

- Sanctuary--- Thanksgiving of Vi Hughes
- Virgin Mary- Thanksgiving of Vi Hughes
- Chapel ---- Thanksgiving of Vi Hughes

WORDS OF THE WEEK
STATIONS OF THE
CROSS



The Stations of the Cross are a 14-step Catholic devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ’s last day on Earth as a man. The 14 devotions, or stations, focus on specific events of His last day, beginning with His condemnation. The stations are commonly used as a mini pilgrimage as the individual moves from station to station. At each station, the individual recalls and meditates on a specific event from Christ’s last day. Specific prayers are recited, then the individual moves to the next station until all 14 are complete.

<http://www.catholic.org/prayers/station.php>

Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention -February 2024 - FOR THE TERMINALLY ILL

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.”



Our Patron Saint..



"See everything, overlook a great deal, correct a little."
 ST. JOHN XXIII

St. Gregory of Narek (Feb 27th)

St. Gregory of Narek was a 10th-century Armenian monk, poet, and mystical writer and composer. His best-known literary work is a book of prayers, *The Book of Lamentations*. It is considered a masterpiece of Armenian Literature. St. Gregory himself defined the work as a n "encyclopedia of prayer for all nations," and hoped that it would provide guidance in prayer for people of all walks of life.

In 2021, Pope Francis inscribed St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church, on February 27 as an Optional Memorial in the Roman Calendar. St. Gregory of Narek is recognized as a saint in both the Catholic Church and in the Armenian Apostolic Church, being venerated in a particular way among Catholics of the Armenian Rite. *(source: vaticannews.va)*

[Livingwithchrist_February2024.ed](https://www.livingwithchrist.com/February2024.ed)

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 at Angelus: Journey through Lent listening to voice of God

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2024-02/pope-angelus-lent-temptations-prayer-reflection.html>



FIVE MEN PREPARE FOR ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD ON MAY 11, 2024
 Thursday, February 22, 2024

NEWS | ARCHDIOCESAN | NEWS | ST. MICHAEL'S CATHEDRAL BASILICA



CANADIAN CHURCHES AND LEADERS CALL FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE
 Thursday, February 22, 2024

NEWS | ARCHDIOCESAN | NEWS



ARCHBISHOP LEO MEETS WITH HISPANIC PRIESTS OF TORONTO
 Wednesday, February 21, 2024

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



40 Days of Lenten Reflections (2024)

Catholic Latte

[40 Days of Lenten Reflections \(2024\) - YouTube](#)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **FHC Candidates and Parents, email the office to book and appointment for test 3;**
- **In all Fridays of Lent, there will be Station of the Cross at 6:30PM followed by the 7PM Mass;**
- **Tax Receipts are now available;**
- **Bundle up weekend of St. Vincent de Paul will be on March 23-24, see poster for details on what are acceptable;**

