

St. John XXIII Parish

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

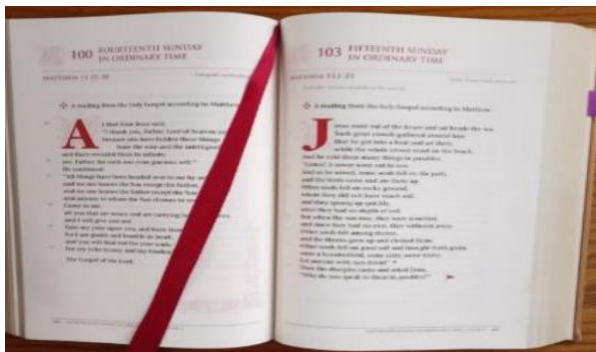
Website: <https://stjohn23do.archtoronto.org>

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Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9AM to 3PM



PARISH BULLETIN | 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time | 16 July 2023



“The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever.”

Lk.8:11



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 Easter Vigil Mass – 8:00pm
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 2024 is in the months of September and October 2023

First Holy Communion – for Grade 2 & up registration for 2024 is on October and November 2023

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

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL (Jul16th)
Pray for us.

“All gracious God, may the prayers of the Blessed Virgin, Mother and Queen of Carmel, protect us, & bring us to your Holy Mountain, Christ our Lord...”

Carmelite Sacramentary



“My Word shall not return to me void, but shall do my Will, achieving the end for which I sent it.” (Isaiah 55: 11)

In the 1st reading, today, Prophet Isaiah reminds us of the Power of Divine Word in our human history. The Word of God comes gently but never remains suspended like the clouds, rather, it soaks the ground, to be drawn back to its source;

“My Word shall not return to me void, but shall do my Will, achieving the end for which I sent it.”
Isaiah 55:11

God’s Spirit is infused within the human being, where it brings forth divine fruits; a consequence of his grace.

In the Second Reading, St. Paul discloses a truth about the destiny of our created world. St Paul reveal its Redemption in Christ Jesus.

“Creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the Children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it...”

Creation was cursed as a result of Adam’s Sin; ***“Accursed, be the soil because of you...”*** (Gen 3:17) Since then, material creation has been in a state of strive! St. Paul sees creation sharing in the destiny of humanity; Freed from every strive and decay.

This is what Jerome (P. 884) says in his interpretation of these verses;

“Although God cursed the ground because of the Sin of Adam, He gave it hope of sharing in the Human Redemption or Liberation. Thus, material creation is not just a mere spectator of humanity’s triumphant glory and freedom, in Christ Jesus, it shares in it.”

In the Gospel Reading, we begin Christ’s Teaching in Parables in St. Mathew’s Gospel with ***“The Parable of the Sower.”*** There are Seven Parables in this Gospel, six of which we are going to hear these coming two Sundays.

In Parables Jesus takes us on a journey in which he gradually reveals the Truth of Kingdom of God.

At Christ’s time, it was normal for a famer to indiscriminately cast seeds across the field, and then follow this with ploughing to cover the seeds. It was common that seed would fall on the path, others on rocky ground others on thorny ground.

Jesus explains the Seed as the Word of God and the different soils as different ways in human receptions of the Word.

Those who have accepted the word are seen as the ideal disciples; who “bring forth fruit in a quantity of harvest according to the generosity shown them!”

There are those who are not ideal disciples, who are less generous, in the reception of the Word; these either produce little or nothing at all.

However, at the Heart of Christ’s teaching is a citation from Isaiah 6:9f., *“To you, God has given the secret of the Kingdom of God: but to those who are without, everything is obscure, in order that they may ‘see and yet not see, may hear and yet not understand, unless they turn and God will forgive them’* (Mk. 4:12 Jeremias p. 17)

What does this mean?

Here, Jesus, places himself in the line of the Prophets; His destiny is a Prophet’s destiny. Prophets seem to fail; Their Message go unheeded, yet, it is only through this seemed failure that their word becomes efficacious.

In his farewell discourse, the Lord says; *“I have said this to you in Parables, the hour is coming when I shall no longer speak to you in Parables but tell you plainly of the Father.”* (Jn. 16:25)

The Parables speak in a hidden Way of the Mystery of Self-Giving; In the Parables, Jesus is not only the Sower who scatters the Seed of the Word of God, but he is also, the Seed that falls into the earth in order to die and so bear Fruits.



COMPENDIUM OF THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

23. What is the unity that exists between the Old and the New Testaments?^{128-130,140}

Scripture is one insofar as the Word of God is one. God’s plan of salvation is one, and the divine inspiration of both Testaments is one. The Old Testament prepares for the New and the New Testament fulfills the Old; the two shed light on each other.

24. What role does Sacred Scripture play in the life of the Church?^{131-133,141-142}

Sacred Scripture gives support and vigor to the life of the Church. For the children of the Church, it is a confirmation of the faith, food for the soul and the fount of the spiritual life. Sacred Scripture is the soul of theology and of pastoral preaching. The Psalmist says that it is “a lamp to my feet and a light to my path” (Psalm 119:105). The Church, therefore, exhorts all to read Sacred Scripture frequently because “ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ” (Saint Jerome).

Chapter Three
Man’s Response to God
I Believe

25. How does man respond to God who reveals himself? ¹⁴²⁻¹⁴³

Sustained by divine grace, we respond to God with the obedience of faith, which means the full surrender of ourselves to God and the acceptance of his truth insofar as it is guaranteed by the One who is Truth itself.

26. Who are the principal witnesses of the obedience of faith in the Sacred Scriptures?¹⁴⁴⁻¹⁴⁹

There are many such witnesses, two in particular: One is Abraham who when put to the test “believed in God” (Romans 4:3) and always obeyed his call. For this reason, he is called “the Father of all who believe” (Romans 4:11-18). The other is the Virgin Mary who, throughout her entire life, embodied in a perfect way the obedience of faith: “Let it be done to me according to your word” (Luke 1:38).

27. What does it mean in practice for a person to believe in God?^{150-152; 176-178}

It means to adhere to God himself, entrusting oneself to him and giving assent to all the truths which God has revealed because God is Truth. It means to believe in one God in three Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

(continued in the next column....)

MASS INTENTIONS

Jul 15 – Saturday, 5:15PM Vigil Mass –
+Dennis C.

Jul 16 – Sunday 9:00 AM +Benjie R.
12:15 PM +Antonio B.
5:30 PM The Parishioners

Jul 17–Mon, 7 PM + Fernanda T.
Jul 18–Tue, 9 AM + Benjie R. & +Fernanda T.

Jul 19 –Wed,7 PM +Butch C.
Jul 20 –Thu, 9AM +Esther de V.

Jul 21 –Fri, 7PM + Benjie R.
Jul 22 –Sat, 9AM Thanksgiving Andre G.
Thanksgiving B-day of Roy M.

7-day Candle – Offering –July15 to 21, 2023

Sanctuary--- In Memory of Lerma Ayala
Virgin Mary- Healing of Mary Ylagan
Chapel ----- In Memory of Eugenia & Isaias Porte

28. What are the characteristics of faith?

^{153-165,179-180;183-184}

Faith is the supernatural virtue which is necessary for salvation. It is a free gift of God and is accessible to all who humbly seek it. The act of faith is a human act, that is, an act of the intellect of a person - prompted by the will moved by God - who freely assents to divine truth. Faith is also certain because it is founded on the Word of God; it works “through charity” (Galatians 5:6); and it continually grows through listening to the Word of God and through prayer. It is, even now, a foretaste of the joys of heaven.

29. Why is there no contradiction between faith and science?¹⁵⁹

Though faith is above reason, there can never be a contradiction between faith and science because both originate in God. It is God himself who gives to us the light both of reason and of faith.

“I believe, in order to understand; and I understand, the better to believe.”
(Saint Augustine)

(to be continued next week) [Catechism of the Catholic Church](#)

Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention –July 2023 - [For a Eucharistic Life](#)

“We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.”



Our Patron Saint...



*“Just as food is necessary to the life of the body,
so good reading is necessary to the life of the
soul.”*

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel July 16th

The Carmelites have celebrated their patronal feast on this day since the 14th century. According to tradition, St. Simon Stock was given the brown scapular by the Blessed Virgin on this day in 1251. The Order of Carmel dates back to a group of Western hermits who in the 12th century settled on Mt. Carmel, overlooking the plain of Galilee, in imitation of the prophet Elijah (1Kings 18.19-46 and 2Kings 2.25). They grouped themselves around a small chapel dedicated to Our Lady. In the 13th century, the Order of Carmel as we know it was formed, retaining the twin devotions of the early hermits: to Elijah and his solitary prayer, and to Our Lady under the title ‘of Mount Carmel.’

Living Christ July 2023 edition.

WORD FOR THE WEEK

New

BLESSINGS

-are called “sacramentals” because they prepare us to receive the grace of the sacraments and help us to grow to be more like Christ (CCC#1670) Blessings consist of prayer, Scripture, and sometimes a special ritual sign (CCC1668). Every baptized person is called to be a ‘blessing’ and to bless (CCC 1669).

DO YOU KNOW ...?

1. Who was the prophet who wrote the first readings this Sunday?
2. And, what is the responsorial psalm?
3. In the second reading, Paul said to the Romans that the sufferings of this present life are not worth comparing to what?
4. In the gospel, the word of God is compared to?
5. Fill in the missing words from the Gospel Acclamation
“The _____ is the word of God, Christ is the _____; all who come to him will live forever.”
6. What are the 7 Sacraments?
7. What are the 2 major parts of the Bible?

+

Answer on last week: 1. Ephraim; 2. Zechariah 9.9-10; 3. The Spirit of God; 4. The mysteries of the Kingdom of God, the dynamic relationship of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit and the Presence of Jesus among us; 5. Blessed are you, **Father**, Lord of heaven and earth; you revealed **little ones the mysteries of the Kingdom.**; 6. We should turn to Jesus Christ whose yoke is easy and His burden is light; 7. The 7 Spiritual works of Mercy- Instruct the ignorant; counsel the doubtful; Admonish sinners; bear wrongs patiently; forgive offenses willingly; Comfort the afflicted; Pray for the living and the dead.

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
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- Shrine Apostolate Icon of Our Lady
- 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

GOOD NEWS:

- **Sunday Liturgy for the kids every Sunday in the 12:15pm Mass. Please bring your kids to hear the Words of God.**
- **The Seniors Group breakfast is held every 2nd Thursday of the month.**

JOIN AND HAVE FUN!!!