

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 | 4th SUNDAY of EASTER | 26 April 2026



**THE
LORD IS
TRULY
RISEN!
Alleluia!**

“Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I AM THE GATE.”

John 10.7-9

Letter of Cardinal Frank Leo to the Prime Minister re: Bill C-218

-----Read in page 6-----

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. Peter Chanel April 28th

Pray for us.

“The blood of martyrs is the seed of Christians.”



“Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep.”

John 10.7

Today is World Day of Prayer for Vocations and Catholic Communities and individuals are encouraged to pray that many, may respond to the call of Christ to be intimate witnesses to the Gospel.

Prayer to God, the Father, for an increase of workers in his vineyard, is a request of Jesus himself; **“Pray therefore, to the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest!” (Mt. 9:38)**

The Call to Prayer, is in line with the very nature of the Church, which has the Mission to evangelize from its founding. After Jesus had appeared to his disciples after his resurrection, we read in the Gospel last Sunday, he breathed unto his disciples and commanded; **“Receive the Holy Spirit, as the Father has sent me so I send you.”** We read of this commissioning in every Gospel, but it very explicit in St. Mathew’s Gospel 28:20, **“All authority has been given to me, go and make disciples of all Nations!”** Although this commissioning is directed to every disciple of Christ, whom we all are, it is the responsibility, in a special way to those called to offer their lives exclusively to evangelize and serve the people of God.

In this 4th Sunday too, we celebrate Jesus, the Good Shepherd. Jesus is the **true Shepherd** over and against all those, who claimed to be shepherds before him.

Jesus unlike the shepherds of old, is one who knowing the value of the sheep, laid his life (by his own will) for them! He tells us that this is why God, the Father loves him, because he willingly gives up his life that we may live; **“The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as I have power to lay it down, so I have to take it up again.” Jn 10:17-18**

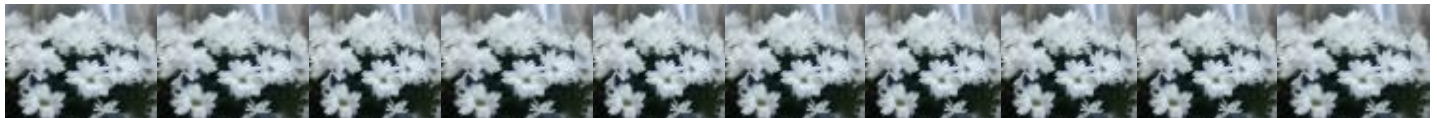
Jesus, declared that there was nothing life-giving of those who came before him claiming to be shepherds; particularly some religious leader in his time; **“These are thieves, robbers and strangers.”**

Jesus is the true Shepherd and from him emanates life that fulfills the Sheep. We are the Sheep of his flock, and Jesus gives us life which flows from him, and because of him, we are able to give life to others.

I imagine the many people, who give of themselves so that others may have life; Mothers, Fathers, husbands and wives, children, the religious, Christian workers and many people of good will who, knowingly give themselves up, that others may thrive!

Blessed are these, disciples of Christ, who labor and in self-giving service, leading others to an experience of joy that makes them exult with Lord, with the Psalmist;

“The Lord is My Shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; He restores my Soul ...”



Our Patron Saint...



"Christ's flock is made up of sheep that not only listen to their shepherd, but are also able to recognize his voice, to follow him, faithfully and with full awareness, on the pastures of eternal life." St. John XXIII

St. Peter Chanel April 28th

Born in 1803, the young shepherd Peter made such an impression on the parish priest that the cleric gained parental permission for Peter to attend school, which eventually led to the seminary and ordination.

In 1831, Peter joined the Marists hoping to fulfill his desire for missionary work, but he was asked to teach in the seminary. Finally, in 1836, Peter and several others set sail for the Pacific Islands. They landed on an island a few miles north of Fiji and were well received. But as their influence grew, the local chief became suspicious and in 1841, on hearing that his son desire baptism, the chief sent warriors to assassinate the priest. Peter was canonized as a martyr in 1954.

(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 !!!



Pope at Mass in Mongomo: Humanity hungers for justice and peace

To read more, click this link >>> [Pope at Mass in Mongomo: Humanity hungers for justice and peace - Vatican News](#)



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



REMEMBERING POPE FRANCIS ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH
Tuesday, April 21, 2026



CARDINAL LEO WRITES TO PRIME MINISTER, MPS – "I ASK YOU TO CHOOSE LIFE..."
Monday, April 20, 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 11 will be on May 2nd at 11am. Please come on time;

One of our parishioners Deacon Matthew Tulio will be ordained priest on May 9th at St. Michael’s Cathedral. Remember him in your prayers.



≈ Did you know??? ≈

- **The First Reading in the Mass during Eastertide or Easter Season are taken from the Acts of the Apostles.** *According to Fr. Javier Lopez SJ, "Every Eucharist celebrates the Lord's Resurrection and its effect on the Church and the world. But this reality stands out during the Easter season. This is why the reading from the book of Acts is so appropriate for this time since it illustrates the life of the church with its daily problems, its lights and shadows: the joy of the Easter faith shared amid multiple difficulties, the witness of its members, the persecutions. [ADOM :: Christ's Easter in the Acts of the Apostles](#)*

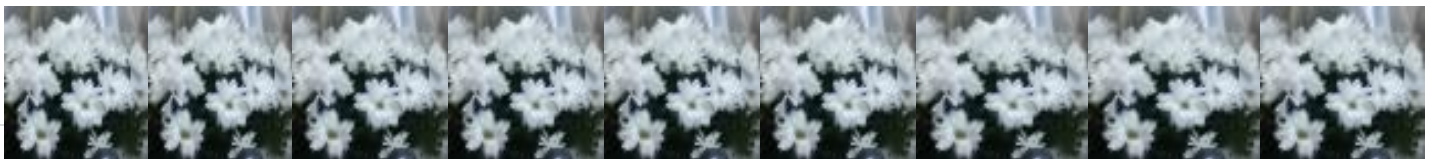
Specific differences in Liturgy

- **Alleluia and Gloria:** During Easter, the *Gloria* is sung on Sundays and the *Alleluia* is used frequently. While the *Gloria* is usually said on Sundays in Ordinary Time, it is not used in the same context of celebration as during the Easter season.
- **The Paschal Candle:** The Paschal Candle is lit and placed in the sanctuary for all liturgical celebrations during the 50 days of Easter, representing the presence of the risen Christ. It is not present in the sanctuary during Ordinary Time.
- **Sprinkling Rite:** On Sundays during the Easter season, the assembly is often sprinkled with holy water blessed at the Easter Vigil, reminding them of their baptismal promises.
- **Penitential Act:** While not entirely eliminated, the penitential tone is reduced during the Easter season in favor of rejoicing in the Resurrection.

- **Differences between Ordinary Sundays and the Easter Season in the Catholic Church lie in their liturgical focus, colors, music, and thematic atmosphere.**

The Easter Season is a 50-day joyous celebration of the Resurrection, Ascension, and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost while Ordinary Time focuses on the public life and teachings of Jesus.

- **Focus:** *Easter season Focuses on Mystagogy, or helping the faithful understand the mystery of the resurrection and their new life in Christ. Ordinary Time: Focuses on the "ordered" life of the Church- using the time to follow Jesus's teachings, witness to the presence of the risen Christ in the community, and focus on the saints.*
- **Liturgical Colors:** *White & Gold (symbolizing joy and resurrection) is used throughout the Easter season. Green (symbolizing hope and growth) is used during Ordinary Time.*
- **Atmosphere:** *Easter is a celebratory time, often featuring festive music and the frequent use of the Alleluia. Ordinary Time is a "quieter" period focused on spiritual growth and living out the faith in daily life.*





The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Sent via e-mail

20 April 2026

Dear Prime Minister,

I am mindful of the many sacrifices made to lead our country. Know of my prayers for you and your family. As the Archbishop of Toronto, providing spiritual leadership for close to two million Catholics, I write to you keenly aware of our collective obligation to safeguard the dignity of every human life and to serve the common good.

As you know, our Catholic faith opposes the taking of any human life and it is with great disappointment and anguish that we have seen our country expand Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) at a rapid and alarming rate since legislation was passed in 2016, despite the commitments made and the safeguards promised. Euthanasia and assisted suicide are indeed contrary to the dignity of the human person.

You are certainly aware that many Canadians are increasingly troubled by the speed and scope of these developments, and by the inevitable harmful effects on vulnerable individuals who may feel pressure – whether subtle or overt – during moments of profound suffering, isolation, or despair, to seek assisted death.

A society is rightly judged by how it cares for its most vulnerable members. There is growing anxiety that the normalization and expansion of assisted suicide risks undermining a culture of compassion, weakening investments in palliative support, and diminishing the collective commitment to accompany those suffering.

Before Parliament at present is a Private Members' Bill, C-218 – An Act to Amend the Criminal Code (Medical Assistance in Dying) that would restrict the expansion of MAiD for those whose sole underlying condition is mental illness. As Parliament considers Bill C-218, I respectfully urge you to allow a free vote among Members of Parliament within the Liberal Party of Canada. This legislation raises profound questions of conscience that transcend partisan alignment and touch on deeply held moral, ethical, and spiritual convictions. I ask you to choose life and not death; to help build a civilization that cares for those suffering and does not eliminate them but instead surrounds them with dignity, compassion, and love.

I would also urge you and the Minister of Justice to consider measures that restrict any further expansion of assisted suicide in our country and instead prioritize investments in palliative care, mental health support and resources for those who are increasingly marginalized and isolated, especially seniors and Canadians living with disabilities.

I remain available to speak with you directly on this or any other matter in the days ahead and reiterate my prayers for you and for all who serve in public office. May you be guided by wisdom, courage, and a steadfast commitment to the common good.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank Cardinal Leo".

Frank Cardinal Leo
Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto

cc. Hon. Sean Fraser, Minister of Justice, Attorney General of Canada

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