

# 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 | 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time | 24 Aug 2025

**JESUS** said to them,  
“Strive to enter  
through the  
narrow door;  
for many, I tell  
you, will try to  
enter and will  
not be able.”

*Luke 13.24*

### *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 2025-2026** is in the months of August and September 2025

**First Holy Communion** – for Grade 2 &

up **registration for 2025-2026** is in the months of August and September 2025

**Wedding** – talk to Fr. David after any of the Sunday Masses

**Anyone who wants to become**

**Catholic** – talk to Fr. David after any of the Sunday Masses

**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)

**St. Joseph Calasanz Aug 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Pray for us.**

“If from the very earliest years, a child is instructed in both religion and letters, it can be reasonably hoped that his life will be happy.”



*"Jesus said again, Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep."* John 10:7

***"Praise the Lord, all you Nations; glorify him, all you peoples! For great is his steadfast love toward us, and his faithfulness endures forever."***

These are the profound words of Psalm 117; a Psalm which is only two verses long! It's one of the best exaltation Prayer, in book of Psalms.

The Church selects these words today in response to the uplifting message in the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading; The Prophecy of Isaiah; Who in the last chapter of his book (Isaiah 66) prophesied a time when the privilege, which until then, was exclusively enjoyed by Israel, would be extended to all Nations; we read ***"I am coming to gather every Nation, and every language. They will witness my glory!" "From new moon to new moon, Sabbath to Sabbath all humanity will come and bow in my presence, says the Lord."***

God, in his love and mercy is one who uplifts! And ever since our fall in the Garden of Eden, has been pursuing us, to the peak which no human being could ever have fathomed! The Author of the book to the Hebrews puts it this way; ***"In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the Prophets, and in these last days, he spoken to us through his Son."*** Hebrew 1: 1-2 Christ Jesus, the Son of God is the Privilege!

In Gospel reading today, Jesus is on his journey to Jerusalem, to fulfill the Will of His Father. Luke, the Evangelist, manifests him as resolute for this Mission. He is the supreme teacher, teaching with authority, the truth of the Kingdom of God. But all was not well! He, the Son of God was experiencing opposition from the very People, who had for centuries been prepared to receive Him!

Jesus is in great anguish because of the hardness of his peoples' hearts. His anguish is intense that he laments their unbelieve; ***"Jerusalem! Jerusalem! You that kill the prophets and stone those who are sent to you! How often have I longed to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you refused!"***

(LK 13:34-35)

You can imagine, then, how in this environment of rejection, someone asks the question: ***"Will only a Few People be Saved?"*** You can almost feel the frustration in Jesus: who chooses not to give a direct answer as per the number to be saved!

However, he spelt out the thought of time! Salvation as a result of one's faithfulness to the Old Covenant and not as undeserving gift of God; ***"Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able."***

Notice the Irony? Who is the Door? The Symbol of the "The door" or "The "Gate," to the Kingdom of Heaven is used in John 10:9, Jesus claimed himself to be "The Gate for the Sheep." ***"Jesus said again, Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep."*** (Jn 10:7) Jesus leads us to the Father.

This is what the Man (Questioner), failed to notice and accept, that standing in front of him was the "Anointed of the Father;" Source of Salvation."

The Man was so certain of his source of salvation that he could not recognize the real source of Salvation, present; Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God. †



**CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**"The kingdom of God is at hand"**

**541.** "Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying: 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent, and believe in the gospel.'" <sup>246</sup> "To carry out the will of the Father Christ inaugurated the kingdom of heaven on earth." <sup>247</sup> Now the Father's will is "to raise up men to share in his own divine life". <sup>248</sup> He does this by gathering men around his Son Jesus Christ. This gathering is the Church, "on earth the seed and beginning of that kingdoms". <sup>249</sup>

**542.** Christ stands at the heart of this gathering of men into the "family of God". By his word, through signs that manifest the reign of God, and by sending out his disciples, Jesus calls all people to come together around him. But above all in the great Paschal mystery - his death on the cross and his Resurrection - he would accomplish the coming of his kingdom. "and I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself." Into this union with Christ all men are called. <sup>250</sup>

**The Proclamation of the kingdom of God**

**543.** Everyone is called to enter the kingdom. First announced to the children of Israel, this messianic kingdom is intended to accept men of all nations. <sup>251</sup> To enter it, one must first accept Jesus' word:

The word of the Lord is compared to a seed which is sown in a field; those who hear it with faith and are numbered among the little flock of Christ have truly received the kingdom. Then, by its own power, the seed sprouts and grows until the harvest. <sup>252</sup>

**544.** The kingdom belongs to the poor and lowly, which means those who have accepted it with humble hearts. Jesus is sent to "preach good news to the poor"; <sup>253</sup> he declares them blessed, for "theirs is the kingdom of heaven." <sup>254</sup> To them - the "little ones" the Father is pleased to reveal what remains hidden from the wise and the learned. <sup>255</sup> Jesus shares the life of the poor, from the cradle to the cross; he experiences hunger, thirst and privation. <sup>256</sup> Jesus identifies himself with the poor of every kind and makes active love toward them the condition for entering his kingdom. <sup>257</sup>

[To read more click the link-- Catechism of the Catholic Church - IntraText](#)

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Aug 23, 5:15PM Vigil Mass**

The Parishioners

**Aug 24 -Sun- 9:00AM** + Alberto dela Cruz

**12:15PM** + Julie Costales

**5:30 PM** + Claude D'Souza

**Aug 25-Mon,7:00 PM** + Julie Costales

**Aug 26-Tue,9:00PM** Intention of Barbara for the B-day of Olivia Benn

**Aug 27-Wed 7:00PM** + Jose & Socorro Lagahit

**Aug 28-Thu,9:00PM** + A. KamalRaj

**Aug 29-Fri,7:00PM** + Antonio Arcangel

**Aug 30 -Sat,9:00am** + Lydia dela Cruz

**7-day Vigil Lamp Intention**

**Aug 23-29, 2025**

Sanctuary--- + Isagani Ayala

Virgin Mary- Thanksgiving of Gemma Cabungcal

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**WORDs OF THE WEEK**

**Kingdom of God**

The kingdom of god means, then, the ruling of God in our hearts; it means those principles which separate us off from the kingdom of the world and the devil ; it means the benign sway of grace; it means the Church as that Divine institution whereby we may make sure of attaining the spirit of Christ and so win that ultimate kingdom of God Where He reigns without end in "the holy city, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God " ( Revelation 21:2 ).

*To read more click the link below*

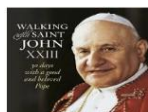
[Kingdom of God - Encyclopedia Volume - Catholic Encyclopedia - Catholic Online](#)

*Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for the month of August 2025*

***"Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons."***







**"Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams**

*St. John XXIII*

### St. Joseph Calasanz Aug 25<sup>th</sup>

St. Joseph Calasanz was born in a castle in Aragon, Spain, in 1556 and is often referred to by his Latin name, Calasanctius. At age 28 he was ordained, so concerning himself with religious reform that he was appointed vicar-general at 34. In 1592, he gave up his position and left for Rome, where he lived for five years as a pilgrim.

Joseph became aware of the plight of poor children and their need for education. When he could not get permission for them to attend regular schools, he saw God calling him to do something himself. Using his inheritance, he set up free schools for the poor. From the community of teachers, Joseph founded the Order of Clerks Regular of Religious Schools, which spread throughout Italy and beyond. Unfortunately, there was dissension in the orders; a papal commission eventually dissolved the order in 1646. Joseph died in 1648, but his hopes were fulfilled in 1669 when the order was re-formed; it continues today, known as the Piarists or Scolopi.

Joseph was canonized in 1767 and is a patron of schools serving the needs of poor children. *Living with Christ -Aug 2025 edition*

### 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](mailto: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 Leo XIV receives the President of the Republic of Seychelles

To read more, click this link >>> [Pope Leo XIV receives the President of the Republic of Seychelles - Vatican News](#)



**CELEBRATING THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY AT GOOD SHEPHERD CHALDEAN CATHEDRAL**  
Tuesday, August 19, 2025



**POPE LEO XIV INVITES FAITHFUL TO PRAY AND FAST FOR PEACE**  
Wednesday, August 20, 2025



**CATHOLIC COMMUNITY COMMITS \$800,000 TO FIGHT HUNGER**  
Monday, August 18, 2025

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

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

## Announcements!!!

**Join us in our Parish Pilgrimage to the Martyrs Shrine at Midland, Ontario, save your seat. Please stand by for the details;**

**Reminders for Parents with Grade 2 child to register in the First Holy Communion and Grade 7 and up for Confirmation;**

**On September 13<sup>th</sup>, Matthew Tulio will be ordained as Transitional Diaconate at St. Michael Cathedral. Remember him in your prayers;**





## 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 Regions** 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



## Martyrs' Shrine

## St. John XXIII Parish Pilgrimage to Martyrs' Shrine

All Parishioners are invited to join our  
Jubilee Pilgrimage of Hope  
*on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025* to  
Martyrs' Shrine, Midland, Ontario

*Email the parish office to sign up:*

Departure Time from St. John XXIII Parish- **7am**

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### 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*

*Francis*



## OUR FAITH

### **Sacraments**

#### **MASS (Eucharist)**

#### **First Holy Eucharist (First Holy Communion)**

The three Sacraments of Christian Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist—together form the process of sacramental initiation into the Church. If this will be your First Holy Communion, it will mark your wonderful beginning of sharing at the table of the Lord with the whole Church at your local parish.

Our parishes offer our families sacramental preparation that prepares them for First Holy Communion. The preparation process takes place usually around seven years of age or otherwise as determined by the pastor. Whether or not their children attend a Catholic school, the parents are to register their family for the preparation at their parish.

#### **Frequently Asked Questions** .....*continuation*

5. **What if my child is not ready to celebrate the sacrament?** Please speak to the pastor or coordinator.

If you are not attending a parish currently, we warmly invite you to participate in the Mass on Sundays with one of our many parish families.

6. **If my child did not receive First Communion in Grade Two, can they receive it when they are older?**  
**Yes, but please speak to your parish pastor for their preparation for First Communion.**

7. **How may validly baptized non-Catholic children receive First Communion?**

The pastor will be able to speak to your particular situation. [5] Validly baptized non-Catholic children between seven and fourteen years should be enrolled in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Children of Catechetical Age.

8. **Can a non-baptized or non-Catholic child receive First Communion if they are enrolled in a Catholic school?**

No. Eucharistic communion is reserved to those who are in the fullness of ecclesial communion with the Catholic Church.

9. **Can an Eastern Catholic or an Orthodox child receive First Holy Communion?**

First Holy Communion is usually the first celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Because baptized children from these ecclesial communities normally received First Communion along with Baptism and Confirmation, these children do not usually celebrate First Holy Communion again. Orthodox children are usually not presented for First Communion even if they are enrolled in Catholic schools.

Speak to your pastor about your particular situation, especially if the child has a Roman Catholic parent or if the parents would like to be received into the Catholic Church.

[1] *Lumen Gentium*, 11.

[2] *Gravissimum Educationis*, 3

[3] *Lumen Fidei*, 43.

[4] *Familiaris Consortio*, 52; cf. *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 71.

[5] For common examples, see the Archdiocesan resource *Invited to the Feast*, especially pp. 21-22.

To read more click this link ..... [Archdiocese of Toronto - Sacraments & Sacramentals - Home](#)

