

Parish of Saint John

Founded A.D. 1909

794 Kingston Road, Toronto, Ontario M4E 1R7

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Website: www.stjohnsto.archtoronto.org

Email: stjohnsto@archtoronto.org

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:

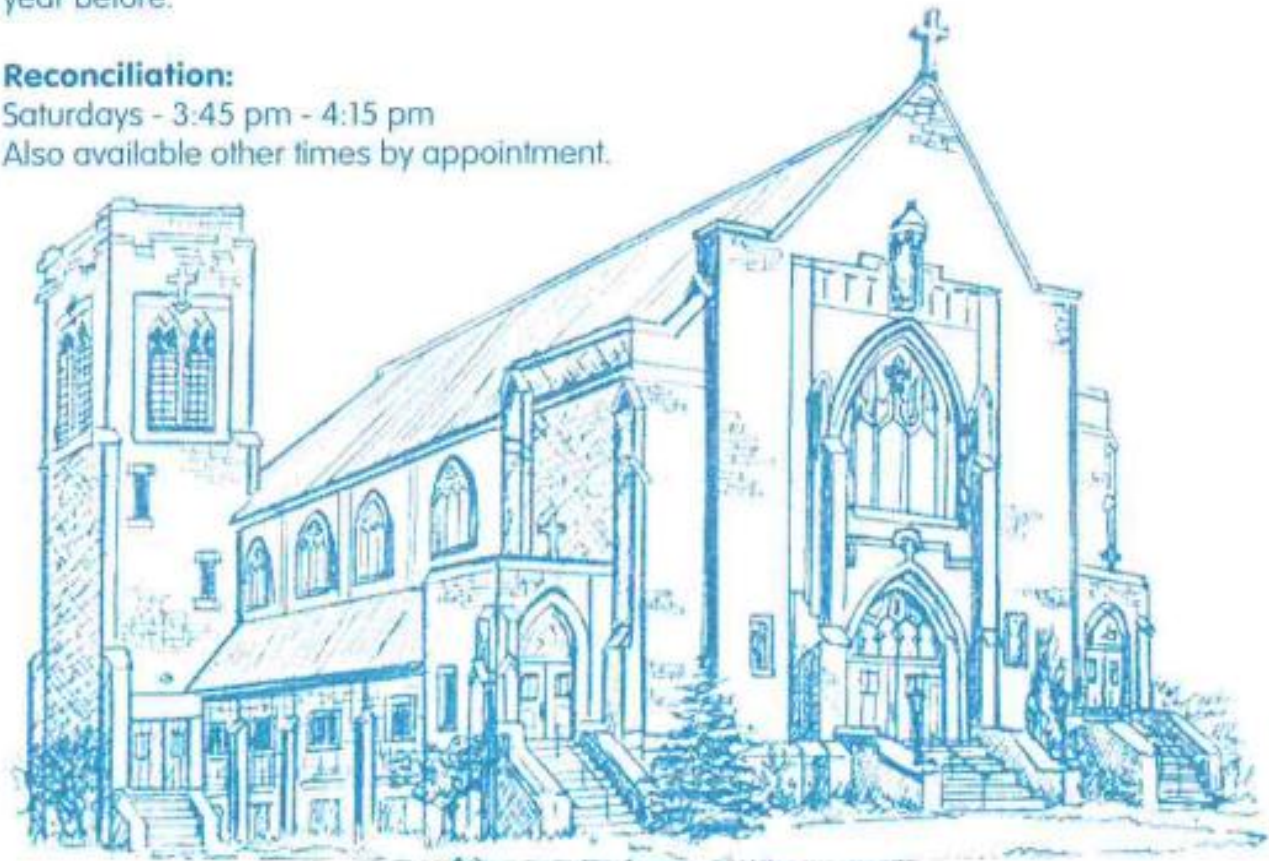
416-733-8544

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

Fourth Sunday Of Advent



Today is the Fourth Sunday of Advent and we light the last Purple Candle, the Candle of Joy. We hear from Mary, who while probably scared, confused and awe-struck, responds to the angel's news out of love. She answers God, "let it be with me," a short, powerful affirmation of her partnership in this extraordinary act of love becoming flesh to shine into our darkness. May we follow in Mary's footsteps as she bravely makes her way to the stable. And may we follow with hearts and mind set on the love of God, open to the impossible becoming possible.

Note from the Pastor's Desk: Emmanuel – "God with us" is how the Holy Scriptures, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, told us to expect the Messiah. The people of Israel learned to long for a Messiah, a Saviour, who would be "God with us". But hidden in the prophecy were clues that would only become clear when this Messiah would die and rise from the dead, and be known forever as Jesus Christ, the Son of God incarnate. The humility of this Messiah could not be imagined by the high and mighty, but would become known to the lowly, beginning with poor shepherds in their fields, far from the elite in their comfortable homes. God has always reserved a special place in his heart for the poor, the powerless, the forgotten ones of society. Prophecies foretold that Israel would be humbled, and so prepare for this lesson, as Zephaniah writes: "For I will leave in the midst of you a people humble and lowly. They shall seek refuge in the name of the Lord — the remnant of Israel; they shall do no wrong and utter no lies, nor shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths. Then they will pasture and lie down, and no one shall make them afraid." It is in the pastures of our hearts that we will meet the Lord, when we leave behind our daily divisions, admit that we need a Saviour and Messiah, and want to be as innocent as sheep that run toward the call of their true Master. Rather than trying to be earthly rulers of our lives, let us seek Jesus in every relationship we forge as his people, put aside our differences, forgive one another, and then we will know the humility that makes room for the humble Christ child to appear.

.....Fr. John-Mark Missio

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS SCHEDULE

Christmas Masses

Saturday, December 24th

Children's Christmas Pageant – 4:15 pm
Christmas Eve Family Mass – 4:30 pm
Carolling – 7:45 pm
Mid Eve Mass – 8:00 pm
Carolling – 9:45 pm
Late Eve Mass – 10:00 pm
(No Midnight Mass)

Sunday, December 25th

9:00 am & 11 am

New Year's Masses

Saturday, December 31st

New Year's Eve - 4:30 pm

Sunday, January 1st - 9:00 am & 11:00 am

A reminder to plan accordingly as we anticipate our Christmas Eve 4:30 Mass and 11 am Christmas Day Masses being very busy. No registration is required and seating is based on first come first serve. Due to fire regulations, we will not be able to accommodate standing in the aisles or vestibule. Doors will open 30 minutes before scheduled Mass time.



Mass Intentions

Tuesday, December 20th

For + MARY FRANCES CAIRNS
Requested by John Quigley

Wednesday, December 21st

For + GEORGE MACDONALD
Requested by Maureen MacDonald

Thursday, December 22nd

For + DOUG & MARY LYNN HIGGINS
Requested by Edna Higgins & Family

Friday, December 23rd

For + SHEELAGH RAWSON
Requested by Kay & Richard Ainey



The Sanctuary Light burns this week
in loving memory of

Ulrike Licht

Please Pray For The Sick

Diane Meldrum, Abina Guinan, Paul Decourcy, Lena Gilmour, Jack Lees, Stella Avery, Carmel Richard

PRAYING THE ROSARY: Come join us in praying the ROSARY before Mass, Tuesday to Friday. Church doors will open at 7:45 am.



In The News

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE MASS: As part of Marriage Sunday 2023 celebrations, Bishop Vincent Nguyen will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, especially those celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+) in 2023. The Mass will take place at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 12 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto). All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their vows and milestone anniversary celebrants will be honoured with a special blessing. The Mass is open to all, but due to space restrictions those wishing to attend are asked to register online. Those who are unable to attend at the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass here: <https://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live/>. The broadcast will begin at 2:15 p.m. Please visit www.archtoronto.org/marriage to register and to access resources for parishes and couples. For questions, please visit www.archtoronto.org/marriage-faq or contact formation@archtoronto.org.

TCDSB KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION: Kindergarten in the Toronto Catholic District School Board provides children with a variety of learning experiences in a caring, faith-based environment. Students develop a positive attitude about themselves and others, become more independent and responsible, develop self-regulation skills and appropriate social skills, and solve problems. TCDSB looks forward to welcoming new students for the 2023-2024 school year. Children born in 2019 are eligible to attend Junior Kindergarten in September 2023. REGISTRATION: SOAR.tcdsb.org FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.tcdsb.org/kindergartenregistration

FRIARS STUDENT WRITING CONTEST: The Catholic Register invites Young Adults (13-19 years and currently enrolled in an Ontario secondary school or equivalent program) to write a short essay on the theme: "Do good; seek justice", (Isaiah 1:17). Contestants should consult resources of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and submit a 450-500 word essay that answers the given question. Deadline on or before January 16, 2023 by 2 pm. Winners will receive 1st Place: Samsung Galaxy Cell Phone, 2nd Place: Samsung Galaxy Watch, 3rd Place: Samsung Galaxy Buds. For further inquiries, call 416.934.3400 ext. 527. Entries are to be submitted @<http://www.catholicregister.org/writingaward>.

VOCATIONS: "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife... When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him." Are you willing to respond as Joseph did? If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416.968.0997. Email vocations@archtoronto.org



Thank you for making a gift to your Parish.

	2019	2022
Sunday Offertory Collection	\$ 5591	\$ 3652
Offertory PAG:	\$ 1064	\$ 1183

Parish News



2023 PARISH OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:

The 2023 Parish Offertory envelopes for registered parishioners of St. John's Parish, who already utilize envelopes are ready and waiting for you to pick up in the vestibule. Be sure to double check that it's your name on the box. Don't forget to put your name and address on the first few envelopes. Please don't take a box that doesn't belong to you. If you can't find a box with your name on it, email the office. Faithful parishioners who make regular donations or use their weekly envelopes consistently are the bedrock of our stable financial support. The parish offers several choices for your method of giving, including direct deposit (PAG), Donate Now button on our website, & weekly envelopes. If you would like to begin using envelopes or want to sign up for Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG), email the office. If you have a credit card that gives points, use that with your PAG donations, and watch your points add up. "Where Your Treasure Is, There Also Will Your Heart Be." Matthew 6:21. Please remember St. John's Church in your last will and testament. **DONATIONS FOR 2022:** must be post marked December 31st, 2022, and be into the office no later than January 1st, 2023, to be eligible for 2022 tax receipts.

DID YOU KNOW?: that out of the world's population, 4% die attending movies, 8% die eating in fast food restaurants, 10% die in home accidents, 10% die in lounges and taverns, 13% die in bars, 18% die, from smoking, 47% die from accidents, misc., but only 1 out of 75 million people die in Folk Group choir practice! As you can see, staying out of the Folk Group may be hazardous to your health! If you are not a member of the Folk Group, please see me for details on how you can be! Sincerely, Your Folk Group Director, Paul Holliday, illod@hotmail.com or 416.699.2162.

*Folk
Choir*

ST. JOHN'S PARISH SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION: registration will open the second week of January for registered parishioners of St. John's parish with either Catholic School or public school students. Please visit our website the week of January 9 for full details. www.stjohnsto.archtoronto.org.

ARE YOU REGISTERED?: We welcome all who have moved into our parish. To be a registered member of our parish is to have a sense of belonging to a Community of Faith. Previous registration is necessary when seeking reference letters, Baptisms, First Communion, Confirmation, Weddings and other documentation. So please help us so we can serve you! Email the office.

Little Levity: A policeman driving down the road and notices the freeway is getting backed up. He drives around the traffic to see what the problem was and sees 3 nuns driving at about 20 miles an hr. Pulling them over he says "Do you know the speed limit." They answer, "Yes" and they point towards the 22 freeway sign. The policeman shakes his head and says, "No, that's the freeway sign... the speed limit sign is over there." "Ohhh..." said all of the nuns until the nun in the back starts cracking up. "What's wrong?" asks the police man... "Well, you should have seen us yesterday on the 135!" *Peace begins with a smile.....Mother Teresa*

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