

# Parish of Saint John

Founded A.D. 1909

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**Pastor:** Rev. John-Mark Missio

**Deacon:** Rev. Mr. Paul McCourt

**Office Administrator:** Karen Baptiste

**Sunday Masses:**

Saturday 4:30 pm

Sunday 9:00 am, 11:00 am

**Weekday Masses:**

Tuesday - Friday 8:15 am

**Baptisms:** Please email the parish office.

**Marriage:** Please email the parish office one year before.

**Reconciliation:**

Saturdays - 3:45 pm - 4:15 pm

Also available other times by appointment.

**Parish Schools:**

St. John - 416-393-5220

Neil McNeil S. S - 416-393-5502

Notre Dame H.S. - 416-393-5501

**Catholic Cemeteries:**

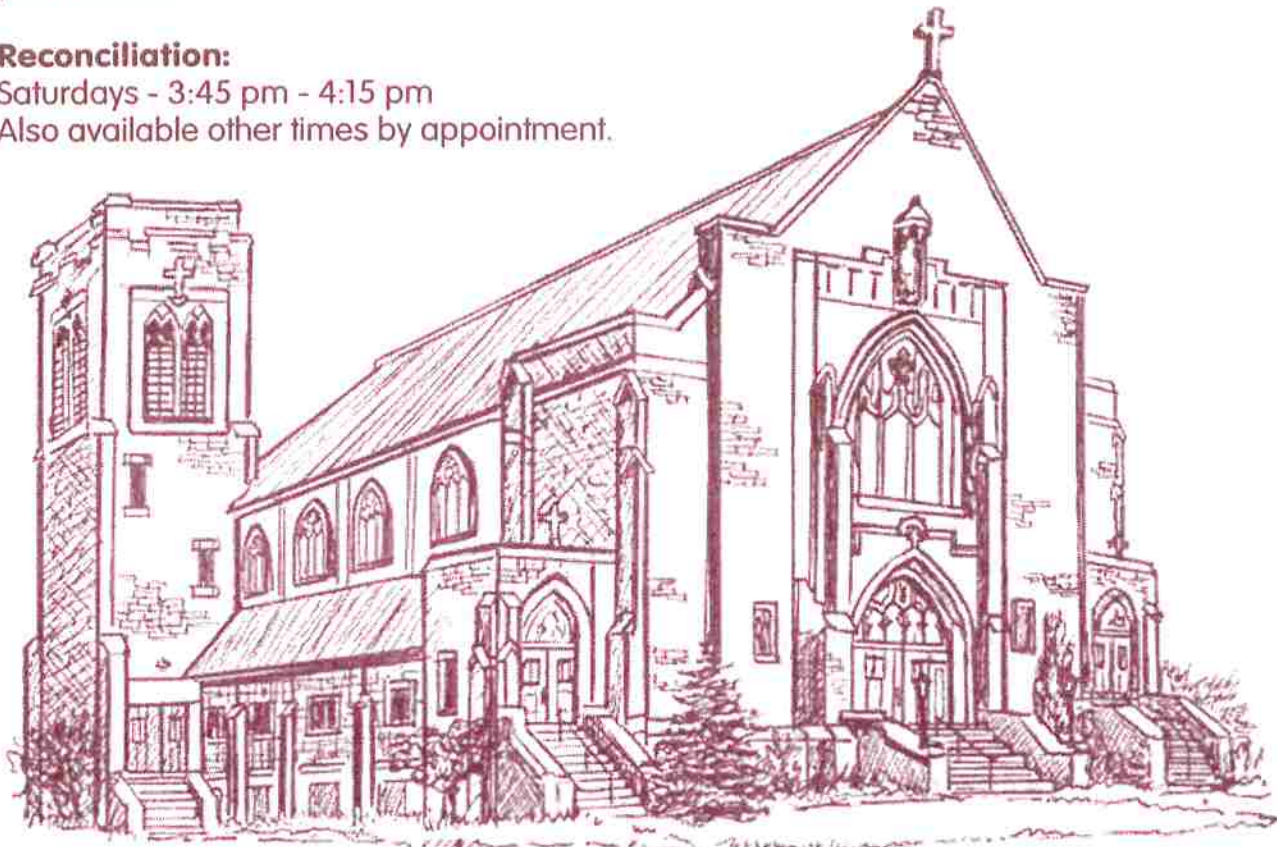
416-733-8544

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Closed between 12:00 -1:00 pm

**Please Register with the Parish**  
so we can assist you.



**PRAY THE ROSARY**

The Second Sunday In Ordinary Time



John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi..., where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see" (John 1:35-37).

**From the Pastor's Desk:** AMEN: Athletes aim for excellence by isolating groups of muscles to exercise and strengthen. Musicians isolate musical passages and finger movements to practice and perfect their technique. Is there some part of the Mass we could isolate and "rehearse" as we "practice" our faith? Yes, many. But to begin with the humblest word (and humility is always a good place to start), give your "Amen" a workout. If you get used to putting your heart into this word, giving it all the weight it deserves, it will make room for the Holy Spirit to seal the word in your soul. We have all heard intellectual explanations of what "Amen" literally means: "so be it" or "it is true" are often given as English equivalents. More important, however, is the meaning for saying it: "Amen" is your way of assenting in your heart and soul to the prayer that has evoked a response. Many prayers are said by the priest on behalf of all present, and rather than concluding the prayer himself, the priest listens while the Body of Christ assents to what was expressed in the prayer, as many voices become one in saying or singing "Amen" in response. The unity of voices bears witness to all present of the unity of faith which is expressed throughout the Mass, and is a sign to us of Jesus' prayer for unity becoming a reality. The "Great Amen" is said by all the people at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer at the heart of the Mass, often repeated three times. In concluding the priest's words, "all glory and honour is yours, forever and ever," the Amen of all present multiplies the glory given to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit; it hurls our prayers glorifying God towards the heavens, joining it to the voices of the Church around the world and the saints above. It is so much more than simply a concluding formula; "Amen" itself is praise. To practice the "Amen muscle", listen careful to the prayer that precedes it, consider the praise which is offered to Almighty God, or the thanksgiving reverently articulated, or the sublime truths of the faith poetically and joyfully expressed as you listen attentively to the prayer; then say "Amen" to this with your heart as well as your voice; with a joyful voice, a voice full of conviction and gratitude; and hear the voices of your brothers and sisters joined with yours in a unity of faith and praise. And be glad that God has invited us all into this Mystical Body which is the Church, a body united in heart and voice, to be a living sacrifice of praise in all that we say and do.

.....Fr. John-Mark

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, January 16th

For + JAMES (JIMMY) COYLE  
Requested by Cathy Coyle

Wednesday, January 17th

For + THE SOUSA FAMILY  
Requested by The Melo Family

Thursday, January 18th

For + PATRICIA GESNER  
Requested by The Gesner Family

Friday, January 19th

For + DIANNE GRIBBEN

Saturday, January 20th

For + ALEX MCDONALD  
Requested by Vince & Gillian Haughey



Rest in Peace

In your charity please pray for the  
repose of the souls of  
Lena Gilmour & Rev. Jon Bromley



The Sanctuaries Light burns this week  
for the intentions of  
Lisa Valin

**SANCTUARY LIGHT:** The red lamp near the Tabernacle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. It is a mark of honour to remind the faithful of the presence of Christ and is a profession of their love and affection. If you wish to have the Sanctuaries Lamp burning in memory of a loved one, or to honor a special occasion such as a birthday or anniversary, please contact the Parish Office. The cost of the candle is \$12.00. It will burn for one week from Sunday to Saturday.

Please Pray For The Sick

Paul Proctor, Christina Jopling, John Rao, Rosanna Nihtila, Richard Bowman, Chiu Wong, Cathy Connor, Gillian Haughey, Christine Clementi, Isabel Cairns, Marianne Loranger, Christine Curran, Jacob McLean, Carmel Richard

Come join us in praying the ROSARY before Mass, Tuesday to Friday at 7:45 am. We are in need of more leaders so if you are interested please contact the office.



God our Father, you generously grant us all the gifts we have.

Help us to understand that it is in the giving that we receive. Thank you for making a gift to your Parish Sunday offertory. Don't walk with cash, scan the code and it will take you to our DONATE page.



	2023	2024
Sunday Offertory	\$ 2,893	\$ 3,269
Offertory PAG:	\$ 1,183	\$ 1,421

**In The News**


**PASTORAL LETTER FROM THE MOST REV. FRANCIS LEO:** to the Church of God in the Archdiocese of Toronto, entitled, "Seeking The Kingdom of God Above and Beyond All Other Things". This significant reelection from our spiritual shepherd is intended to offer a theological, spiritual, and pastoral meditation as we embark upon a New Year and our collective efforts to build and strengthen the Kingdom of God throughout our Archdiocese. The Pastoral Letter can be accessed by visiting the Archdiocesan website at [www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org)

**MERRYMAKERS:**, a dynamic afternoon program for 3-5 year olds. Mary, Mother of God School is registering children for 2 ½ hours of enriched programming on Wednesday afternoons, 1:00-3:30 pm. Join us for songs, stories, poems, nursery rhymes, instruments, games, classical music, mime, drama, and lots of play. For more information, call the school office at 416-531-7897. Come and make merry with us!

**CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE MASS:** As part of Marriage Sunday celebrations, Archbishop Leo will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, especially those celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+) in 2024. All couples will have the opportunity to renew their marriage commitment, at 3 pm on Sunday, February 11 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica. Those wishing to attend are asked to register online at [www.archtoronto.org/marriage](http://www.archtoronto.org/marriage) or formation [@archtoronto.org](mailto:@archtoronto.org). Can't attend, join the livestream at <https://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live/>.

**RETRouvaille:** If you are thinking of separation or divorce, or you are already separated but want to try again, consider Retrouvaille. If you and your spouse want your marriage to work and are willing to put in a full weekend of hard work and your best effort, then you are invited, even urged, to attend a Retrouvaille Weekend. For confidential information on upcoming Retrouvaille weekends in the Archdiocese of Toronto, please call 416.281.6007 or visit the Retrouvaille website.

**ANNUAL WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY:** Join Archbishop Francis Leo and a wide representation of Christian leaders to pray for the restoration of full visible unity willed by Jesus Christ for the Church. The prayer service will be held on January 21, at 4 pm at St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Cathedral (455 Ferrier St., Markham, Ont. L3R 5Z2)

 **VOCATIONS:** A good vocation prayer to say every day - from the time we are young until we are in our golden years - is found in today's first Scripture reading: "Speak Lord, for your servant is listening". Just try it with sincerity, starting today and, if you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997. email [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org) [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)

**Parish News**

**THANK YOU!** The Knights of Columbus would like to express their thanks and gratitude to the parishioners of St. John's parish for the excellent response to the Sock & Mitt drive that was held for the Good Shepherd. There was a total of socks, mitts, and toiletry kits. This was a charitable deed that was well looked upon from the good Lord himself. Many thanks from the Knights.



Don't forget our next event is coming up on February 13<sup>th</sup>, Strove Tuesday Pancake Dinner. Mark your calendars for this great family and friend's event!

**50/50 RAFFLE:** The Knights of Columbus once again will be participating in the Ontario Knights of Columbus 50/50 raffle lottery in support of the charitable works of the Knights of Columbus. Tickets are just 10 tickets for \$10.00/ 40 tickets for \$20.00 / 125 tickets for \$50.00 or 300 tickets for \$100. Lot's of chances to WIN! Proceeds to St. John's Parish. Get your tickets before the early bird draw on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Grand Prize Draw April 28<sup>th</sup>. To support our council ticket sales, visit the following link: <https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/k-of-c-ont/194>

**CWL:** It is with deep regret that St. John's CWL council gives notice that on December 3, 2023 the membership unanimously voted to disband the council after 61 years of faithful service to our parish and larger community. This difficult, emotional decision was made for various reasons. We extend our deep gratitude to parishioners for their ever-giving support of the CWL over these many years. We advise that on closing the council's bank account we donated the remaining funds of \$1644.00 to the St. Vincent de Paul Society here at St. John's.

**2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:** have been moved to the office. If you would like to begin using envelopes or have yet to pick up, yours please contact the office during office hours, Tuesday to Friday from 9 am to 4:30 pm, closed between 12 & 1, or contact us to make other arrangements.



**HAVE YOU MOVED OR NEW TO THE PARISH?:** Please put St. John's on your list to be notified about any change of contact information.

**IF YOU ARE NEW TO THE PARISH,** please register. Registration is necessary when seeking reference letters, Baptisms, First Communion, Confirmation, Marriages and other documents. Join our family of Faith. Email the office.

**Little Levery:** After Mass on Sunday, Edna approached Leona, wagging her finger at her. "Edna, why are you wagging your finger at me?" "Leona, how could you tell a lie like that, I heard you say you go to the gym everyone morning!" I know you don't cause you're here at Mass every morning saying the Rosary" "Well, Edna" said Leona "a Lady never refers to her bathroom as a "John", a proper Lady refers to it as her "Jim""

Peace begins with a smile.....Mother Teresa



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