

# 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 | 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent | December 04, 2022

“A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.”

*Isaiah 40:3*

### *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**

### Mass



### Schedule

**Saturday Vigil Mass** – 5:15pm

**Sunday Mass** –9am, 12:15pm, 5:30pm

**Weekdays:**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 7pm

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday – 9am

**Baptism**- every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 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 2024 is in the months of September and October 2023

**First Holy Communion** – for Grade 2 & up registration for 2024 is on October and November 2023

**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](http://www.archtoronto.org)

**St. Nicholas, Pray for us**

*Feast Day on December 06, 2022*



**“A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse and a branch shall grow out of this root.”** *Isaiah 11:1*

People are already warmed up to the quick approaching Christmas; lights are up, and I bet many are busy looking for that gift which will manifest their Love and appreciation for the ones they love.

Well, Shopping and gifts are important but moments of reflection on who and what we are celebrating can also built us. Gifts manifests love and Christmas celebrates love. At Christmas, we shall be God’s Instruments of this Love.

In the First Reading this Sunday, Prophet Isaiah is addressing Israel, the chosen People, the beloved of the Lord. He reminded them of truth that hurt; They had forgotten God who loved them; **“You have forgotten the Lord your Maker, who stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth.”** Isaiah pointed out to Israel the consequence of Life without God; Israel had decayed into a lifeless stump of a Tree.

But Isaiah had a Message of Hope for his People; God was going to intervene; **“A Shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse and a branch shall grow out of this root.”**

The King to arise, through God’s intervention, would not be ordinary, for; **“the spirit of the Lord would rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel, knowledge and Fear of God.”**

This King, envisioned by Isaiah, would revert the world to Eden: the Paradise it was at Creation; **“The Wolf shall dwell with the Lamb, and leopard with a kid, the calf with the Lion and a little child will lead them! The cow and the bear shall feed together and their young shall lie together! The Lion shall eat the straw like an ox and a child shall put this hand in the snake’s den and they shall not be hurt!”**

There will be the Perfect Harmony again, between God and His Creation: A return to Paradise; **“For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord.”**

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The Gospel Reading today, reveals that the fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy had come. John, the Baptist was Prophet Elijah that had come back to life. He was, **“The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his Path straight.”**

John the Baptist called his contemporaries to prepare for the coming of the Lord; **“Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand,”** he challenged them. He announced a Baptism of water as a sign of repentance!

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Brothers and Sisters, we are the New People of God, born of the Water and the Holy Spirit. In Baptism we received the Life of God becoming his adopted sons and daughters. In this Privilege, as Sons and Daughters in Christ Jesus, we are destined for the Kingdom with the Father!

John the Baptist warns against the comfort of entitlement. The old Israel, felt entitled as Sons and Daughters of Abraham, to be heirs of the Promise. This led many, like the Pharisees and Sadducees, to an arrogance; A pride that ended up in self-worship.

John the Baptist called them “brood of vipers!” “Evil people!” He challenged them to “bear Fruits that befit their repentance.”

Many of us are witnesses to many Advents and maybe we consider this “just another one.” We can be tempted to be comfortable that we have done enough. The question then becomes; **Can a Son or a Daughter do enough when, the One beaconing is the Creator and the Loving Father?**

The time of bearing Fruits is Now; John the Baptist tells us; **“For the ax is already laid at the root of the tree!”** **May the Lord intervene in our Lives and strengthen our Love, Faith and Hope.**



## – Catechism of the Catholic Church–

### II. The Mysteries of Jesus' Infancy and Hidden Life

**[CCC 522]** The coming of God's Son to earth is an event of such immensity that God willed to prepare for it over centuries. He makes everything converge on Christ: all the rituals and sacrifices, figures and symbols of the "First Covenant." He announces him through the mouths of the prophets who succeeded one another in Israel. Moreover, he awakens in the hearts of the pagans a dim expectation of this coming.

**[CCC 523]** St. John the Baptist is the Lord's immediate Precursor or forerunner, sent to prepare his way. "Prophet of the Most High," John surpasses all the prophets, of whom he is the Last. He inaugurates the Gospel already from his mother's womb welcomes the coming of Christ, and rejoices in being "the friend of the bridegroom," whom he points out as "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." Going before Jesus "in the spirit and power of Elijah," John bears witness to Christ in his preaching, by his Baptism of conversion, and through his martyrdom.

**[CCC 524]** When the Church celebrates the Liturgy of Advent each year. She makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming. By celebrating the precursor's birth and martyrdom, the Church unites herself to his desire: "He must increase, but I must decrease."

Catechism of the Catholic Church -

### Mass Intentions for the week:

**Dec 03 – Saturday, 5:15PM Vigil Mass**  
+ Damiao R.

**Dec 04 – Sunday**

**9:00 AM** The Parishioners

**12:15 PM** + Charles B. & + Jack C.

**5:30 PM** CWL Intentions

**Dec 05– Monday, 7PM**

+ Lily Sylvia G.

**Dec 06 – Tuesday, 9AM**

+ Eduardo D.

**Dec 07 – Wednesday, 7PM**

Good health of Baby Cruz

**Dec 08 – Thursday, 9AM**

Thanksgiving of Amanda Mc.

**Dec 09 – Friday, 7PM**

+ Consolacion R.

**Dec 10 – Saturday, 9AM**

+ Gregorio, +Celestina, + Elias

### Memorial Lamp – Dec 03-09, 2022

Sanctuary Candle –

Mother Mary -

Chapel Candle -

### Note to All Parishioners:

If you want to offer mass intentions, please email or call the office at least two weeks in advance so it could be included in the bulletin.

Let us pray for all the members of our Community who are sick, homebound and needs spiritual healing especially:

1. Cristina
2. Margarete
3. Denise



### *Pope Francis' Prayer Intention –December 2022*

**“We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.”**

**Our Patron Saint...**



**The Humor, Quotes and Love of John XXIII**

**"The feelings of my smallness and my nothingness always kept me good company."** *To be continued .....*

**St. Nicholas – Dec 06**

Little is known about the early life of Nicholas. In the early 4<sup>th</sup> century he was made bishop of Myra in Lycia (now Turkey). Famous for his charity, he became the focus of popular cults and devotions in the early Middle Ages. He was so popular that he was chosen joint patron of Russia with Saint Andrew; he is also a patron of sailors and children. In many parts of the world, he still plays a role as Santa Claus.

*Living with Christ, Dec2022 ed.*

**DO YOU KNOW ABOUT.....**

1. In the 1st reading this Sunday, who was Jesse that the evangelist is referring to?
2. Who was the cousin of Jesus who was also called the precursor who prepared the way of the Lord?
3. Who was the prophet in the old testament that said "A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight".?
4. In what river John the Baptist baptized his followers?
5. John said that he baptized them with water but the one who is to come will baptize them with what?
6. Who is the saviour of all men?
7. In the second reading, the writer said to the Romans that Christ became the servant of the Jews and carry out the promises made to the patriarchs but also to whom?
8. The Gospel acclamation this Sunday is "Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the \_\_\_\_\_ \_ \_ \_ \_."
9. Who was the evangelist who wrote the Gospel this Sunday? †

**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

-Everyday – personal in the chapel

**Parish Ministries & Programs**

- Eucharistic Extraordinary Ministers
- Lectors–Proclaimers of God’s words
- Altar Servers & Sacristans
- Ushers
- Catholic Women’s League
- Legion of Mary
- Intercessory Prayer Group
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- Shrine Apostolate Icon of Our Lady

*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**

**Next Sunday is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent-**

*ADVENT - is a season observed in many Christian churches as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for both the celebration of the NATIVITY of Jesus at Christmas and the return of Christ at the Second Coming.*



**Answer on last week trivia:** 1. First Sunday of Advent; 2. Advent means the coming of Jesus Christ; 3. When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior’s first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming.; 4. Purple-for prayer, penance & preparation; 5. The chasuble is colored purple or royal blue except on the 3rd Sunday which is colored Rose Pink; 6. Advent wreath presents eternity or continuous life; 7. The 3rd Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday.; 8. Evergreen symbolize hope and new Life; 9. Advent ends on Christmas eve; 10. The recitation/singing of the Glory is omitted during Advent. It will be sung on Christmas