

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 | **EASTER SUNDAY** | **05 April 2026**



Alleluia, Alleluia

The Lord is risen!

The Lord is risen, indeed!

Alleluia, Alleluia

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

St. Vincent Ferrer April 5th

Pray for us.

“Whatever you do, think not of yourself, but of God.”



“This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad!” Psalm 118:24

Rejoice, Heavenly Powers! Sing, Choirs of Angels. Exult, all Creation around God’s throne! Jesus Christ, Our King, is Risen! Rejoice, O Earth, in shining splendor, Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes forever! Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in Glory! The Risen Shines upon you!

This is the proclamation made, announcing the Holy and Great Easter Night. It is a call to be joyful as we behold and accept God’s Greatest Miracle; That moment when He rained down Graces of New Life upon the tomb and His Son rose from the dead.

Easter Festivities always begin with the “Miracle of Light;” Light illumining the darkness of Sin. On that Holy Night, Christians enter the Sanctuary with Light progressively growing brighter and brighter from a single Easter Candle.

The same reality is then repeated in the Proclaimed Readings of the Night; Readings from the Old Testament beginning in the Genesis with the Creation to the Time of Fulfillment in the New Testament. We, the disciples of Christ, listen and reflect on the Whole of Our Salvation History, as we visualized it pass, as it were on a Screen, from Creation to Redemption: Adam, Abraham, Moses, the Prophets; the Old Covenant to the New and Eternal Covenant sealed by the blood of Christ Jesus.

On this Holy Day, God’s Plan to Save us reached its Peak in its fulfillment. This is a cause of Great Joy! As we hear yet again the Words of the Angel to the women; ***“Why do you seek the Living One among the dead? He is not here, but he has been raised.”***

See after the tragic evening of Good Friday, when “the power of darkness,” seemed to have prevailed over the One who is **“the Light of the World.”** And while all his friends deserted Him and all seemed hopeless, Jesus remained determined to fulfill the Will of His Father. He had to fulfill all that the Scriptures had foretold about Him. He was the New Adam who unlike the first remained perfectly obedient to the Will of the Father leading him to death, death on the Cross. On Good Friday, we heard those liberating words; **“It is Finished,”** and with them Jesus announced the completion of his Mission. The reaction of his disciples was that of fear; They were scared, hidden behind locked doors!

You can imagine then, how they felt, when Mary Magdalene came on that Easter Morning with the news; ***“they have taken the Lord from the tomb and we do not know where they have laid him.”*** This meant the end of all hope! Anxiety propelled Peter and John to the tomb! A Race without Faith: to find out, whether, what the women had reported was true; They had removed the body. What they saw; the empty tomb, the shroud and the napkins; transformed them, as John the Evangelist wrote; they **“saw and believed.”** The Pilgrim Journey of Faith, from moments when anxiety, doubts and fear had enslaved them was Illumined by the Spirit of God into Joy beyond any human fathoming.

The Events of the Day, were to become even more dramatic! That evening with the doors still closed, for the fear of the Jews, Jesus appeared to them. “Peace to you,” He greeted them. The disciples were breathless! What an amazing turn of events! **They were in the Presence of the Risen Lord,** we can almost see the Joy, that victory brings, shining on the Faces of the Disciples. You can almost hear them explode with the exclamation of today’s Responsorial Psalm; **“This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad!”**

We should also come to this Great Joy, on this extraordinary Day, because Christ’s Victory is our Victory. And He tells us in John 14:19, **“I live and you will live also.”**



ALELLUIA, ALELLUIA, ALLELUIA!

COMPENDIUM OF THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH
CHAPTER THREE The Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic
"I BELIEVE IN THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS"

200. How are sins remitted? 976-980, 984-985

The first and chief sacrament for the forgiveness of sins is Baptism. For those sins committed after Baptism, Christ instituted the sacrament of Reconciliation or Penance through which a baptized person is reconciled with God and with the Church.

201. Why does the Church have the power to forgive sins? 981-983, 986-987
 The Church has the mission and the power to forgive sins because Christ himself has conferred it upon her: "Receive the Holy Spirit, if you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained" (John 20:22-23).

"I BELIEVE IN THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY"

202. What is the meaning of the term "body" (or "flesh") and what importance does it have? 990, 1015

The resurrection of the flesh is the literal formulation in the Apostles Creed for the resurrection of the body. The term "flesh" refers to humanity in its state of weakness and mortality. "The flesh is the hinge of salvation" (Tertullian). We believe in God the Creator of the flesh; we believe in the Word made flesh in order to redeem flesh; and we believe in the resurrection of flesh which is the fulfillment of both the creation and the redemption of the flesh.

203. What is meant by the "resurrection of the body"? 990

This means that the definitive state of man will not be one in which his spiritual soul is separated from his body. Even our mortal bodies will one day come to life again.

204. What is the relationship between the Resurrection of Christ and our resurrection? 998, 1002-1003

Just as Christ is truly risen from the dead and now lives forever, so he himself will raise everyone on the last day with an incorruptible body: "Those who have done good will rise to the resurrection of life and those who have done evil to the resurrection of condemnation" (John 5:29).

205. What happens to our body and our soul after death? 992-1004, 1016-1018

After death, which is the separation of the body and the soul, the body becomes corrupt while the soul, which is immortal, goes to meet the judgment of God and awaits its reunion with the body when it will rise transformed at the time of the return of the Lord. How the resurrection of the body will come about exceeds the possibilities of our imagination and understanding.

206. What does it mean to die in Christ Jesus? 1005-1014, 1019

Dying in Christ Jesus means to die in the state of God's grace without any mortal sin. A believer in Christ, following his example, is thus able to transform his own death into an act of obedience and love for the Father. "This saying is sure: if we have died with him, we will also live with him" (2 Timothy 2:11).

Catechism of the Catholic Church <https://www.vatican.va/archive/compendium>

MASS INTENTIONS

Apr 04, 8:00 PM **Vigil Mass**
 The Parishioners

Apr 05- **EASTER SUNDAY**
 9:00 AM + Petronio Villar
 12:15 PM + Virginia Ligaya
 5:30 PM + Alfredo & Ethelda Puncion

Apr 06-Mon,10:00AM Thanksgiving B-day Sally
 Apr 07-Tue,9:00AM +Maria & Peter Paul Britto
 Apr08-Wed7:00PMThanksgiving Louella safe trip
 Apr 09-Thu,9:00AM + Jose Laurel
 Apr 10-Fri, 7:00PM Thanksgiving of Chichi M.
 Apr 11-Sat,9:00AM + Omer & Donna Comeau

7-day Vigil Lamp Intention Apr 04-10, 2026

Sanctuary--- Thanksgiving of Hayde
 Virgin Mary- Healing of Mary Ylagan

WORD OF THE WEEK
"RESURRECTION"

Resurrection is the rising again from the dead, the resumption of life. The Fourth Lateran Council teaches that all men whether elect or reprobate, "will rise again with their own bodies which they now bear about with them" (cap. "Firmiter"). www.Catholic.com

The Resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth of our faith in Christ and represents along with his cross an essential part of the Paschal Mystery.

The Resurrection is the climax of the Incarnation. It confirms the divinity of Christ and all the things which he did and taught. It fulfills all the divine promises made for us. Furthermore, the risen Christ, the conqueror of sin and death, is the principle of our justification and our Resurrection. It procures for us now the grace of filial adoption which is a real share in the life of the only begotten Son. At the end of time, he will raise up our bodies. (ccc 651-655.

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention-April 2026- For Priests in Crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding



ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA

Our Patron Saint...



"Our Easter is therefore for everyone a dying to sin, to passions, to hatred, to enmities, to all that is a source of imbalance, bitterness and torment in the spiritual and material order. This death is in fact only the first step towards a higher goal: since our Easter is also a mystery of life."— St. John 23rd, 1959

St. Vincent Ferrer April 5th

A patron of builders, roofers and plumbers, Vincent was born in Spain in 1350. He joined the Dominicans in 1367, who sent him to study and teach philosophy throughout Europe. Despite his stern interpretation of the Christian message, Vincent became an amazingly successful preacher, converting thousands. He was also a key figure in ending the Western Schism, a divide in the Church over pretenders to the papacy. He died in 1419 and was canonized in 1455. *(Living with Christ, April 2026 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 !!!



Urbí et Orbi: Pope urges world leaders to lay down weapons

To read more, click this link >>> [Urbí et Orbi: Pope urges world leaders to lay down weapons - Vatican News](#)




Announcements!!!

-  **EASTER MESSAGE FROM HIS EMINENCE FRANK CARDINAL LEO**
Saturday, April 04, 2026
-  **GOOD FRIDAY: THE LORD'S PASSION**
Saturday, April 04, 2026
-  **HOLY THURSDAY: MARKING THE BEGINNING OF THE EASTER TRIDUUM**
Friday, April 03, 2026
-  **CHRISM MASS: PREPARING FOR THE SACRAMENTAL YEAR**
Wednesday, April 01, 2026

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

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



-  **Confirmation Candidates and Parents, the Confirmation Session 8 will be on April 11 at 11am;**
-  **First Holy Communion candidates your confession will be on April 9th at 4:00pm for group 1 and on April 10th at 4:00pm for group 2;**
-  **On Easter Monday, April 06, the Mass will be at 10:00am.**



A L L E L U I A, A L E L U I A, A L L E L U I A



ALELLUIA, ALELLUIA, ALLELUIA!



Message for Easter

5 April 2026

**His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo
Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto**

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Praised be Jesus Christ. Happy and Holy Easter to you.

Holy Mother Church celebrates with the greatest joy ever the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Striving to live our faith sincerely and as loyal, loving and engaged sons and daughters of God and of the Church, we are called and drawn into the experience of Easter Sunday which renews our hope and changes our lives by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Paschal Mystery we celebrate invites us to consider the glory of the Resurrected Christ and in this mystery, we rejoice not only that Christ is truly alive and remains present in our lives today and in that of the Church, but also that our Heavenly Father has been faithful to his promise, he who from all eternity desired to gather his children into communion through his Son. At the beginning of Lent, I encouraged us to look beyond ourselves – to seek reconciliation with God and with one another, and to rediscover the essential place of community in God’s saving plan (CCC 759-760). We must never forget that the Paschal Mystery is not only the remembrance of Christ’s Passion, Death, and Resurrection – those historical events that took place a long time ago and far away – this mystery is the very pattern of all Christian life and forms who we are.

Our Lord’s Death and Resurrection are not simply events of the past; they are the living form of the Church’s existence. As you may remember, before the Resurrection, the disciples were scattered, fearful, and locked away. After the Resurrection, they are transformed, those fleeing to Emmaus return to Jerusalem, and those locked away in fear eventually venture out to the ends of the earth to proclaim the Good News. The Resurrection does not eliminate the journey of life with its trials and uncertainties; rather, it gives the journey its meaning, purpose, new hope and new dynamism. In the same way, the difficulties we experience – personally and communally – are not magically erased.



Tensions, conflicts, scarcity, injustice, and uncertainty remain real; yet in the light of Easter, they are transformed. They become moments of discernment and grace because the Risen Christ walks with us.

When we lose someone we love or suffer a major setback - a relationship that has ended - a job opportunity that did not pan out - an illness that has come up or persists, or the anxiety that afflicts so many of us, especially the young – the temptation, in these situations, is to retreat, to isolate, to want to be alone, to run away. The Good News of the Resurrection is that Jesus came for us and is present to us and wants to help us precisely in those very dark and seemingly hopeless circumstances. When the Apostles were broken down thinking he was gone forever, Mary Magdalene announced to them the great news: he is alive. When the Disciples of Emmaus were discouraged, disillusioned and walked away from the community, Jesus came to them and filled them with new hope and opened for them incredible horizons.

Each of us has a story to tell, a sacred story to share. Each of our existential narratives are marked by light and shadows. But the author of our lives will never let us go through our hardships alone. The Power of the Resurrection is available to us today. The possibility of a new life is in our reach; the boundless energy of transforming grace is at our fingertips; the consolation and comfort of the Holy Spirit is but a prayer away; the second chances, and third and fourth which we really need, are part and parcel of God's merciful plan. There is nothing to fear; there is endless love, endless hope in this life, endless light into which we are called. The Resurrection of Christ points to the renewal of our daily lives as well as to that day, one day, the last day, when we will be called to enter the fulness of life in eternity. May that eternity begin here and now, in our families and communities, by a daily decision to live out the Catholic faith with greater commitment, outstanding generosity, abundant virtue and authentic holiness.

Blessed Easter Season to you and your loved ones. Christ is Risen – truly he is Risen.