

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** | **20 April 2025**



The Lord is risen!
The Lord is risen
indeed! 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. Fidelis of Sigmaringen April 24th

Pray for us.

“It is because of faith that we exchange the present for the future.”



***“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;

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 19,5:15PM **Vigil Mass** +*Laura Boudreau*

Apr 20-Sunday- 9:00Am +*Aurelia Paje*
 12:15PM + *The Parishioners*
 5:30 PM + *Alfredo & Ethelda Puncion*

Apr 21-Mon,10:00AM Thanksgiving Bday Lynda

Apr 22-Tue,7:00PM *Thanksgiving-Jovita & Gerald*

Apr 23-Wed7:00PM + *Sebastian Miranda*
 Thanksgiving Jane Quebral

Apr 24-Thu,7:00PM + *Isagani Ayala*

Apr 25-Fri, 2:00PM + *Belinda Castillo & Rosalinda Ocampo*

Apr 26-Sat,9:00am *Thanksgiving of Maryanne & Rene Galvez*

7-day Vigil Lamp Intention Apr 19- 25, 2025

Sanctuary--- Thanksgiving of Cora deVilla
 Virgin Mary- Thanksgiving of Cora deVilla
 Chapel - Thanksgiving of Cora deVilla

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, 658)

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention-April 2025- For the use of the new Technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.



ALELLUIA, ALELLUIA, 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. Fidelis of Sigmaringen April 24th

Mark Roy was born in Swabia (Germany) in 1578. He held doctorates in philosophy, canon law and civil law, and served as a tutor to nobles in France, Italy and Spain. Known as the 'lawyer of the poor,' he gave up practising law to enter the Capuchins in Freiburg, Switzerland, in 1612: he accepted the name Fidelis of Sigmaringen.

A dynamic preacher, he was appointed by the Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith to preach to the Calvinists in Switzerland. He met with much resistance and was assaulted and slain in 1622. He is a patron of Lawyers. *(Living with Christ, April 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 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 at Urbi et Orbi prays for an end to all violence, from Gaza to the Sahel

To read more, click this link >>> [Pope at Urbi et Orbi prays for an end to all violence, from Gaza to the Sahel - Vatican News](#)



A DAY WITH MARY – MAY 31 – REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!
Friday, April 04, 2025



YEAR OF JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE TO ROME WITH CARDINAL FRANK LEO – NOVEMBER 10 – 17, 2025
Thursday, April 10, 2025



CARDINAL FRANK LEO'S HOLY THURSDAY MESSAGE TO PRIESTS
Thursday, April 10, 2025

<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 will be on May 3 at 11:00am;

First Holy Communion candidates your confession will be on April 24 at 4:00pm for group 1 and on April 25 at 4:00pm for group 2;

On Easter Monday, April 21st, the Mass will be at 7:00pm.



ALELLUIA, ALELLUIA, ALLELUIA!



JUBILEE 2025

Pilgrims of Hope

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

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



ALELLUIA, ALELLUIA, ALLELUIA!

Easter Message of Cardinal Frank Leo

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May Jesus and Mary be in your souls.

The greatest liturgical celebration of the Church is of course Easter. The enthusiastic and traditional greeting on Easter morning and throughout the Easter Octave is: *Christus surrexit!* - *Surrexit vere, allelúja* ("Christ is risen!" - "He is risen indeed, Alleluia!") - and it fills us with a renewed sense of hope and deepened trust in the Lord Jesus, our Saviour. How can we not be overjoyed in considering that singular event of Jesus rising out of the tomb, just outside of Jerusalem and therefore, is alive today, among us, in our midst, in our hearts, in the sacraments, in his Word and in the Church! That life-giving happening of yesteryear has incredible and life-changing effects on our life, today. By his death on the Cross, we today are freed from sin, from all sin, every sin and its destructive grip on our lives. By his glorious Resurrection, we today are given new life, a new beginning, new freedom, new opportunities. And so, it is with that incomparable Easter joy that I extend my warmest greetings to you and your loved ones this Easter Sunday and throughout the Easter Season.

It really is the central solemnity - most important feast - of the Christian calendar and there is no other day that compares with it: the day we celebrate Christ's victory over sin, death and Satan, (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, 102) and which we recall and actually make present every single Sunday in our weekly celebration of the Eucharist in our parishes. Simply put, "This is the Day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" as the Psalm says so enthusiastically (Ps. 118:24). I cannot stress enough how crucial and paramount it is to participate in Holy Mass each and every Sunday. It is the weekly commemoration of Jesus' Easter, the Pascal Mystery, the weekly occasion to renew our faith and hope, to be filled with God's love, to build community and to pray for the needs of all. It is an encounter of grace; an opportunity we cannot miss. Let us make that effort, to celebrate in our parish communities the Eucharistic Risen Jesus who waits for us and our families with open arms every Sunday, the Lord's Day, to draw us deeper into his Easter existence, into his newness and abundant life.

An added dimension to this Easter joy, this Easter celebration and Easter hope, is that we celebrate it in the context of the Jubilee Holy Year in which we are invited to see ourselves as *Pilgrims of Hope*. Let us prayerfully recall the words of Pope Francis which opened the Holy Year: "The death and resurrection of Jesus is the heart of our faith and the basis of our hope" (*Spes non Confundit*, 20). Our Easter faith twinned and intimately connected to Easter hope is not wishful thinking, a vague optimism, or radical escapism. Rather, it is rooted in the work and love of the Most Holy Trinity. The Holy Father continues: "Jesus experienced the drama of death. The Father's love raised him in the power of the Spirit and made of his humanity the first fruits of our

eternal salvation" (*Spes non Confundit*, 20). Central to our Paschal proclamation are the words of the Easter Preface, "For he is the true Lamb who has taken away the sins of the world; by dying, he has destroyed our death, and by rising restored our life" (*Roman Missal*, Easter Preface I). These two aspects of the Paschal mystery—Jesus' death and resurrection—inform our hope and transform our lives forever making the life of grace available to us (cf. CCC, 654).

It is imperative for us to remember that while the Resurrection was a historical event it was and is much more, since, as a profound mystery of our living faith, the Resurrection really and ultimately transcends time and space. The *Catechism* teaches that: "Christ's Resurrection was not a return to earthly life, as was the case with the raisings from the dead that he had performed before Easter: Jairus' daughter, the young man of Naim, Lazarus... they would die again. Christ's Resurrection is essentially different. In his risen body he passes from the state of death to another life beyond time and space" (CCC, 646). In this way, the Resurrection is the fulfillment of our hope, the hope that corresponds to our restless hearts that long for God Himself and being in right relationship with Him, as St. Augustine intuitively phrased it (cf. St Augustine, *Confessions*, I, 1,5).

For those who have lost loved ones, hope in the Resurrection takes on a particular meaning as it points to the reality of death but one which does not have the final word. This hope of eternal life in the Kingdom brings comfort and courage to those who mourn, knowing that death has been defeated and that they too will, one day, be raised to new life in eternity. We pray with the following words in the *Preface I for the dead* during a funeral Mass: "In him the hope of blessed resurrection has dawned, that those saddened by the certainty of dying might be consoled by the promise of immortality to come".

The unique supernatural hope that Easter brings calls us to live differently in the 'here and now' of our existence and earthly journey. It recalls the sacrificial, self-giving love of Jesus on the cross and looks to emulate it in our daily choices and decisions - to live the Resurrected new life of Christ in and through our relationships and in society. Our hope is never passive but transformative, bidding us to engage the world and proclaim the truth and love of God. We see this on the first Easter morning, when Our Lord asks Mary Magdalene to go to Galilee and tell the others what she had seen—the tomb is empty, and Jesus is risen from the dead (cf. Mt. 28:10). The same is true today. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ calls us to live in truth, with courage, compassion, and purpose; to go out to others - the young and young at heart - family, friends, colleagues, neighbours and strangers - and share with them the awesome difference it makes in our lives to know the Lord, to live in friendship with him, to love him and to serve him as best we can. We do this in word and deed, by our testimony and example, bringing hope wherever we find ourselves and inviting all people to the newness of life made possible by the Resurrection. Truly we believe and profess the Resurrection of the body and life everlasting.

Once again, I would like to extend my Easter wishes to you and your family and friends, to the entire Archdiocese of Toronto. May the reality of Easter be a daily experience of new life, new hope, new trust and new beginnings allowing us to savour its lasting effects - day in, day out - as we journey in this life with eyes set on the life that will have no end. Blessed Easter to you all.