

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, January 6th

† Carlos Falcao

Wednesday, January 7th

Intentions of:

Kathy Bell

Tarek Wassef

Karen Baptiste

Thursday, January 8th

† Russell Coleman

Friday, January 9th

Intentions of Scott & Ria

Saturday, January 10th

Pro Populo

SANCTUARY LIGHT

The sanctuary light burns for the intentions of the parishioners of St. John's Parish

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Jacob McLean, Elaine Attwood, Dawn Ruthven, Raphael Ng, Margaret (Peggy) McCarthy, Agnes Von Mehren, Ella Careira, Patricia Doiron, Gerry Genuino, Evelyn Wemigwans, Philip Nicoloas, Carmel Richard, Linda Duke, Vivian Holland, Richard Keating, Joanna Hodson

REFLECTION

If Jesus truly is who he claims to be, the eternal Son of God and Savior of the world, then why is he not recognized by everyone who hears his word and sees his works? John the Evangelist states that when Jesus came into the world *the world knew him not and his own people received him not* (John 1:10-11). Jesus was born in obscurity. Only the lowly shepherds recognized him at his birth. Some wise men also found their way to Bethlehem to pay homage to the newborn King of Israel. These men were not Israelites, but foreigners. They likely had read and discussed the Messianic prophecies and were anxious to see when this Messianic King would appear. God led them by means of an extraordinary star across the desert to the little town of Bethlehem where Jesus was born.

PARISH NEWS / EVENTS

A NEW YEAR MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE

As we gather on this first weekend of the new year, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped make this Christmas season so meaningful at St. John's Parish through music, service, donations, and decorations. To all our ministries, volunteers, ministry coordinators, Deacon Paul, our visiting priests, and every person who offered their time, prayer, and presence—thank you. Your dedication and generosity are a true blessing to our parish community.

The Christmas season always reminds us of the gift of being together, and celebrating at St. John's shows the strength and warmth of the community we share. Please know of our prayers for you and your families as we begin 2026.

We look forward to connecting with both new and longtime parishioners in the year ahead as we continue to live out our mission: *to love, to serve, and to encounter Christ in all we do.*

Wishing you a grace-filled start to the new year.

FR. JOSHUA AWAY NOTICE

Please note that Fr. Joshua will be away from **January 6th to 23rd**. Visiting priests will be covering all weekday and weekend Masses during this time.

The parish office will remain open with **regular operating hours**, Monday to Friday, **9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

MASS CANCELLATION NOTICE

Please note that the 8:15am Mass on **Tuesday, January 20th** is cancelled.

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for bringing salvation to all the nations. May the gospel of salvation be proclaimed to every nation today and to every person on the face of the earth. Help me to be a good witness of the joy of the gospel to all I meet.



PARISH NEWS / EVENTS

DONATIONS FOR 2025

To qualify for a 2025 tax receipt, all donations for 2025 must be postmarked by December 31, 2025, and received in the office no later than **Sunday, January 11, 2026**. Thank you to all who supported St. John's Parish throughout 2025!

2026 PARISH OFFERTORY ENVELOPES AVAILABLE

Offertory envelopes can be picked up at the back of the church. Numbers may have changed—please look by last name. Please discard of any 2025 envelopes and only use 2026 envelopes for this new year. Registered parishioners wanting envelopes, or those interested in switching to **Pre-Authorized Giving**, may contact the parish office at stjohnsto@archtoronto.org. Thank you for your continued support!

SUNDAY MISSAL 2025-2026 AVAILABLE FOR SALE IN THE PARISH OFFICE

Sunday Missals will be available for sale in the office for \$5 while quantities last. Accepted methods of payment include cash and debit/credit.

CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION

We are accepting registrations for Confirmation for 2026. Please visit our website to register.

Confirmation: In the Sacrament of Confirmation, young people receive the fulness of the Holy Spirit, strengthening them to live out their faith with courage and witness to Christ in the world. Registration is now open to youth in Grade 7 & 8 who have been baptized in the Catholic Church.

Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/tqUVk8f18T>

EDGE MINISTRY LAUNCH DATE!

We're excited to announce the launch of our **Edge Ministry**! Edge is our Catholic middle school program for youth in Grades 6-8. Edge nights take place every other Friday from 6:30PM-8:00PM starting with our social kick off on January 23, 2026. Registration forms can be found in the church foyer or in the parish office. Registration fee per child is \$25 for the whole year. This fee helps cover the program cost and materials. For more information, please contact the Youth Minister, Mercy, at StJohnsYM@archtoronto.org. Please keep this ministry in your prayers!

YOUTH MINISTRY - JOIN OUR CORE TEAM!

Our Youth Ministry is gearing up to launch in 2026! We're looking for caring, enthusiastic parishioners who are willing to serve as mentors, small-group leaders, or helpers during our *Edge Nights*. Will you join us? Help and support our youth as they encounter, love and serve our Lord. Training will be provided!

If you feel called to serve, please contact our Youth Minister, Mercy, for more information - StJohnsYM@archtoronto.org

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY COMING SOON

Later this month, our parish will be introducing a new *Bereavement Ministry*—an outreach rooted in compassion, presence, and the healing love of Christ. Grief touches every family at some point, and it is one of the most tender places where the Church is called to accompany her people. This ministry will offer comfort, prayer, and gentle support to parishioners who have recently lost a loved one, reminding them that they are not alone in their sorrow.

As we prepare to launch this important ministry, we will also be seeking volunteers who feel called to serve in this meaningful way. Volunteers will help us reach out to grieving parishioners, offering a listening ear, a caring presence, and the reassurance of our community's prayers.

More information will be shared later this month. In the meantime, please keep this ministry in your prayers as we work to build a source of comfort and hope for all who mourn.

