

# 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 | **Ascension of the Lord** | 21 May 2023



I am with  
you  
always, to  
the end of  
the age.

MAY

-the month of  
Mother Mary-



Let us offer a  
prayer for all  
people involve  
in mass media  
communication.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:16-20

### *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 Easter Vigil Mass** – 8:00pm  
**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**

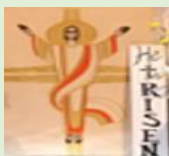
**Catholic** – call the office for appointment  
**Parish School-**

**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)

**NEXT SUNDAY IS  
PENTECOST SUNDAY**

**ST. PHILIP NERI** (May 26)  
**PRAY FOR US**



***“It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority, but you will receive power, when the Spirit comes upon you and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem ... to the end of the earth.” Acts 1:7-9***

Today, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension; Christ’s Return to Heaven, in his glorified human body. This is the culmination, the sign, and the seal of his victory of his Salvific Mission here on Earth. He, the Son of God, the second Divine Person of the Blessed Trinity, became one with us and through obedience to the Will of God, the Father, was crucified, died, and rose to reconcile us back to Our Divine Creator.

Jesus in his own words, according to the Gospel of Luke, during his departure, confirmed that He was the Fulfillment of the Prophets: For ***“thus the prophet had written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead.”***

In his departure to the Glory of the Father, Jesus raised his hands and blessed his Disciples, reminding us of Simon the High Priest in Sirach 50: 19-21, blessing the Israelites at the end of the Liturgy. Jesus, the High Priest, was on the way to the Sanctuary made not by human hands but by God Himself. He commissioned his Disciples to be his Witnesses and Preachers ***“of repentance and forgiveness of sins in his name,”*** to all Nations beginning in Jerusalem.

As we look toward Heaven and see Christ ascending to his Father and Our Father, we, disciples of Christ should be filled with Joy as his disciples in St. Luke’s Gospel were, as they walked back to Jerusalem after the Event.

We should be in Joy because Christ, our Savior and Brother is now seated in the place of honor at the right Hand of the Father; He is there as our Representative and intercessor. We should be in joy because his going is a sign of assurance (*to us*) that there is Life after our struggles on Earth; “He promised to go and prepare a place for us in the Gospel Two Sundays ago and confirmed that ***He is the Way, the Truth and the Life!***”

We should be in joy because this meant that the Helper, the Consoler, the Spirit of Wisdom and of Revelation in the Knowledge of Him, would come! Jesus had insisted

There is a reality however, that can hinder a disciple from experiencing this joy; their shaky faith that results in fear! Mathew presenting the same event tells us that, when eleven disciples saw Jesus, at the Mountain in Galilee, to which Jesus had ordered them to go; ***“They worshiped him but doubted!”*** In the Acts of the Apostles, their fragility was also made manifest! Even after Jesus had appeared to them after his resurrection several times and explained to them what his death and resurrection meant, they were still dreaming of an earthly Kingdom! ***“Lord are you at this time going to restore the Kingdom to Israel!”***

Christ aware of their fragility, Promised a Helper, an Advocate. The Plan of God, had to continue despite human longings, as Jesus explained; ***“It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority, but you will receive power, when the Spirit comes upon you and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem ... to the end of the earth.”***

Today, you and me, are the disciples of Christ. We have received the Holy Spirit and have been commissioned with Mathew 28:19-20. ***“Go make disciples of all the Nations.”*** We are the ones given the responsibility of making the Ascended Jesus, visible among the People we live. This can be difficult but we can live consoled by Christ’s final Words; ***“I am with you always until the end of the age.”***



– Compendium - Catechism of the Catholic Church-

129. What is the condition of the risen body of Jesus? (Par 645-646)

The Resurrection of Christ was not a return to earthly life. His risen body is that which was crucified and bears the marks of his passion. However, it also participates in the divine life, with the characteristics of a glorified body. Because of this the risen Jesus was utterly free to appear to his disciples how and where he wished and under various aspects.

130. How is the Resurrection the work of the Most Holy Trinity? 648-650

The Resurrection of Christ is a transcendent work of God. The three Persons act together according to what is proper to them: the Father manifests his power; the Son “takes again” the life which he freely offered (John 10:17), reuniting his soul and his body which the Spirit brings to life and glorifies.

131. What is the saving meaning of the Resurrection? 651-655; 658

The Resurrection is the climax of the Incarnation. It confirms the divinity of Christ and all the things which he did and taught. It fulfills all the divine promises made for us. Furthermore, the risen Christ, the conqueror of sin and death, is the principle of our justification and our Resurrection. It procures for us now the grace of filial adoption which is a real share in the life of the only begotten Son. At the end of time, he will raise up our bodies.

*“Jesus Ascended into Heaven and Is Seated at the Right Hand of God the Father Almighty”*

132. What does the Ascension mean? 659-667

After forty days during which Jesus showed himself to the apostles with ordinary human features which veiled his glory as the Risen One, Christ ascended into heaven and was seated at the right hand of the Father. He is the Lord who now in his humanity reigns in the everlasting glory of the Son of God and constantly intercedes for us before the Father. He sends us his Spirit and he gives us the hope of one day reaching the place he has prepared for us.

[Catechism of the Catholic Church -](#)

MASS INTENTIONS

- May 20 – Saturday, 5:15PM Vigil Mass – +Alfonso P. & +Genito M.
- May 21 – Sunday 9:00 AM +Magdalena & +Tomas Q. 12:15 PM The Parishioners 5:30 PM + Belinda C.
- May 22– Mon, 7 PM Thanksgiving of Nida J.
- May 23 – Tue, 9 AM +Lourdes T. & +Maria Lyss D.
- May 24–Wed,7PM+Teresa &+Domingo A. +Willie A.
- May 25 – Thu, 9AM +Alberto D.
- May 26 – Fri, 7PM Thanksgiving Sedrix P.
- May 27 – Sat,9AM +Felisa T. & +Oscar A.

Memorial Lamp - Sanctuary & Chapel- Blessed Virgin Marv- Thanksgiving of Marv Y.

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

The Ascension is celebrated “forty” days after Easter (in Canada it is always observed on Sunday). Previously, the Easter candle was extinguished after the principal Mass to reflect Jesus’ return to the Father. Today, the Easter candle remains near the altar or reading stand (ambo) to emphasise the presence of the risen Christ in his Church. It is he who gives us his Spirit.

The (nine) days between Ascension and Pentecost are kept as days of prayer for the coming of the Holy Spirit; this is the original novena. The prayers that were formerly used in the week after Pentecost are now the Mass texts for these days. We use them to prepare for the celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit.

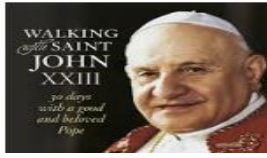
<https://www.cccb.ca/>

*Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention -May 2023 - For Church movements and groups*

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.”





**Our Patron Saint..****Prayer for Strength - Pope John XXIII**

*“To keep me from sin and straying from Him, God has used devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. My life vows are destined to be spent in the light irradiating from the tabernacle, and it is to the Heart of Jesus that I dare go for the solution of all my problems.”*

**St. Philip Neri, May 26<sup>th</sup>**

Philip Neri was born in Florence in 1515 and educated by the Dominicans. He experienced conversion at the age of 18 and left for Rome, where he lived a life of seclusion and poverty. He studied philosophy and theology for three years before choosing to re-evangelize Rome, where Christianity had declined and was sadly in need of reform. He spent his days talking to people about God's love, and his nights in prayer.

In 1548 he helped found a confraternity of laymen to minister to needy pilgrims, leading to the establishment of a now-famous Roman hospital, Santa Trinita dei Pellegrini. In 1551, his confessor insisted Philip be ordained. As a confessor himself, he was much sought after for his spiritual wisdom. Disciples flocked to him, and he founded the congregation of the Oratorians, which was formally approved in 1575. Pope Gregory XIII gave them an ancient church in Rome, which they rebuilt and occupy to this day.

Philip's sermons were famous for their wisdom and good humour. He said, "I will have no sad spirits in my house. Cheerful people are more easily led to perfection." He died at the age of 80, much loved and respected, and is still known as the "Apostle of Rome."

Philip Neri is the patron of home missions, supported in Canada through the Catholic Missions In Canada ([www.cmic.info](http://www.cmic.info)).

*Living with Christ May 2023 issue- Novalis*

**DO YOU KNOW ...?**

1. What feast is being celebrated this Sunday?
2. In what Psalm the responsorial psalm was taken?
3. While Jesus was ascending into heaven and the disciples were gazing up toward heaven, two men in white robes stood by them, what did these men say?
4. In the second reading, what did Paul pray for the people of Ephesus?
5. Fill in the missing words from the Gospel Acclamation- "Go make \_\_\_\_\_ of all nations; I am \_\_\_\_\_ always, to the end of the age."
6. How many disciples went to Galilee as mentioned in the Gospel?
7. What are three commands Jesus said to the disciples?

**Answer on last week:** 1. Philip; 2. Peter & John; 3. On the 50<sup>th</sup> day after Easter Sunday; 4. Peter; 5. Love, word, Father, come; 6. They will keep His Commandments; 7. He will ask the Father to give another Advocate; 8. Jesus will reveal to those who keep His commandments and love Him; 9. From the Gospel of John; 10. Our Lady of Fatima.

**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
- 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

**Announcements:**

- May 27<sup>th</sup> at 11am – Confession for Confirmation candidates
- May 28<sup>th</sup> at 10am – Confirmation Day

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**TO OUR 26 CONFIRMANDI WHO WILL  
RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF  
CONFIRMATION ON MAY 28<sup>th</sup> at 10am.**