

# 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 | CHRISTMAS | 25 December 2025



**A Merry, Merry  
Christmas to all!**

**May you see the face of God in  
the face of baby Jesus!**

### *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 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2026 is in the months of September and October 2025

**First Holy Communion** – for Grade 2 & up registration for 2026 is on October and November 2025

**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)**

**Happy Birthday  
Jesus**



***“Today in the City of David, a Savior is Born, who is Christ the Lord:”*** (Luke 2.1-16)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus; Peace and Joy of Christmas.

It is yet another year, we celebrate the Birthday of Our Savior as a people of faith and hope. This year again, we are called to abandon ourselves into the hands of our Creator and Father who loves, to celebrate his love with greater enthusiasm. We thank him for his Intervention: For it is from him, through his Angels that the Message of Christmas to the shepherd of Bethlehem came;

***“Do not be afraid for behold I am bringing you Good News of Great Joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the City of David, A Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” “Today in the City of David, a Savior is Born, who is Christ the Lord;”***

These are the Angelic Words! Yes, so ancient yet forever new, to the humblest of the people of the day; the Shepherds. Through these words, the effects of the announcement by Angel Gabriel to Mary; ***“Behold you will conceive and bear a Son,”*** is seen and celebrated!

Brothers and Sisters, the Birth of Emmanuel is not of our own doing, it is the Act of God, who pursued us, out of Love, ever since the fall of Adam and Eve. Therefore, the message of the Angel was extraordinary News; God was again physically present among his People.

Celebrating that Moment in time, when one of the greatest Miracle in Creation happened, in the language of St Paul in his Letter to the Colossians; ***“the Mystery that lay hidden for Ages and now revealed,*** let us glorify the Lord with His Angels; ***“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth Peace to those on whom his favor rests!”***

Every year, I like to enquire from the “Young Angels,” parents bring to the Church, angelically dressed; I mean the under 5-years-old. When you enquired from them, why they come to Church, their answers are always simple and straight forward; ***“To see Baby Jesus.”***

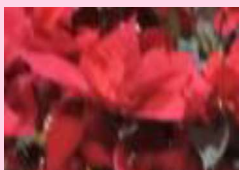
On Christmas night or day, shouldn't we be like these children consumed with innocent joy as we proclaim, the consolation and peace, Baby Jesus brings to our Humanity?

Brothers and Sisters, we are called to be disciples of God's hope and consolation! As we celebrate Christmas with our loved ones; are there in our neighborhood people who are in distress of any kind, let us approach them in joy and console them! Are there people in want, let us share with them what God, Our Father, has generously given to us.

And may the peace, Angels proclaimed this Christmas Night, be experienced by us and by members of our families. May his peace be experienced in our World that is torn by Conflict.

***May God bless every one of you and protect you.***

***Merry Christmas to you all.***



**Merry Christmas!**



COMPENDIUM OF THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

## CHAPTER ONE

*"Jesus Christ was conceived by the power  
of the Holy Spirit, and was born of the Virgin Mary"*

**79. What is the Good News for humanity? 422-424**

It is the proclamation of Jesus Christ, the "Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16), who died and rose from the dead. In the time of King Herod and the Emperor Caesar Augustus, God fulfilled the promises that he made to Abraham and his descendants. He sent "his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons" (Galatians 4:4-5).

**80. How is the Good News spread? 425-429**

From the very beginning the first disciples burned with the desire to proclaim Jesus Christ in order to lead all to faith in him. Even today, from the loving knowledge of Christ there springs up in the believer the desire to evangelize and catechize, that is, to reveal in the Person of Christ the entire design of God and to put humanity in communion with him.

**81. What is the meaning of the name "Jesus"? 430-435, 452**

Given by the angel at the time of the Annunciation, the name "Jesus" means "God saves". The name expresses his identity and his mission "because he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). Peter proclaimed that "there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we can be saved" (Acts 4:12).

**82. Why is Jesus called "Christ"? 436-440, 453**

"Christ" in Greek, "Messiah" in Hebrew, means the "anointed one". Jesus is the Christ because he is consecrated by God and anointed by the Holy Spirit for his redeeming mission. He is the Messiah awaited by Israel, sent into the world by the Father. Jesus accepted the title of Messiah but he made the meaning of the term clear: "come down from heaven" (John 3:13), crucified and then risen, he is the Suffering Servant "who gives his life as a ransom for the many" (Matthew 20:28). From the name Christ comes our name of Christian.

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

**Merry Christmas**

*in different languages:*

Spanish-	Felix Navidad
Italian-	Buon Natale
French-	Joyeux Noel
Filipino-	Maligayang Pasko
Kenya -	Heri ya Krismasi
German –	Frohe Weihnachten
Tamil-	Inyas Christmas
Hindi-	Christmas ki Badhai

**WORD OF THE DAY**  
**JESUS**

Jesus, which means "God Saves," is both a Christological and a soteriological title. His very identity tells us what he does — he is God and he saves us! The title Christ in Greek means "Anointed One." Thus, when we say "Jesus Christ" it is a statement of faith. It means, "The Anointed One, who is God, saves."

<https://www.catholiceducation.org/en/religion-and-philosophy/catholic-faith/introduction-to-christology-101-who-is-jesus.html>

**Pope Leo's Prayer Intention -December 2025 - FOR CHRISTIANS IN AREAS OF CONFLICT**

*"Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope."*

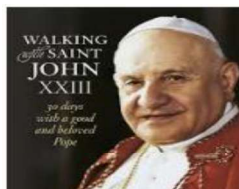


**Maligayang Pasko**





## Our Patron Saint...



"The Pope's task is to prepare for God a perfect people (Luke 1:17) which is exactly like the task of (John) the Baptist, who is his patron and from whom he takes his name. And it is not possible to imagine a higher and more precious perfection than that of Christian peace, which is the peace of hearts, peace in the social order, in life, in prosperity, in mutual respect and in the brotherhood of all nations." St. John XXIII



Thanks to Rivanne for this beautiful drawing!

## Christmas Message from Pope Leo



## Pope to young people: Make peace with someone this Christmas

To read the full text, click the link below

[Pope to young people: Make peace with someone this Christmas - Vatican News](#)

## The Pope's Christmas Card

Pope Leo XIV



The Pope's Christmas card

On Tuesday, December 23, in responding to journalists' questions outside Villa Barberini in Castel Gandolfo, Pope Leo asked people of goodwill for "that, at least on the feast of the birth of the Saviour, one day of peace may be respected." That same "unarmed and disarming" peace he invoked when he first appeared at the Central Loggia of St. Peter's Basilica on May 8th, shortly after being elected as Pope.

To read the full text, click the link  
<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2025-12/pope-leo-xiv-christmas-events-mass-liturgies-peace-greetings.html>



# FELIZ NAVIDAD





### Message for Christmas

25 December 2025

His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo  
Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto

My dear brothers and sisters,

Praised be Jesus Christ and Merry Christmas to you and to your loved ones.

Each year the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ invites us to delve deeper into the true meaning of the Incarnation, to ponder anew the mystery of God's love, and to renew or even seek new ways to serve our brothers and sisters because of Jesus and his teaching and example. The wonders of the Incarnation - God becoming man in Jesus - were first announced by the Archangel Gabriel nine months earlier at the Annunciation and are now fulfilled in the birth of the Messiah and as St John the Evangelist describes so eloquently, "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (Jn 1:14). Heaven and earth are joined forever giving rise to the *foundation* of our **hope** because God, who loves us, is now united to humanity forever.

This year, as the Church celebrates a Holy Year, the Jubilee - a year of grace, forgiveness, and renewal - the light of Bethlehem shines with renewed meaning. The birth of Jesus can be seen as the first and perpetual Jubilee. It is God's great proclamation of mercy: where true freedom is realized, forgiveness abounds, and our relationship with God is restored forever. For this reason, Christmas is not only a feast we celebrate but a mystery we are called to enter into and experience. We live in hope because the Bethlehem event - Christ being born among us - is not simply a scene of tenderness but the *pledge of redemption*: God's faithfulness has a name - Jesus. From the manger to the altar, from Bethlehem to our families, parishes and different communities, God's nearness is not a mere memory of a long-ago event, far, far away but a living presence here among us, now. And his presence always sends us forth as disciples and missionaries to proclaim, "God saves", which is the very meaning of the name of Jesus.

As Pilgrims of Hope, we live in this world witnessing to the love and mercy of God, looking forward to the day when we will be with God forever in his eternal Kingdom. As Christians we do not offer the world a new ideology, theory, or philosophy. Rather, we reveal a new reality: **that God is with us, and his mercy for us endures forever**. With the Incarnation the way we relate to God has changed, we are no longer merely creatures, but his beloved children called to share in his divine life.



The name “Bethlehem” (*beit lehem*) literally “house of bread” offers us a rich theological and spiritual connection of God’s life, our life and the holy Eucharist. Indeed, from the beginning, the same love which is the Godhead, now lays in the manger in the flesh and would one day be placed upon the altar at Mass. Truly, the mystery of Christmas finds its continuation in the Eucharist insofar as we understand the Eucharist to be the promise of our future glory (cf. CCC 1402-1405). By this mystery we recall both Christ’s first coming in Bethlehem in flesh and anticipate his final return in glory - the “already and not yet” of Christian hope (cf. CCC 1818). As such, each time we celebrate the holy Eucharist, the horizon of hope opens before us. What began in Bethlehem continues on the altar and will be fulfilled in the heavenly banquet in eternity. The Eucharist keeps our eyes fixed not only on where God has come, but where he is leading us.

At every Mass, the same Divine Word that was made flesh in Our Lady’s heart and womb way back many years ago, becomes present to us again - but now sacramentally. The same Jesus whom Mother Mary held in her arms is now entrusted to us under the humble signs of bread and wine. The same divine humility that chose the manger to show himself to the world, chooses now and until his return the altar of sacrifice at Mass. The same mercy that came to shepherds and strangers comes to each and every one of us. In the Eucharist, the Incarnation is not just remembered but renewed, made present, and given to all. The God who once drew near to us, walked among us, and taught us, is now given to us to dwell within us in holy communion. The Eucharist is the living sign that God’s nearness endures. When we gather around the altar in our parishes and communities for Mass, we are drawn into the same mystery that gathered shepherds around the crib in Bethlehem. We, too, come in our poverty - carrying our fears, our failures, our hunger for meaning, our hopes, dreams and deepest desires - and we find that Christ is waiting for us, because he loves us personally and by name. For St. Francis of Assisi, the stable becomes the sanctuary, the feeding trough becomes the table of life, and the Eucharist is foreshadowed at the Nativity. (Thomas of Celano, *Book 1 Life of St Francis*, 85:469; St Cyril of Alexandria, *Sermon I, Commentary on the Gospel of Luke 2:1-7*).

This Christmas, let us make room again for the Child Jesus who comes with peace. Let our **families** be havens of love and understanding; our **parishes** be places of welcome and care; our **communities** become schools of compassion and outreach; and our **hearts** tabernacles of transforming mercy. The Word still becomes flesh - in every act of faith, every gesture of love, every Sunday Eucharist - and then sends us forth to serve God by serving one another. May this holy season renew in us the **joy** of belonging and being loved and the **courage** to share that love with those the Lord puts on our path. God bless you and your family abundantly and powerfully this Christmas season.

His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo, Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto | 1155 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario M4T 1W2

M E R R Y   C H R I S T M A S