

# 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 | 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time | 31 Aug 2025

**JESUS** said to them,  
“For whoever exalts  
himself will be  
humbled, and  
whoever humbles  
himself will be  
exalted.” *Luke 14.11*

To all Students and Teachers!  
Welcome to the new School Year  
- You will be in our Prayers -

**Statement by the Canadian Conference of Catholic  
Bishops on Re: Urgent Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza**  
*See 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 2025-2026** 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. Gregory the Great** **Sep 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Pray for us.**

“For a man is made similar to the  
apostate angel when he disdains to  
be similar to men.”



*“Friend, go up higher, ... as he who humbles himself will be exalted!”* Luke 14:10

*“My Child conduct your affairs in Humility, and you will be loved more than a giver of Gifts. Humble yourself the more, the greater you are, and you will find favor with God.”*

These Words from the Book of Sirach are based on a wisdom of a loving Father, calling his Son or daughter to a transformation! He exalts an attitude of meekness in dealing, not only with fellow human beings but also with God.

In our response with Responsorial Psalm, we acknowledge our dependence on God’s providential care; *“In your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy ... Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.”*

This is an honest and truthful realization that all human beings, no matter their circumstance in life, are always in the concern of God our Father. Aware of God’s Presence among us, we are to approach his throne with humility, knowing our place as the created.

Jesus, in the Gospel, calls us too to practice meekness, in our everyday life; It’s the wisdom, so that we can experience the joy of being uplifted; *“Friend, go up higher, ... as he who humbles himself will be exalted!”*

Jesus is depicted as the teacher in the traditional wisdom in Israel. His teaching about inviting the poor who cannot pay back echoes the wisdom of Sirach in the first Reading; *“When you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”*

We belong to the Kingdom of God. A Kingdom governed by the wisdom of “absolute meekness,” of One who did not count equality with God as something to be boasted about. And in his generous self-giving love was humbler yet, up to accepting death on the Cross. This is with the sole purpose of enabling us to have fullness of Life.

Jesus calls us to an unbiased generosity, a generosity he, himself already lived.



CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Prayer as God's gift

**2559.** "Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God."<sup>2</sup> But when we pray, do we speak from the height of our pride and will, or "out of the depths" of a humble and contrite heart?<sup>3</sup> He who humbles himself will be exalted;<sup>4</sup> humility is the foundation of prayer, Only when we humbly acknowledge that "we do not know how to pray as we ought,"<sup>5</sup> are we ready to receive freely the gift of prayer. "Man is a beggar before God."<sup>6</sup>

**2560.** "If you knew the gift of God!"<sup>7</sup> The wonder of prayer is revealed beside the well where we come seeking water: there, Christ comes to meet every human being. It is he who first seeks us and asks us for a drink. Jesus thirsts; his asking arises from the depths of God's desire for us. Whether we realize it or not, prayer is the encounter of God's thirst with ours. God thirsts that we may thirst for him.<sup>8</sup>

**2561.** "You would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."<sup>9</sup>

Paradoxically our prayer of petition is a response to the plea of the living God:

"They have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewn out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water!"<sup>10</sup>

Prayer is the response of faith to the free promise of salvation and also a response of love to the thirst of the only Son of God.<sup>11</sup>

Prayer as Covenant

**2562.** Where does prayer come from?

Whether prayer is expressed in words or gestures, it is the whole man who prays.

But in naming the source of prayer, Scripture speaks sometimes of the soul or the spirit, but most often of the heart (more than a thousand times).

According to Scripture, it is the heart that prays.

If our heart is far from God, the words of prayer are in vain.

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

## MASS INTENTIONS

Aug 30, 5:15PM Vigil Mass

+ Julie Costales

Aug 31 -Sun- 9:00AM The Parishioners

12:15PM + Lydia Casana

5:30 PM + Margaretta Miguel

Sep 01-Mon, 10:00 AM + Luis & Maria Carreon

Sep 02-Tue,9:00PM + Teodorica Garcia

Sep 03-Wed 7:00PM Successful Surgery of Cora dV

Sep 04-Thu,9:00PM + A. KamalRaj

+ Ruperto Frilles

Sep 05-Fri,7:00PM + Ricardo Sr & Maria Carreon

Sep 06-Sat,9:00AM+Mercedes&Leonardo Sr.Alon

### 7-day Vigil Lamp Intention

Aug 30-Sep 5, 2025

Sanctuary--- Intention of Cora de Villa

Virgin Mary- Intention of Cora de Villa

## WORD OF THE WEEK

### Humility

Humility is defined in the Catechism of the Catholic Church as the virtue by which a Christian acknowledges that God is the author of all good, avoiding inordinate ambition or pride, and serving as the foundation for prayer (CCC 2559).

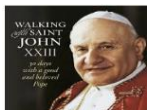
Humility is a fundamental virtue in the Christian life, often misunderstood in contemporary society. It is not about self-deprecation or viewing oneself as insignificant; rather, it is about recognizing our true nature in relation to God. As stated in the Catechism, humility helps us acknowledge that all good things come from God, and it encourages us to turn to Him in prayer. ([Pride and Humility, Vice and Virtue – Catholic Stand](#)).

*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."**







*"I say only this to the Lord: here I am, ready for everything, sufferings as well as joys."* St. John XXIII

## St. Gregory the Great Sep 3<sup>rd</sup>

St. Gregory was born about the year 540 into a wealthy Roman family. After brief but distinguished service as Chief Magistrate of Rome, Gregory resigned to become a Benedictine monk and used his great wealth to establish several monasteries. In 578 he was ordained deacon and sent to Constantinople as papal ambassador.

In 586 Gregory was recalled to Rome and became abbot. Four years later he was elected pope. His charity in feeding starving Romans, his protection of Jewish rights and his political diplomacy helped him earn the title 'Great'. Several centuries after his death, Gregory was credited with developing Gregorian chant, although this remains disputed.

He is known as the Apostle of England for sending missionaries there, including Augustine of Canterbury. Gregory, who died in 604, is a Doctor of the Church.

*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 invites Christians to unite for Creation Day on September 1

To read more, click this link >>> [Pope invites Christians to unite for Creation Day on September 1 - Vatican News](#)



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



**FRANK CARDINAL LEO APPOINTED AS A MEMBER OF VATICAN'S DICASTERY FOR THE CLERGY**  
Thursday, August 28, 2025



**CHARGES WITHDRAWN AGAINST FR. JOSEPH WASIK – PRIESTLY FACULTIES RESTORED**  
Thursday, August 28, 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;**

**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**

### 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*

*Franciscans*





CONFÉRENCE DES ÉVÊQUES CATHOLIQUES DU CANADA  
CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

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**Statement by the Permanent Council  
Regarding the Urgent Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza**

Following the terrorist attack on Israel by Hamas on 7 October 2023, the Holy Land has been in the grip of a devastating war. International concern about the ever deteriorating situation in Gaza has been heightened with the latest reports from the United Nations, that civilians there are on the brink of starvation, while they continue to be exposed to violence and death, with children and the elderly being most at risk.

The loss of human life since the October 7<sup>th</sup> attack has been tremendous, particularly among Palestinians (both Muslims and Christians). Less than a month ago, Holy Family Church in Gaza City, which had been sheltering children and the wounded, fell victim to a military strike, killing three and seriously injuring several others, for which the Israeli army has acknowledged responsibility and the Israeli government has apologized for the loss of innocent human life.

Pope Leo XIV has recently stated, with profound concern, that the “dire humanitarian situation in Gaza” and the “barbarism of war” causing it must be ended immediately.<sup>1</sup> He has advocated for the provision of humanitarian aid to the stricken civilian population as well as the release of hostages and detainees on both sides.<sup>2</sup> The Holy Father has appealed to the international community “to observe humanitarian law and to respect the obligation to protect civilians, as well as the prohibition of collective punishment, the indiscriminate use of force and the forced displacement of the population” in Gaza.<sup>3</sup> He has reiterated his call for a ceasefire and a resolution that will bring lasting peace.<sup>4</sup>

While the situation in the Holy Land is complex and every human solution has its limitations, the power of prayer should never be underestimated. Praying and fasting for peace in the Holy Land is both urgent and necessary at this time; it is something to which all the Catholic faithful in Canada should feel called to do, prompted by the loss of life on all sides and knowing that God desires peace.

As Christians express their concern about the catastrophic impact this war is having on the civilian population in Gaza, they also do well to pray for and promote respect toward the Jewish People, particularly in the face of the rise in anti-Semitism.

May God, rich in mercy, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, patroness of the Holy Land and Queen of Peace, touch the hearts of all the inhabitants of the Holy Land – Jews, Muslims, and

Christians – so that they may open themselves to forgiveness and justice, and live peacefully together as brothers and sisters united by their common humanity.

25 August 2025

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<sup>1</sup> Pope Leo XIV, Comments after *Angelus* Message, Sunday, 20 July 2025.

<sup>2</sup> Pope Leo XIV, Comments after *Reinga Caeli* Message, Sunday, 11 May 2025.

<sup>3</sup> Pope Leo XIV, Comments after *Angelus* Message, Sunday, 20 July 2025.

<sup>4</sup> Pope Leo XIV, Comments after *Angelus* Message, Sunday, 27 July 2025.

## OUR FAITH

### Sacraments

#### MASS (Eucharist) .....*continuation*

In the Eucharist, Jesus Christ, the Risen Saviour, meets us visibly and personally in the power of the Holy Spirit. Cardinal Collins puts it this way:

Until Christ comes in glory, there is no more intense way of experiencing His presence than receiving Him in Holy Communion. This is not "holy bread" that reminds us of Jesus. This is Jesus, sacramentally present to be with us on our journey.[1]

"Jesus offered himself on Calvary in generous, unselfish love, in the midst of evil—giving and not counting the cost".[2] Because of Him, we know what our eternal identity is: To be His witnesses by our love in action. "We love because He first loved us." (1 John 4:19)

In one sense, we can say that Mass never ends because Jesus sends us forth in our mission of service with the reassuring word: Go.

The Eucharist completes Christian initiation. Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist make us full members of the Church. This also brings with it responsibility and so the Church obliges the faithful to take part in the Mass on Sundays.

#### Frequently Asked Questions

**1. May I receive Holy Eucharist on my tongue?**

It is in the right of the communicants to decide whether they will receive the Eucharist in the hand, on the tongue, kneeling or standing.

**2. Can I receive Holy Communion more than once a day?**

**Yes, but no more than twice in a 24-hour period: "One who has received the Blessed Sacrament may receive it again on the same day only within a Eucharistic celebration in which that person participates". (Code of Canon Law, c. 917).**

**3. Under what circumstances should Catholics receive the Eucharist?**

If we desire to receive Christ in communion, we must be in the state of grace. Anyone aware of having sinned mortally must receive absolution in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. (CCC: 1415) We are all welcome to attend the Mass in "spiritual communion" and to encounter God's Word read and proclaimed, whether or not they receive the Eucharist.[3]

**4. Does my separation and civil divorce, prohibit me from receiving Holy Communion? Can a non-baptized or non-Catholic child receive First Communion if they are enrolled in a Catholic school?**

"Anyone who desires to receive Christ in Eucharistic communion must be in the state of grace. Anyone aware of having sinned mortally must not receive communion without having received absolution in the sacrament of penance." (CCC: 1415) If the divorced are remarried civilly, the Church maintains that the new union cannot be recognized as valid if the first marriage is valid: "they cannot receive Eucharistic communion as long as this situation persists". (CCC: 1650)

**5. If I'm a non-Catholic, what procedures and protocols should I observe when I go to Mass?**

We ask that you respectfully observe the parish community at Mass, and that you freely follow along as the community prays, sings, reads, listens, sits, stands, and exchanges greetings with one another in the presence of Jesus Christ.

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

