

St. John XXIII Parish

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

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Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9AM to 3PM



PARISH BULLETIN | 4th Sunday of Lent | 15 March 2026

Laetare Sunday

“Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

The blind man said, **“And who is he, sir?”**

Jesus answered, **“You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is HE.”**

The blind man replied **“Lord. I believe.”**

John 9:35-37

Station of the Cross

All Fridays of Lent at 6:30 - Followed by Mass

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

St. Cyril of Jerusalem Mar 18th
Pray for us!

“Let us all by God’s grace run the race of chastity, young men and maidens, old men & children”



“Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who loved her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning.” Isaiah 66.10-11

Today, we celebrate the 4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday) and Entrance Antiphon of the Mass exalts us to rejoice; ***“Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who loved her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning.”***

The question then becomes; Why Rejoice?

We rejoice because we are aware that the primary celebrations of our redemption are close at hand! The Solemn Act of God for Our Salvation, that is, Christ’s Passion, Death and Resurrection, is near.

We rejoice also because we are aware of the new life, that Jesus brings us. We are eager to celebrate the festivities as adopted sons and daughters of God, through Christ Jesus.

This journey toward Easter is meant to be a time of instruction. And in this final phase towards Easter, beginning last Sunday, with the encounter of Jesus with the Samaritan Woman, is a special moment in the revelation of Jesus to his disciples

Last Sunday Jesus revealed himself to us, as the source of the living water. Today, we are at the pool of Siloam, where He reveals, himself through the healing of the Man born blind, that He’s the Light of the World

The 1st reading, today takes us to Bethlehem and into the household of Jesse. Prophet Samuel has been sent by God to anoint David, the second King of Israel! The story is fascinating, because in it, it is revealed to human beings, how blind we humans sometimes can be! Jesse is blinded by culture and appearances! He expected his strong older sons to be anointed! He has a son, David, the “youngest,” and according, to him the least likely to be anointed. To him David is, ***“the other that is tending sheep.”*** However, for God; ***“He was his chosen one.”*** Human beings go by strengthens and power! God sees the Heart, ***“Not as Man sees does God see, ... the Lord looks into heart!”***

And Listen to the blindness in the Disciples, in the beginning of the Gospel reading; ***“Tell us Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his Parents, that He was blind?”***

How many times we thought, calamities in the world or in peoples’ lives, were a consequence of Sin! Jesus’ answer is, ***“Neither he nor his Parent sinned; he is blind so that the Works of God might be made visible through Him.”***

The restoration of the physical sight happens quickly; Jesus proclaims himself as the light of the world; He made clay, smeared it on the man and requests him to go and wash in the pool of Siloam; “He went, washed and begun to see.”

The story after the Miracle is a lengthy one. First, we realize that “the Man Born Blind” was more blind to the identity of Jesus than he was in physical blindness! He, too, like the Samaritan Woman had to make the Journey of Faith

In the 1st interrogation by the People, to the Man born blind, Jesus was just a miracle worker; ***“The man called Jesus made mud, spread it in my eyes and asked me to go and wash.”***

In the 2nd Interrogation, the healed man proclaimed Jesus as a Prophet. Frustrated the Pharisees condemn him as “One born totally of born of sin,” and threw him out of their Synagogue. Jesus on hearing that the Man had been cast out, came to console a soul desperate for its Savior.

“Do you believe in the Son of God?” The man puzzled at the question, responded with a question of his own; ***“Who is he sir, that I may believe in him?”***

Jesus, responded in a solemn and satisfying way; ***“You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you!”*** The Man responded; ***“I do believe Lord.”*** His Journey of Faith was complete.

Doubted by friends and neighbors, abandoned by parents, questioned, insulted and condemned by the Pharisees, the Man born blind professed his Faith in Jesus; ***“Lord I believe,”*** and worshipped Him.

In Contrast, the Pharisee sank deeper and deeper in spiritual blindness to the condemnation by Jesus; ***“If you were blind, you would have no Sin; but now you say, we see, your Sin remains!”***

Our Faith in Christ Jesus, hinges on his identity; He is the Son of God. †



Catechism of the Catholic Church

Article 5

The Anointing of the Sick

1499. "By the sacred anointing of the sick and the prayer of the priests the whole Church commends those who are ill to the suffering and glorified Lord, that he may raise them up and save them. and indeed she exhorts them to contribute to the good of the People of God by freely uniting themselves to the Passion and death of Christ."⁹⁷

I. Its Foundations in the Economy of Salvation

Illness in human life

1500 Illness and suffering have always been among the gravest problems confronted in human life. In illness, man experiences his powerlessness, his limitations, and his finitude. Every illness can make us glimpse death.

1501 Illness can lead to anguish, self-absorption, sometimes even despair and revolt against God. It can also make a person more mature, helping him discern in his life what is not essential so that he can turn toward that which is. Very often illness provokes a search for God and a return to him.

The sick person before God

1502 The man of the Old Testament lives his sickness in the presence of God. It is before God that he laments his illness, and it is of God, Master of life and death, that he implores healing.⁹⁸ Illness becomes a way to conversion; God's forgiveness initiates the healing.⁹⁹ It is the experience of Israel that illness is mysteriously linked to sin and evil, and that faithfulness to God according to his law restores life: "For I am the Lord, your healer."¹⁰⁰ The prophet intuits that suffering can also have a redemptive meaning for the sins of others.¹⁰¹ Finally Isaiah announces that God will usher in a time for Zion when he will pardon every offense and heal every illness.

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Mar 14-Sat,5:15PM Vigil Mass

+ Mary Grace Garcia

Mar 15-Sun9:00 AM

+ Perfecto Bautista

12:15 PM

+ The Parishioners

5:30 PM

+ Leonila Macabenta

Mar 16-Mon, 7:00PM

+ Evaristo & Victor Lobo

+ Herberto & Simeona Manzanilla

Mar 17-Tue, 9:00 AM

+ Cristina Soriano

+ Francis & Olive Lobo

Mar 18-Wed, 7:00 PM

+ Joemar Salumbides

Mar 19 -Thu, 9:00 AM

+ Francesca & Pietro Gulli

Mar 20 -Fri,7:00 PM

Thanksgiving of Rifle Gomez

Mar 21-Sat,9:00 AM

Healing of Mary Ylagan

Thanksgiving Bday Adrian Sevilla

7-day Vigil Lamp Intention March 14-20, 2026

Sanctuary-- + Cristina Soriano

Virgin Mary- + Esperanza Intoy

WORDS OF THE WEEK

“ANOINTING”

-The purpose of ANOINTING is to bring healing. Most often this healing is spiritual, but on occasion, if God so desires, it may also be physical.

The Anointing of the Sick is one of the sacraments in the Catholic Church. It is administered to bring spiritual and even physical strength during an illness, especially near the time of death. It is most likely one of the last sacraments one will receive. A sacrament is an outward sign established by Jesus Christ to confer inward grace.

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention - March 2026 - FOR DISARMAMENT AND PEACE

"Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence."



Our Patron Saint...



“Perfume all your actions with the life-giving breath of prayer.” St. John XXIII

St. Cyril of Jerusalem Mar 18th

Cyril was born in Jerusalem about 315. He became a biblical scholar and a cleric in the church of Jerusalem, a church troubled by many doctrinal controversies, including Arianism. Ordained about 342, he became Bishop of Jerusalem in 350. His famous Lenten instruction, *Catecheses*, outline his beliefs and the theological traditions of the Jerusalem community. He died in Jerusalem in 387.

Living with Christ March 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



XIV (@Vatican Media)

Pope: Do Christians responsible for war examine their conscience?

Click the link to read more Vatican News: [Pope: Do Christians responsible for war examine their conscience? - Vatican News](#)



MESSAGE FOR LENT 2026 FROM HIS EMINENCE FRANK CARDINAL LEO
Monday, February 16, 2026



CELEBRATING THE SPECIAL JUBILEE YEAR OF ST. FRANCIS
Thursday, March 12, 2026



PROTECTING THE VULNERABLE: CURRENT SAFEGUARDING ISSUES WORLDWIDE
Thursday, March 12, 2026

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

Announcements!!!

- ✠ **Station of the Cross in all Fridays of Lent at 6:30pm;**
- ✠ **Confession on March 19th at 7:30pm;**
- ✠ **FHC candidates and parents, this Saturday March 21st at 11AM, meeting & the topic is “Confession”;**
- ✠ **ShareLife first collection will be on March 22nd;**





Lenten Message 2026
His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo
Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May Jesus and Mary be in your hearts.

As we enter into the holy season of Lent, I would like to share some words of spiritual nourishment and encouragement. Each year, while Ash Wednesday emphasizes repentance, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, on the First Sunday of Lent especially, we are invited to pursue our journey of faith into the desert with Christ. However, it is not a solitary journey, nor are the three Lenten practices purely a “private affair”. Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition teaches us that God never saves individuals in isolation, rather, he gathers a people to himself (cf. *Lumen Gentium*, 9). Recently, the universal Church has reflected on the meaning of *synodality* and emphasized the ecclesial and social togetherness of our journey together to God, thus recalling the importance of the community in the salvific plan of God (cf. CCC 781). With this in mind, I would ask us to consider how Lent is not only about our personal conversion but also the healing and renewal of our relationship with God and one another. We would do well to ask ourselves: how do we live Lent together?

Conversion or repentance is frequently framed within the context of individual acts such as sacramental confession, penance, self-denial or acts of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The Old Testament already understood the human person within the context of the community which is very different from the modern understanding of a radical individualism. The Hebrew Scriptures, in fact, narrate a strong sense of community and its fidelity or sinfulness in the eyes of God. This is because from the beginning, God relates to Israel as a collective body (cf. Ex 6:7). Sin is never merely a private act because the covenant binds people together, and one person’s infidelity affects the whole body. Fidelity and infidelity are corporate realities. In this way sin, though personal, is likewise always social inasmuch as it always wounds the Body. And conversion, if it is real, always restores relationships. Lent teaches us that to return to the Lord is also to return to one another, and journey together.

Today, many experience the social or communal fragmentation caused by sin: families strained by silence or envy, communities divided by fear or resentment, parishes weakened by absence or disengagement. We may live or work in close proximity to others and yet carry unspoken distances in our hearts. Lent invites us to name this reality honestly—not to assign blame, but to seek healing and forgiveness. The call of the Gospel is not simply “to be better,” but “to be reconciled” (cf. 2 Cor 5:20). Part and parcel of our journeying together is the experience of authentic and daily conversion, both personal and communal, embodied beautifully in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. While Confession is deeply personal, it is never private because sin wounds not only our relationship with God but also our communion with the Church (cf. CCC, 1440; 2 Cor 5:18–20).

Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we restore not only our friendship with God but our bonds within the community—a ministry Our Lord entrusted to the apostles (cf. Jn 20:22–23; CCC, 1443–1445). Through this sacrament, the Lord repairs the bonds we have weakened—with him and with one another—and teaches us again the language of mercy and love (cf. CCC, 1468–1469; St. Ambrose, *On Repentance*, I.15). Our Lenten practices culminate on Easter Sunday when our conversion is publicly proclaimed and personally reclaimed as we renew our Baptismal vows, rejecting evil and confessing our belief in the One God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—through whom we were reborn into new life (cf. Rom 6:3–11; CCC, 1213, 1262).

To continue reading click the link [Archdiocese of Toronto - Message for Lent 2026 from His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo](#)

≈ Did you know??? ≈

Anointing of the Sick is a Catholic sacrament

- for those facing serious illness, surgery, or old age, aiming to provide spiritual strength, peace, and courage. It involves prayer, laying on of hands, and anointing with blessed oil (usually on the forehead and hands) by a priest or bishop.

Key Aspects of Anointing in the Catechism:

- **Purpose:** It is not for the dying only, but for any Catholic whose health is seriously impaired, or for the elderly.
- **Effects (CCC 1520-1523):**
 - **Union with Christ:** The sick person is united to the passion of Christ for their own good and the good of the Church.
 - **Strength and Peace:** Provides courage to endure suffering and anxiety.
 - **Forgiveness:** Confers forgiveness of sins if the person was unable to receive it through the Sacrament of Penance
 - **Physical Healing:** Potential restoration of health, if it is conducive to the salvation of the soul.
 - **Preparation:** Prepares the soul for passing into eternal life.
- **Biblical Basis:** Instituted by Christ and referenced in James 5:14-5, where the elders (Priests) are instructed to pray over and anoint the sick.

Other Anointings

- The catechism also highlights anointing with oil during Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Order.

LENT



THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

1. Jesus is condemned to death
2. Jesus carries His Cross
3. Jesus Falls the first time
4. Jesus meets His sorrowful mother
5. Simon helps Jesus to carry the Cross
6. Veronica wipes the Face of Jesus
7. Jesus falls the second time
8. The women weep over Jesus
9. Jesus falls the third time
10. Jesus is stripped of His garments
11. Jesus is nailed to the Cross
12. Jesus dies on the Cross
13. Jesus is taken down from the Cross
14. Jesus is laid in the sepulcher

*We adore you, O Christ and we bless you.
Because by your holy Cross, you have
redeemed the world.*

