

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 Advent | December 18, 2022

During Advent we do not just live in anticipation of Christmas; we are also called to rekindle the anticipation of the glorious return of Christ, when he will return at the end of time, preparing ourselves, with consistent and courageous choices, for the final encounter with him. We remember Christmas, we await the glorious return of Christ, and also our Personal encounter; the day in which the Lord will call.

– Pope Francis

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 2nd Saturday & 3rd 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

**St. Peter Canisius,
Pray for us.**

Feast Day on December 21, 2022



“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your Wife, for the Child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit, she will bear a Son and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

Matthew 1:20

Today we celebrate the 4th Sunday of Advent and having entered the “Great Days of Advent,” also known as the Novena for Christmas on the 17th of December, we now, I supposed, are focused on only one thing; the Celebration of the Birth of Our Savior

Advent, truly, has been intended to be, a “Season of Joyful Preparation,” for this coming of Our Savior. Advent is Joyful, because it is based on this Firm Truth that “God loves us;” Period!”

Christmas indeed is “the Proof and Celebration” of this Love; the Love, that He, God, Our Creator and Father sent his Son Jesus into our World to be Our Savior.

If we can anticipate, a little, this will be the Message of The Angel of God on Christmas Night to the Shepherd; “Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great Joy ... today in the city of David a Savior has been born for you which Messiah and Lord.”

On this Final Week of preparation, the Church calls us to heed the Call of the Psalmist; “Lift up your heads and see your redemption is close at hand.”

Yes, Our Redemption is close at hand. Indeed, Jesus, is the Real fulfillment of the Prophecy, spoken to Ahaz by Prophet Isaiah in the 1st Reading; “Behold the young woman is with child and shall bear a Son, and shall name him Emmanuel.”

He is the One about whom the Angel of God, speaks to his Foster Father, Joseph; “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your Wife, for the Child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit, she will bear a Son and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

As a People of Faith, we are blessed indeed, if we Believe in the Love of God, out of which, He sent His Son Christ Jesus for our Salvation.

Faith in this Truth, elevates us and liberates us. Faith in this Truth, results in Joy and Peace of heart. Faith in this Truth makes Christmas, a transformative celebration in us and in those we congregate.

As we, reflect and wait for this Great Day; the Day our Savior was born, let us abandon ourselves into the Hand of God, asking Him to give us His Grace, that we may experience true Joy and Peace, that only He can give.

May God bless and protect us all, Amen.



– 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

Dec 17 – Saturday, 5:15PM Vigil Mass

The Parishioners

Dec 18 – Sunday

9:00 AM + Remegio B.

12:15 PM +Aurora E.

5:30 PM + Bienvenido M.

Dec 19– Monday, 7PM

+ Luningning P.

Dec 20 – Tuesday, 9AM

Thanksgiving of Nelia A.

Dec 21 – Wednesday, 7PM

Dec 22 – Thursday, 9AM

+ Rosa D.

Dec 23 – Friday, 7PM

Thanksgiving of Christine T.

Dec 24 – Saturday, 9AM

Memorial Lamp – Dec 17-23, 2022

Sanctuary Candle – Thanksgiving- Nelia A

Mother Mary - Thanksgiving- Nelia A

Chapel Candle - Thanksgiving- Nelia A

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

"It often happens that I wake up at night and begin to think about serious problem and decide I must tell the Pope about it. Then I wake up completely and remember that I am the Pope." *To be continued*

St. Peter Canisius – Dec 21

Peter was born in Nijmegen, The Netherlands, in 1521. He joined the Jesuits and worked in Germany, Austria, Bohemia and Switzerland as a leader of the Counter-Reformation. Peter educated Catholics with his popular and influential catechism. Although he worked in a time of conflict with growing Lutheranism, he remained moderate and courteous. Peter died in Fribourg in 1597. He was canonized and declared Doctor of the Church in 1925.

Living with Christ, Dec2022 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

-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 and we will direct you to the person leading these groups.

What unites us, is much greater than what divides us.” St. John XXIII



DO YOU KNOW ABOUT

1. Who was the King who said “I will not ask for a sign. I refuse to put the Lord to the test.”?
2. In the first reading, what was prophesied by Isaiah to the descendants of King David? [Isaiah 7:14]
3. When the young woman gave birth to a son, what will be his name? [Isaiah 7:14]
4. The second reading was taken from the letter of Paul, to whom it was addressed?
5. The Gospel Acclamation is “The virgin shall be with child and bear a ____; and they shall name him ____: God is with us.

6. To whom Mary was engaged?
7. What did the Angel of the Lord say to Joseph in his dream?
8. What did Joseph do when he awoke from his sleep?
9. What is the meaning of the name Emmanuel?



Answer on last week trivia: 1. Gaudete Sunday; 2. Gaudete means Rejoice; 3. Rose Pink; 4. Lord come and save us; 5. Patience; 6. James; 7. Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.”; 8. Three candles; 9. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he has sent me to bring good news to the poor.