

# St. John XXIII Parish

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

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

Email: [stjohn23do@archtoronto.org](mailto:stjohn23do@archtoronto.org)

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9AM to 3PM



## PARISH BULLETIN | 2nd SUNDAY OF LENT | 16 March 2025

**“This is my  
Son, my  
Chosen; listen  
to him!”** Luke 9.35

**PRAYER -- FASTING -- GIVING**

*LENT ... See page 6*



**Pilgrimage Churches.** *see page 5*

### *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 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](http://www.archtoronto.org)

**St. Joseph** *March 19th*

**Pray for us.**

**“St. Joseph was a just man, tireless worker, the upright guardian of those entrusted to his care. May he always.”**

*Pope John Paul II*



*“This is My Beloved Son, With Whom I am Well Pleased Listen to Him.”* *Matthew 17:5*

The Story of Abraham in today’s 1<sup>st</sup> Reading is very well known to us; God’s promise to Abraham, though, required a man of great faith. God promise to Abraham; “*Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to ... so will your descendants be,*” was a challenging one. Abraham and his wife were advanced in age, yet, they did not have a child. The Lord, God, made a covenant with Abraham assuring him that God would faithfully fulfill his promise.

In the Gospel Reading today, God had fulfilled this Promise to Abraham in a very unique and magnificent way. Jesus, the Son of God was of the lineage of Abraham and obediently fulfilling the Will of his Father.

In the Gospel, Jesus set to reveal himself to three of his Disciples. The Disciples had been following Jesus for some time and had come to believe that he was the Promised Messiah. The trouble was the Messiah they took Jesus to be, was apolitical one, with earthly power and glory. Several times they had been caught fighting for greatness. Jesus, on his part had been predicting, anything but early glory and placement to great earthly positions. For 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 and 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 three Apostles could recognize.

Moses and Elijah had previously gone up the mountain to receive God’s Revelation, however, 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 wanted 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 the Will of God.



**Catechism of the Catholic Church**

**A foretaste of the kingdom: the Transfiguration**

**554** From the day Peter confessed that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, the Master "began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things. . . and be killed, and on the third day be raised." [290](#) Peter scorns this prediction, nor do the others understand it any better than he. [291](#) In this context the mysterious episode of Jesus' Transfiguration takes place on a high mountain, [292](#) before three witnesses chosen by himself: Peter, James and John. Jesus' face and clothes become dazzling with light, and Moses and Elijah appear, speaking "of his departure, which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem". [293](#) A cloud covers him and a voice from heaven says: "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" [294](#)

**555** For a moment Jesus discloses his divine glory, confirming Peter's confession. He also reveals that he will have to go by the way of the cross at Jerusalem in order to "enter into his glory". [295](#) Moses and Elijah had seen God's glory on the Mountain; the Law and the Prophets had announced the Messiah's sufferings. [296](#) Christ's Passion is the will of the Father: the Son acts as God's servant; [297](#) the cloud indicates the presence of the Holy Spirit. "The whole Trinity appeared: the Father in the voice; the Son in the man; the Spirit in the shining cloud." [298](#)

*You were transfigured on the mountain, and your disciples, as much as they were capable of it, beheld your glory, O Christ our God, so that when they should see you crucified, they would understand that your Passion was voluntary, and proclaim to the world that you truly are the splendour of the Father. [299](#)*

To read more click the link: [Catechism of the Catholic Church - IntraText](#)

**MASS INTENTIONS**

- Mar 15 Sat,5:15PM **Vigil Mass** +Cesar Pena
- Mar 16-Sun 9:00AM + The Parishioners  
 12:15PM +Herberto & Simeona Manzanilla  
 5:30 PM +Evaristo, + Victor Lobo
- Mar 17 -Mon,7:00PM + Francis & Olive Lobo  
 + Joemar Salumbides
- Mar 18-Tue,9:00AM + Francisca & Pietro Gulli
- Mar 19-Wed7:00PM +Ruperto Frilles  
 Healing of Nida Donado
- Mar 20-Thu,9:00AM + Editha Plana  
 + Ashigati Sayani
- Mar 21-Fri,7:00PM + Perfecto Bautista  
 Healing of Nida Donado
- Mar 22-Sat,9:00AM Thanksgiving Mary Ylagan  
 Thanksgiving B-Day of Adrian  
 +Gregorio & Elena Cabungcal

**7-day Vigil Lamp Intention –Mar 15-21, 2025**

- Sanctuary--- Healing of Nida Donado
- Virgin Mary- Healing of Mary Ylagan
- Chapel ---- The Parishioners

**WORD OF THE WEEK**

**“TRANSFIGURATION”**

**-a change came over Jesus; his face was shining like the sun, and his clothes were dazzling white.**

*(Matthew 17:2). It was witnessed by the three disciples, Peter, James & John when they went on the mountain. Then the three also saw Moses and Elijah talking with Jesus.*

**Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention–March 2025– For Families In Crisis**

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other’s gifts, even in their differences.



**Our Patron Saint...**



**"We were all made in God's image, and thus, we are all Godly alike."** Pope John XXIII

**St. Joseph March 19<sup>th</sup>**

Joseph, according to gospel accounts, was a carpenter and a descendant of King David. Art and popular imagination have portrayed him as an old man, but this is likely false.

Embarrassed by Mary's pregnancy, Joseph was told in a dream to take Mary as his wife. Thoughts of rejecting her for infidelity banished, he was faithful to his responsibility as her husband and foster father of Jesus.

St. Joseph was declared a patron of the universal Church in 1870, and is principal patron of Canada

*(Living with Christ, March 2025 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](mailto: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 Francis marks 12th anniversary of pontificate in hospital**

To read more, click this link >>> [Pope Francis marks 12th anniversary of pontificate in hospital - Vatican News](#)



**MESSAGE FOR LENT 2025 FROM HIS EMINENCE FRANK CARDINAL LEO**

Monday, March 03, 2025



**CANADIAN BISHOPS WRITE TO GOVERNMENT LEADERS**

Thursday, March 13, 2025



**REQUESTING PRAYERS OF HEALING FOR HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS**

Thursday, February 27, 2025

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

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



**Announcements!!!**

- 📅 **FHC candidates and parents, please email the office to book your child for Test 3;**
- 📅 **Session for Confirmation Candidates on March 22 at 11:00am, please come on time;**
- 📅 **Your Tax Receipt for 2024 are available, ask the Parish Office for your copy;**
- 📅 **For new Parishioners, please fill up the Parish registration form and submit to the parish office.**





# JUBILEE 2025- Pilgrims of Hope

## 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*

## What is the Jubilee Indulgence?

The Jubilee Indulgence is a plenary indulgence which thanks to the power of prayer, is intended in a particular way for those who have gone before us, so that they may obtain full mercy. It may also be sought for oneself. It is a way of discovering the unlimited nature of God's mercy. During a Jubilee Year, which normally happens every 25 years, all other indulgences previously granted remain in force and may be obtained by the faithful.

### What are the ways in which a plenary indulgence can be obtained?

A plenary indulgence can be obtained through the following ways:

- pilgrimages;
- Pious visits to sacred places;
- Works of mercy and penance

**Pilgrimage Churches** *identified holy places of worship in each of the major regions of the archdiocese to serve as pilgrimage destinations during the Jubilee Year.*

**Archdiocesan-** St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica, Toronto

### Central Region

- St. Paul's Basilica, Toronto
- St. Mary's Parish, Toronto (Bathurst St)
- St. Edward the Confessor Parish, North York

### Western Region

- Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Etobicoke
- St. Mary's Parish, Brampton

### Easter Region

- St. Barnabas Parish, Scarborough
- St. Gregory the Great Parish, Oshawa

### Northern Region

- St. Padre Pio Parish, Kleinburg
- St. Mary's Parish, Barrie

**Shrines** - Martyrs' Shrine, Midland

### How to Make a Jubilee Pilgrimage or Visit a Jubilee Parish

- Consult the parish schedule for Mass and Confessions.
- For **individual visits**, it is not necessary to alert the parish about your planned pilgrimage if you are simply attending a regularly scheduled Mass or Confession time.
- Contact the pastor before making any plans for **group visits** outside of regularly scheduled Mass and Confession, or for special arrangements, such as Mass, Confessions, Adoration or Celebrations of the Word of God.
- Be mindful that the designated Pilgrimage sites are active parishes with their own scheduled liturgies and events, as well as a regular schedule of the times when the church is open or closed for visits.
- A pilgrimage group wishing to celebrate Mass and/or offer Confessions will be asked to bring their own priest to celebrate, and at a time agreed to by the pastor.

Click to find more: [Archdiocese of Toronto - Pilgrimage Churches - Jubilee Year 2025](#)





# LENT 2025

## Message of Pope Francis for Lent:

*"This Lent, God is asking us to examine whether in our lives, in our families, in the places where we work and spend our time, we are capable of walking together with others, listening to them, resisting the temptation to become self-absorbed and to think only of our own needs. Let us ask ourselves in the presence of the Lord whether, as bishops, priests, consecrated persons and laity in the service of the Kingdom of God, we cooperate with others. Whether we show ourselves welcoming, with concrete gestures, to those both near and far. Whether we make others feel a part of the community or keep them at a distance."*



**PRAYER**



**Fasting**



**GIVING & SHARING**

## SOME SUGGESTIONS TO SPEND 40 days of LENT

- Spend time with the Lord
- Attend Mass daily
- Read the Bible
- Attend Lenten Retreat
- Jubilee Pilgrimages
- \* Give up watching TV
- \* No Meat in all Fridays
- \* Less phone screen time
- \* No gossiping
- \* Less shopping
- \* Share your blessings
- \* Volunteering
- \* Visit the sick
- \* Say kind words
- \* Feed the homeless

**STATION OF THE  
CROSS**

**Every Friday at  
6:30pm**

### [From the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops](#)

[Journey through Lent 2025 - Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops](#)

[Journey Through Lent Video Series: Weekly Reflections for the Lenten Season - Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops](#)

*Click the link above to watch the video*

Other Resources, click the link below:

[Archdiocese of Toronto - Resources for the Season of Lent](#)