

St. John XXIII Parish

150 Gateway Blvd., Don Mills, ON M3C 3E2

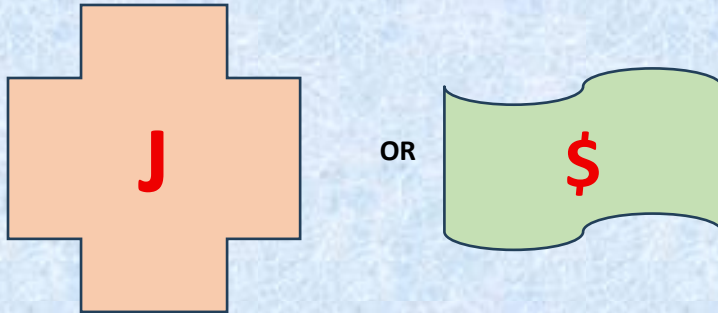
Website: <https://stjohn23do.archtoronto.org>

Email: stjohn23do@archtoronto.org

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9AM to 3PM



PARISH BULLETIN | 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time | 21 Sep 2025



**“You cannot
serve God
and wealth.”**

Luke 16:13

Stewardship Sunday

Frank Cardinal Leo - Homily for Stewardship Sunday 2025
in page 2 and 3

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

St. Cosmas & St. Damian Sep 25th

Pray for us.

*“Turn all your thoughts and aspirations
to heaven. Work hard
to secure for yourself a place
there for ever.”*



***Homily of His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo Metropolitan Archbishop of
Toronto Stewardship Sunday -21September 2025***

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Praised be Jesus Christ.

On this 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, across the Archdiocese of Toronto, we are taking time to reflect on stewardship. More than just the giving of time, treasure and talent, stewardship is profoundly spiritual, deeply biblical, and eminently practical in daily living. In this Jubilee Year, stewardship takes on special significance. The call to reset, restore, and renew, reminds us that everything belongs to God and we are guardians and custodians. The Jubilee demands justice and release; stewardship recommends responsibility and reverence. Together, these challenge us to live with generosity, balance, and in service of God and one another.

Stewardship begins with the acknowledgment that all of creation belongs to God (cf. Deut 10:14; Ps 24:1) which he generously bestows upon us (cf. CCC, 299). The loving gift of the Father invites us to enter into relationship with him, to respond in a manner that is pleasing, and which is modelled for us by his Son, who “came not to be served but to serve” (cf. Matt 20:28; Mk 10:45; cf. Jn 13:1-17).

As responsible stewards of God’s blessings we are loving caretakers who manage and celebrate God’s gifts with reverence, gratitude, humility, and love. If we cannot be trusted with the passing things of this world to be used for the glory of God and in service of our brothers and sisters, how can we be trusted with the eternal blessedness that awaits us in heaven? The “true riches” (Lk 16:11) mentioned in our Gospel reading this weekend are understood as spiritual riches—things of eternal value, including eternal life itself. I am not suggesting that we earn or buy our way into heaven, this view is false and condemned by the Church; nevertheless, our fidelity in earthly matters reveals our readiness for heaven (cf. CCC, 1996-1997, 2027, 2008, 1815).

Jesus’ parable underscores the judicious use of worldly things in service of God and others, and ultimately life with him (cf. Matt 6:19-21). The reference to “eternal homes” (Lk 16:9), at the end of the parable reminds us to focus on what really and truly matters. The urgency of the manager is also noteworthy (Lk 16:6), prompting us not to wait for a tomorrow that may never come. Finally, the manager’s use of the rich man’s property to secure his personal future provides an important imperative; namely, if people use worldly things to secure an earthly future which is fleeting, how much more should we do likewise for eternal life which will endure forever (Lk 16:9). We are called to offer the things of this world, which belong to God, to give glory to him and merit eternal life—albeit as faithful servants and not dishonest managers (Lk 16:12; cf. Str. Augustine, *Serm.* 359A,10).

Continued in the next page....

Continuation of the homily of His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo on Stewardship Sunday.....

Even the smallest acts of faithfulness have eternal significance. Living in the presence of God with an awareness of his gifts and blessings, results in living and acting with purpose, meaning and hope. Spiritual masters such as Jean-Pierre Caussade and Brother Lawrence call this: **The Sacrament of the Present Moment**. All our decisions and actions become sacred when made with the awareness that we are servants of God, his beloved children, who offer ourselves, our very lives to him in union with Jesus Christ.

While the gifts and blessings we have received are many and incredible, these cannot compare with the divine life offered to us in the most Blessed Eucharist. The Eucharist not only reminds us of Jesus' total gift of himself—his body, blood, soul, and divinity, offered for us and for the salvation of the world—it is also an invitation to imitate his sacrificial love (cf. Jn 13:34-35). True stewardship recognizes the gifts and blessings we have received and with gratitude offers these to God in loving service. Just as Jesus offered himself to the Father, we offer all that we have and all that we are, heeding the call to "take up our Cross" and follow him without counting the cost (Matt 16:24-26; Mk 8:34-36).

During this Jubilee Year, we recall its deep biblical meaning—a sacred time of spiritual renewal. The Hebrew Scriptures remind us that everything we possess, our very existence and living, are, ultimately belongs to God (cf. Lev 25:23). The Old Testament Jubilee saw land returned, debts forgiven, and captives set free; it was a radical summons to trust in God's providence—to live not with clenched fists, but with open hearts and hands, ready to receive and to give. Our stewardship flows from this same disposition and dedication. We are not owners, but custodians of God's gifts (cf. CCC, 952).

In a world marked by division, consumption, and fear, true stewardship becomes an act of hope: a visible sign that we trust in something greater than ourselves. People who live in hope, live differently (cf. *Spe Salvi*, 2), they have an eternal perspective that is informed by faith and love. Faith, hope and love, find their greatest expression and fulfilment in the Eucharist, the sacramental foretaste of God's divine life which is fully realised in heaven (cf. CCC, 1402-1405; 1003). In receiving this sacred gift, we are invited to respond with our whole lives, offering ourselves to God and in service to our brothers and sisters. Our self-offering mirrors God's love and in so doing reflects true stewardship.

I conclude with an inspiring saying from St. John of the Cross (*Sayings of Light and Love*, 27) by which he understands and conveys that all things belong to us because all things belong to God and, in Christ, we belong to God:

"Mine are the heavens and mine is the earth. Mine are the nations, the just are mine, and mine the sinners. The angels are mine, and the Mother of God, and all things are mine; and God himself is mine and for me, because Christ is mine and all for me. What do you ask, then, and seek, my soul? Yours is all of this, and all is for you. Do not engage yourself in something less or pay heed to the crumbs that fall from your Father's table. Go forth and exult in your Glory! Hide yourself in it and rejoice, and you will obtain the supplications of your heart."

My brothers and sisters, may the Lord bless you and keep you and your loved ones and communities in his abundant grace.



CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

IV Economic Activity and Social Justice

2426. The development of economic activity and growth in production are meant to provide for the needs of human beings. Economic life is not meant solely to multiply goods produced and increase profit or power; it is ordered first of all to the service of persons, of the whole man, and of the entire human community. Economic activity, conducted according to its own proper methods, is to be exercised within the limits of the moral order, in keeping with social justice so as to correspond to God's plan for man.²⁰⁸

2427. Human work proceeds directly from persons created in the image of God and called to prolong the work of creation by subduing the earth, both with and for one another.²⁰⁹ Hence work is a duty: "If any one will not work, let him not eat."²¹⁰ Work honors the Creator's gifts and the talents received from him. It can also be redemptive. By enduring the hardship of work²¹¹ in union with Jesus, the carpenter of Nazareth and the one crucified on Calvary, man collaborates in a certain fashion with the Son of God in his redemptive work. He shows himself to be a disciple of Christ by carrying the cross, daily, in the work he is called to accomplish.²¹² Work can be a means of sanctification and a way of animating earthly realities with the Spirit of Christ.

2428. In work, the person exercises and fulfills in part the potential inscribed in his nature. the primordial value of labor stems from man himself, its author and its beneficiary. Work is for man, not man for work.²¹³ Everyone should be able to draw from work the means of providing for his life and that of his family, and of serving the human community.

2429. Everyone has the right of economic initiative; everyone should make legitimate use of his talents to contribute to the abundance that will benefit all and to harvest the just fruits of his labor. He should seek to observe regulations issued by legitimate authority for the sake of the common good.²¹⁴

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Sep 20, 5:15PM **Vigil Mass** +The Parishioners

Sep 21 -Sun- 9:00AM + Honorino Sabile

12:15PM + Efren Raymundo

+ Ronaldo Sacop

5:30 PM +Perfecto Edquiban

Sep 22-Mon, 7:00 PM + Aurora Edquiban

Sep 23-Tue,9:00PM + Dennis Edquiban

Sep 24-Wed 7:00PM + Claude D'Souza

+ Aris dela Cruz

Sep 25-Thu,9:00PM + A. Kamalraj & +Jose Laurel

Sep 26-Fri,7:00PM + Teresa Cayetano

Sep 27-Sat,9:00AM +Mercedes & Leonardo Sr. Alon

+ Jose Albufera

7-day Vigil Lamp Intention, Sep 20-26, 2025

Sanctuary--- Thanksgiving of Cora deVilla

Virgin Mary- Thanksgiving of Cora deVilla

WORDS OF THE WEEK

Christian Steward

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 Pt 4:10).

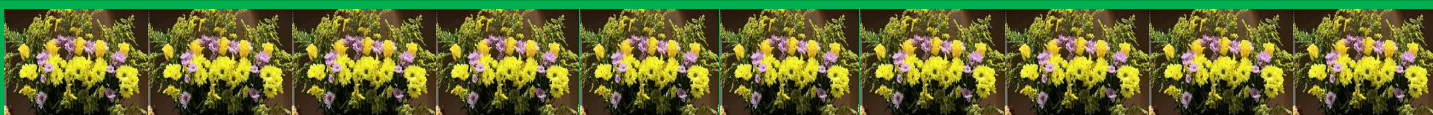
What identifies a steward?

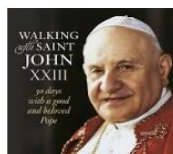
Safeguarding material and human resources and using them responsibly are one answer; so is generous giving of time, talent, and treasure. But being a Christian steward means more. As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.

[Stewardship | USCCB](#)

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention - September 2025 - [For our relationship with all of creation](#)

"Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect."





"The earth will not continue to offer its harvest, except with faithful stewardship." *St. John XXIII*

St. Cosmas & St. Damian *Sep 25th*

Sts. Cosmas and Damian are remembered for their martyrdom. Legend suggests they were twins, both physicians who practiced without charging fees, and who suffered martyrdom during a period of persecution. Around this legend grew another; a gruesome story of their suffering as well as a history of miraculous cures. After the Emperor Justinian I claimed to have been cured of illness through their intercession, he honoured the city of Cyr, which had the relics of the saints, and encouraged the devotion. In the 6th century, both an oratory and a basilica were built in their honour. Along with Saint Luke, Cosmas and Damian are patron saints of physicians and surgeons.

Living with Christ -Sep 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 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 calls on new bishops to be builders of bridges

To read more, click this link >>> [Pope Leo calls on new bishops to be builders of bridges - Vatican News](#)



A CALL TO CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME
Monday, September 01, 2025



CARDINAL FRANK LEO'S MESSAGE ON THE SOLEMNITY OF SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Thursday, September 18, 2025



UPDATE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO REGARDING ST. STEPHEN'S CHAPEL
Tuesday, September 16, 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;

✠ Feast of St. Michael is on September 29th. The Novena is on going.





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 4th, 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*

Francis



Prayers for our parishioners who died recently:

**Cristina Soriano, Antonio Dequito,
Elenida Donado,
Frank Pinto, Julieta Costales**

May their souls rest in peace and share the heavenly banquet.



OUR FAITH

Sacraments

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is an essential part of Christian Initiation. In Confirmation the bishop seals us, the baptized, with the Gift of the Holy Spirit. This sacrament is intended to:

- root us more deeply as sons and daughters of God,
- incorporate us more firmly into Christ,
- strengthen our bond with the Church,
- associate us more closely with the mission of the Church, and
- strengthen us to bear witness to the Christian faith.

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

- 5. What happens if I miss one of my sessions?** Enrolling in the Confirmation program means commitment to taking part in all aspects of the preparation: Rite of Enrolment, all sessions, retreat. If you are sick or have some other serious conflict, contact the coordinator of the program to arrange to make up the session. Candidates who fail to participate without a valid reason may be required to withdraw from the program and delay Confirmation till another time.
- 6. What do I do if I decide (during or after the preparation) not to be confirmed?**
If you decide that this is not the time for you to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation, you are asked to contact the coordinator. We will respect your decision, and encourage you to consider being confirmed when the time is right for you.
- 7. Why does the parish need the address of the church where I was baptized?**
After you have been confirmed, we record the details in our parish Confirmation register. We are also required to send a notice to the parish in which you were baptized (no matter where in the world that parish is located) and they, too, enter your Confirmation in their records. We can only do this when you provide a complete mailing address for the church.

Resources

To learn more about Confirmation, these resources may help:

- [Bishop Robert Barron: Reflections on the Sacrament of Confirmation](#)
- [Catechism of the Catholic Church \(1285-1321\)](#)
- [Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: Confirmation \(265-270\)](#)
- [Code of Canon Law \(cc. 897-958\)](#)

To read more click this link [Archdiocese of Toronto - Confirmation](#)

