

Do you recognize the signs of God's kingdom

signs that point to his power and action in our lives and in the world around us? The Lord Jesus came to bring us the kingdom of God and to set us free from bondage to sin, death, and destruction and from the powers of the evil one who tempts us through lies and deception.

The Lord is preparing us for his return

Jesus told his first disciples that it was for their benefit that he return to his Father in heaven in order for the Holy Spirit to come (John 16:7) and fill the earth with the fire of God's love, truth, and glory. The Lord Jesus in every age fills his people with the power of the Holy Spirit so that each one of us can hear his voice, understand his truth, and sow the seeds of his word - the good news of the Gospel - wherever he sends us. The Lord Jesus is preparing his people for his return - for the day of "tribulation" and "shaking" when he will appear "coming in clouds with great power and glory" (Mark 13:25-26).

The sign of the budding fig tree

What lesson does the Lord Jesus want us to learn from the parable of the budding fig tree? The fig tree was a common and important source of food for the Jews. It bore fruit twice a year, in the autumn and in the early spring. The prophet Joel mentions its fruit-bearing as a sign of favor from the Lord (Joel 2:22). The Talmud (a Jewish commentary and instruction on the Torah or Five Books of Moses) said that the first fruit came the day after Passover. The Jews believed that when the Messiah came he would usher in the kingdom of God at Passover time.

This parable foretells the joy of God's kingdom - the joy of new life and the promise of a new age of peace and blessing. The signs of spring are evident for all who can see. Just so are the signs of God's kingdom. The "budding" of God's kingdom begins first in the hearts of those who are receptive to God's word. Those who trust in God's word will bear the fruits of his kingdom. And what are the fruits of that kingdom? "The kingdom of God ..is righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit (Romans 14:17).

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, November 19th

+ Austin Hunt
Requested by Sarah Pinto

Wednesday, November 20th

+Ermina & Micheal Ercolino
Requested by Anna Ercolino

Thursday, November 21st

+ Susan Tighe
Requested by Paul and Claudia DeCoursey

Friday, November 22nd

+Shelia Richardson
Requested by Winston Richardson

Saturday, November 23rd

+Des Giling
Requested by the Paananen Family

REST IN PEACE

Beginning on the weekend of November 2/3 and throughout the month of November the Church's tradition of praying for our deceased relatives and friends will be observed at St. John's Parish by the offering of all Masses in the month of November for our beloved relatives and friends.

SANCTUARY LIGHT

The Sanctuary Light burns this week in loving memory of
Bree Tiffin

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Ellwood Donnelly, Philip Teixeira, John W., Paul Holliday, Bree Tiffin, Gerry Genuino, Baby Isaiah Liam, Patrick O'Neill, Jacob McLean



Please remember the St. Vincent De Paul poor box as you exit the church.



Help support your parish so that we are able to keep our doors open to support you when you need us. Contact the office if you wish to begin using envelopes or for more information on our Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG). Alternatively, scan the QR code and link will take you to our "Donate" button on our website where you can donate through your credit card; select "St. John's Parish, Toronto" in the drop-down menu.

IN THE NEWS

The Knights of Columbus Annual Pasta Dinner

Saturday November 23rd @5:30pm, in the Church Hall.

Tickets Seniors/Kids 12 and under \$10; Adults \$15;

Families \$30 no limit.

Meal includes Pasta, Meatballs, Homemade Sauce, Salad, Bun, Dessert & bottle of water.

Fall Retreat Programs

Queen of Apostles Renewal Center in Mississauga is pleased to offer the following day retreats. Nov. 25 - Day of Retreat Meditating on the Last Things (Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell). Dec. 7 - Advent Retreat. Dec. 14 - Bereavement Day of Retreat. For info or to register please call 905 278 5229 or visit www.qoa.ca

Vocations

If you feel God is offering you the grace of a Church vocation, call, Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416.968.0997.

Email vocations@archtoronto.org

Gift of Securities

One of the most financially sound ways to support the Archdiocese of Toronto is with a gift of securities. When you donate stocks, mutual funds and other publically traded securities to a registered charity, you pay no capital gains tax and receive a tax receipt for the full amount of the gift. For more information, contact our office at development@archtoronto.org

Shepherd's' Trust

There will be a second collection for the Shepherds' Trust the weekend of November 16th/17th. The Shepherds' Trust ensures that elderly and disabled priest are provided with sufficient financial resources to lead a dignified life after many years of ministry.

We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit. ~Pope Francis

PARISH NEWS / EVENTS

Advent Day of Confessions:

St. John's Parish: Dec. 18th @ 6PM – 7PM

Corpus Christi: Dec. 19th @ 10 – 11AM or 6 – 7PM

Corpus Christi: Dec. 20th @ 10 – 11AM or 6 – 7PM

2024 / 2025 Sunday Missals Are Available For Sale

The cost for the adult missals is \$8 and the Children's missals remain at \$11.

Book Of Names Of The Dead

November is the month the Church traditionally remembers the faithful departed. We invite you to record the names of deceased relatives and friends in the Remembrance Book which will be placed near the Statue of Our Lady this month. We will remember them at all November Masses.

Friars Student Writing Contest

Friars Student Writing Contest, 2025 (Nov 11, 2024-Jan 13, 2025). Theme: Do you believe this? (John 11:26) High School students, aged 13 to 19 from the Catholic School Boards in the Archdiocese, are invited to participate in this annual event.

Email ecumenical@archtoronto.org or call 416-934-3400 ext. 527 with any questions or for more information.

GLORIA! St. Michael's Choir School 59th Annual Christmas Concert at Massey Hall

Saturday, December 14 at 7 PM: *St. Michael's Choir School presents GLORIA!* -A magical blend of secular and sacred choral repertoire to usher in this Christmas season. Tickets are now available at:

www.masseyhall.com. Promo Code: STARLIGHT.

For more information, please call 416-397-6367.

Save The Date

Saturday, November 23rd St. John's Parish Pasta Dinner hosted by the Knights of Columbus.