

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 | DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY | 12 April 2026



PEACE
BE
WITH
YOU



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

Congratulations to our 19 children who received the First Holy Communion for the first Time

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

St. Martin I April 13th

Pray for us.

"I hope that God, who knows all things, when he shall have taken me out of this world, will bring my persecutors to repentance."



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

Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God.” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Thomas, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” John 20: 28-29

Every day, this week, in every Eucharistic Celebration, we emphatically proclaimed our Faith in the Risen Lord with the Words of the Gospel Acclamation; ***“This is the Day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.”*** Indeed, Easter is the Day, that the whole of Creation looked forward to after the Sin of Adam and Eve, and having been rescued by the Second Adam, Creation looks back to, as it speeds towards its final glorification. Today, with this Sunday Celebration, we mark the 8th Day, in the celebration of this great Day of Our Lord's Resurrection.

This Sunday, the 2nd Sunday of Easter, the Church encourages us to meditate more on the Motivation of God; the motivation that made Him as you say in English “to go that extra mile,” in pursuit of us, human beings!

The Church calls this Sunday “Divine Mercy Sunday,” declared thus, by St. John Paul II on the 30th of April 2000, during the Canonization of St Faustina Kowalska! (Homily of JIII August 18, 02)

Both St. Faustina and St. John Paul II are referred to, in the Church as Apostles of Divine Mercy. For they called the Church’s Attention to the Truth of God’s Mercy based on His Love! Let it be known, however, that it was not St. Faustina or St. John Paul II who first taught, Divine Mercy, to humanity. The Bible is the Testimony to God’s Mercy.

In these past days, we witnessed God’s Mercy reach its Climax! On the Wood of the Cross, we witnessed the most profound bowing of the Divine toward humanity. Jesus, the Lamb of God became “the Grain of Wheat,” that died so that we, human beings could receive the ***“Fullness of Life in God.”*** God, the Father confirmed the effectiveness of Christ’s Sacrifice with His Son’s Resurrection.

Every Disciple is called to Faith in the Resurrection of Christ. This Faith is the essence of Our Salvation. John the Evangelist underlines this in the Gospel Reading of today, warning us against the Sin of unbelief.

Thomas, the Apostle, surrounded by peace and joy; fruits of Easter Faith, was still in the darkness of unbelief. His fellow disciples attempted to share their ***Easter Faith*** with him, repeating the confession of Mary Magdalene: ***“We have seen the Lord.”*** Thomas was not prepared to believe, unless the Risen Lord met his conditions; ***“Unless I See the marks of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the marks of the nails and place my hand in his Side, I will not Believe.”***

Surprisingly, the Risen Lord complied and fulfilled the conditions of Thomas; ***“Thomas put your finger here and see my hands!” “Reach out your hand and put it in my side!” “Do not doubt, but believe!”***

Thomas crashed by the generosity of his Master, responded with Greatest Proclamation of Faith in St. John’s Gospel.; ***“My Lord and My God!”***

What followed has been a consolation to every Believer in Christ Jesus, in every generation; an uplifting beyond any measure; ***“Thomas, have you believed because you have seen me, Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe!”***



ALLELUIA, ALELLUIA, ALLELUIA!

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

207. What is life everlasting? 1020,1051
Eternal life is that life which begins immediately after death. It will have no end. It will be preceded for each person by a particular judgment at the hands of Christ who is the Judge of the living and the dead. This particular judgement will be confirmed in the final judgment.

208. What is the particular judgment? 1021-1022
It is the judgment of immediate retribution which each one after death will receive from God in his immortal soul in accord with his faith and his works. This retribution consists in entrance into the happiness of heaven, immediately or after an appropriate purification, or entry into the eternal damnation of hell.

209. What is meant by the term "heaven"? 1023-1026, 1053
By "heaven" is meant the state of supreme and definitive happiness. Those who die in the grace of God and have no need of further purification are gathered around Jesus and Mary, the angels and the saints. They thus form the Church of heaven, where they see God "face to face" (1 Corinthians 13:12). They live in a communion of love with the Most Blessed Trinity and they intercede for us.

"True and subsistent life consists in this: the Father, through the Son and in the Holy Spirit, pouring out his heavenly gifts on all things without exception. Thanks to his mercy, we too, men that we are, have received the inalienable promise of eternal life." (Saint Cyril of Jerusalem)

210. What is purgatory? 1030-1031, 1054
Purgatory is the state of those who die in God's friendship, assured of their eternal salvation, but who still have need of purification to enter into the happiness of heaven.

211. How can we help the souls being purified in purgatory? 1032
Because of the communion of saints, the faithful who are still pilgrims on earth are able to help the souls in purgatory by offering prayers in suffrage for them, especially the Eucharistic sacrifice. They also help them by almsgiving, indulgences, and works of penance.

212. In what does hell consist? 1033-1035, 1056-1057
Hell consists in the eternal damnation of those who die in mortal sin through their own free choice. The principal suffering of hell is eternal separation from God in whom alone we can have the life and happiness for which we were created and for which we long. Christ proclaimed this reality with the words, "Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire" (Matthew 25:41).

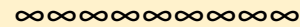
213. How can one reconcile the existence of hell with the infinite goodness of God?? 1036-1037
God, while desiring "all to come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9), nevertheless has created the human person to be free and responsible; and he respects our decisions. Therefore, it is the human person who freely excludes himself from communion with God if at the moment of death he persists in mortal sin and refuses the merciful love of God. [Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic](#)

MASS INTENTIONS

- Apr 11, 5:15 PM **Vigil Mass**
+Antonio Gonzales
- Apr 12- **Second SUNDAY of Easter**
9:00 AM + The Parishioners
12:15 PM + Kyrie Brequillo
5:30 PM + Judith Stewart 40th of passing
- Apr 13-Mon,7:00 PM +Leonila Cabenta 40th of passing
- Apr 14-Tue,9:00AM + Sis. Dorothy Aguila AR
- Apr15-Wed, 7:00PM + Michael Huerta
- Apr 16-Thu,9:00AM Thanksgiving of Lamorena Fam
- Apr 17-Fri, 7:00PM +Magdalena & Thomas Quebral
- Apr 18-Sat,9:00am + All Souls Departed

7-day Vigil Lamp Intention Apr 11-17, 2026

- Sanctuary--- Safe Travel of Nelia Alzate
- Virgin Mary- + Juana Alzate



WORD OF THE WEEK

"MERCY"

"Mercy is the Core of the Gospel Message."

Pope Francis

"Mercy is what Love looks like when it turns towards a Sinner." Bishop Barron

"But God's mercy is so abundant and his love for us is so great, that while we were spiritually dead in our disobedience he brought us to life with Christ." Ephesians 2.4

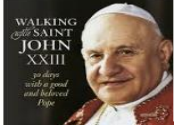
Pope Leo's Prayer Intention-April 2026- For Priests in Crisis

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...



I have looked into your eyes with my eyes. I have put my heart near your heart.” St. John XXIII

St. Martin I April 13th

A seventh-century pope, Martin was born in Todi, Italy. With many contacts between the Roman Church and the Eastern Empire in his era, Martin was appointed as the papal legate in Constantinople before succeeding Theodore I as pope in 649.

At the Lateran Council, Martin opposed the Monothelite heresy, which held that Christ had only one will, the divine will, and not a human will as well. Since Emperor Constans II favoured the heresy, Martin was exiled to Constantinople, where he was stripped of his honours and condemned to death. He later died in misery and hunger in the Crimea, the last pope to be martyred. *(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.

IN THE NEWS !!!



Pope Leo XIV meets with INPS executives and staff. (eVatican Media)

Pope: Social security systems must foster economic justice and right to work

To read more, click this link >>> [Pope: Social security systems must foster economic justice and right to work - Vatican News](#)



EASTER MESSAGE FROM HIS EMINENCE FRANK CARDINAL LEO
Saturday, April 04, 2026



POPE LEO XIV LEADS PRAYER VIGIL FOR PEACE – APRIL 11, 2026
Friday, April 10, 2026



EASTER SUNDAY – HE IS RISEN!
Sunday, April 05, 2026

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

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



Announcements!!!

Confirmation Candidates and Parents, the Confirmation Session 9 & 10 will be on April 18 at 11am;

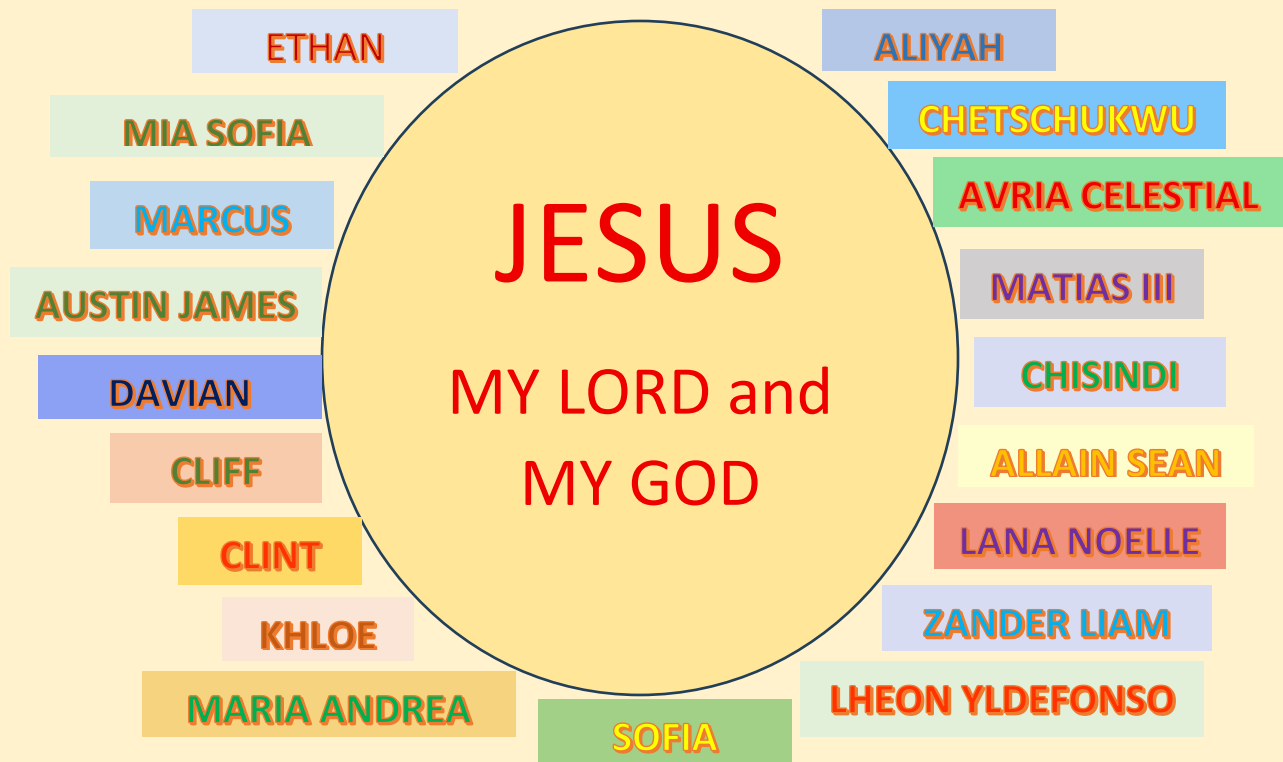
Today, the First Holy Communion 19 candidates received the Holy Communion for the first time. Congratulations!

Schedule of Masses is backed on its regular time.



ALELLUIA, ALELLUIA, ALLELUIA!

CONGRATULATIONS!



Dear Children of God,

As you receive your First Holy Communion today, we wish you nothing but blessings and peace for all of time until kingdom come.

God loves you!

St. John XXIII Parish



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.