

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, February 17th

Pro Populo

Wednesday, February 18th

Ash Wednesday – Pro Populo

Thursday, February 19th

† Lorraine Comiskey

Friday, February 20th

† Eamon McLaughlin

Saturday, February 21st

† Russell Coleman

SANCTUARY LIGHT

The sanctuary lamp burns this week in prayer for all who are returning to the Lord during this Lenten season.

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 Nicolaoas, Carmel Richard, Linda Duke, Vivian Holland, Richard Keating, Joanna Hodson

Those wishing to add a loved one to the parish Mass intentions or list of the sick are kindly asked to contact the parish office.

WEEKLY REFLECTION

Jesus taught that God's law must be lived out because it comes from his own love, goodness, and holiness. It's meant to bring grace and freedom. That's why we're called to love God above all and follow Jesus, who showed real love by giving himself for others.

Lord Jesus, begin a new work of love within me. Instill in me a greater love and respect for your commandments. Give me a burning desire to live a life of holiness and righteousness. Purify my thoughts, desires, and intentions that I may only desire what is pleasing to you and in accord with your will.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

ASH WEDNESDAY

Day of Fasting and Abstinence
February 18 – 8:15AM & 7PM

FRIDAYS OF LENT

All Fridays of Lent starting February 20th
Confessions – 6PM – 6:30PM
Holy Mass – 8:15AM & 7PM
Stations of the Cross – 7:30PM

WHAT IS LENT?

Lent is a 40-day season of preparation for Easter. It mirrors Jesus' 40 days in the desert. A time of **repentance, renewal, and return** to God. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at the Easter Triduum.

We practice Lent to make **more room for God** in our lives, to grow in **freedom from sin** and distraction, and to prepare our hearts for the joy of the **Resurrection**.

Lent isn't about being miserable – it is about being **transformed**.

Prayer is deepening our relationship with God, not just with words, but also with mind and heart – to speak, listen, thank, and ask.

Fasting helps us recognize what we rely on instead of God. Fasting is about letting go of what distracts us from God so we can turn back to him.

Almsgiving is love in action, not just good intentions. It is giving our time, talent, and treasure. It's choosing generosity over comfort so we can love like Jesus.

OFFICE CLOSURE NOTICE

FAMILY DAY, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH:

The parish office will be closed on **Monday, February 16th** for the Family Day holiday. We wish you a blessed and restful time with your family this long weekend.



FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM!
Parish @StJohnsParishTO
Youth Ministry @StJohnsTOYouth

PARISH NEWS/EVENTS

PANCAKE BREAKFAST – THIS SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 15TH



Ahead of Shrove Tuesday, St. John's Parish will be hosting a pancake breakfast in the Parish Hall from 10am to 12:30pm this Sunday. Come out and enjoy a pancake breakfast, coffee, tea, juice, and a great family-friendly event. Adults - \$10, Seniors/Students - \$5. Tickets will be available at the door. Proceeds will go to the St. John's Parish Youth Ministry.

GOOD SHEPHERD LENTEN DONATION DRIVE – STARTING FEBRUARY 21ST

As part of our Lenten outreach, St. John's Parish will begin collecting non-perishable food items for the Good Shepherd starting the weekend of February 21. Parishioners are invited to place their donations in the baskets near the cross in the Sanctuary. A full list of suggested items is available on the bulletin board at the back of the church. Thank you for supporting our neighbours in need.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY TRAINING SESSIONS

All current and prospective volunteers for our liturgical ministries are asked to attend upcoming training sessions. Whether you're renewing your commitment or discerning a new way to serve, these gatherings are required for everyone participating in these ministries. Both sessions will take place in the main Church.

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion: February 21 at 10:00AM

Altar Servers: February 28 at 10:00AM

Lectors: March 7 at 10:00AM

If you feel called to join one of these ministries, please come to the appropriate training date. We look forward to welcoming new volunteers and reconnecting with our dedicated ministers.

2025 TAX RECEIPTS

Tax receipts for 2025 have been issued and should arrive by mail March. If you do not receive yours by the end of March, or if you have moved and haven't updated your address with the parish office, please contact us.

Thank you to everyone who generously supported our parish throughout 2025. Your contributions make a meaningful difference in the life of our community.

YOUTH MINISTRY

EDGE MINISTRY PROGRAM!

Edge is a Catholic middle school ministry for Grades 6–8 that offers a fun, welcoming space to build community, grow in friendship, and deepen faith through games, small group discussions, light snacks, and shared exploration in the parish hall.-group discussions, light snacks, and shared exploration in the parish hall.

Edge nights take place **every other Friday from 6:30–8:00 PM** on the following dates in the parish hall: February 20, March 6, March 20, April 17, May 15, and May 29. New participants are always welcome to join! Registration forms can be found in the church foyer or parish office. The registration fee is \$25 per child for the year, which helps cover program costs and materials. For more information, please contact our Youth Minister, Mercy, at stjohnsym@archtoronto.org.

EDGE CAMP 2026 – INFORMATION SESSION FEBRUARY 21ST & 22ND

All Edge Youth registered in our Edge Ministry program are invited to join us for EDGE Camp, an overnight summer camp at Camp White Pine in Haliburton, Ontario, from **Wednesday, August 19 to Sunday, August 23, 2026**. This will be a fun and exciting Christ-centered camp experience filled with Catechesis, Mass, praise & worship and fellowship with other EDGE parishes across the Archdiocese of Toronto. Join us on February 21st or 22nd after the Masses in the Church to learn more!

