

Parish of Saint John

Founded A.D. 1909

794 Kingston Road, Toronto, Ontario M4E 1R7

Phone: 416-698-1105

Fax: 416-698-1106

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:

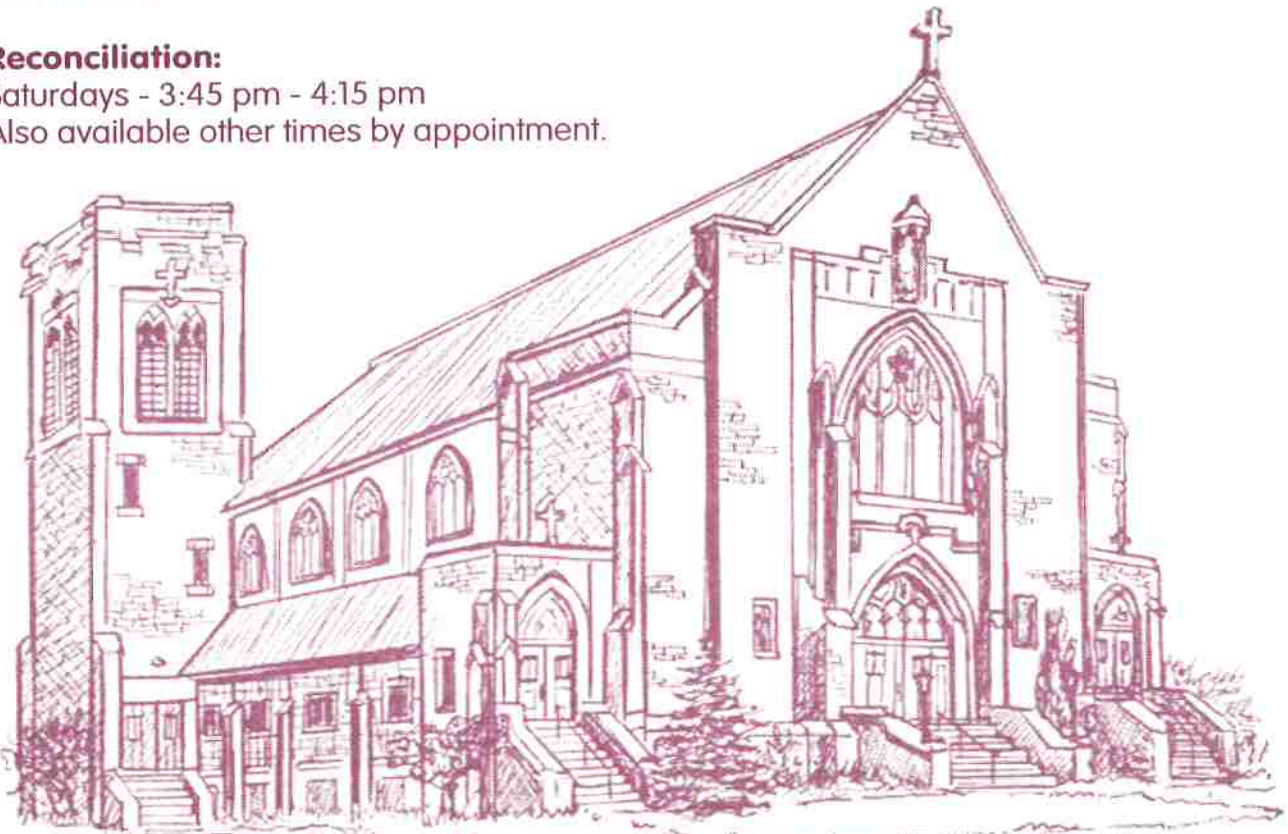
416-733-8544

Office Hours:

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

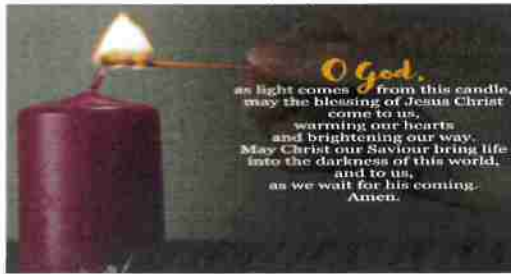
Closed between 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Please Register with the Parish
so we can assist you.



PRAY THE ROSARY

First Sunday of Advent



From the Pastor's Desk: The signs of Advent appear in our worship as signals to us that something is different. The colours in the church change as exuberant green is replaced with a more restrained purple. The joyful hymn, "Glory to God in the highest" does not resound in the church. Restraint is seen in the decorations, except for a single evergreen wreath with four coloured candles to measure our anticipation of the coming of the light into our darkness. These things speak silently to us of a time of preparation for something joyful, and we show restraint in small ways, so that the joy of Christmas will leap out at us afresh in due time. The ribbons in the liturgical books – the Lectionary, the Book of Gospels, and the priest's Missal – are now moved to the start of the books, a tiny signal, but a sign none the less, of a new start. Another year in the life of the Church has begun, another year of grace, another year of walking more closely with the Lord Jesus, our Saviour and the Alpha and Omega of our faith.

Alpha and Omega are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, the language of the earliest manuscripts of the Gospels, and they have become timeless reminders of the One who is, who was, and is to come, Jesus Christ. In the season of Advent, we turn our gaze towards the Alpha time, the start of a divine alphabet which would spell out a new Word, when the world awaited its Saviour. We will listen to Old Testament prophets who stir up the longing of God's people in anticipation of salvation from suffering and from endless death. Our gaze in Advent looks back into the cold nights of waiting for seemingly endless generations, from the time of the expulsion of humankind from Paradise, until a time chosen by God to fulfill his promise of salvation. It's not Christmas yet: wait! Actively wait for the time to celebrate when Christ is born anew in our hearts on the solemn feast of Christmas. Until then, wait in blessed hope for the coming of Our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

.....Fr. John-Mark



The following prayer is traditionally recited fifteen times a day until Christmas. This is a very meditative prayer that helps us increase our awareness of the feast of Christmas and helps us prepare ourselves spiritually for His coming. "Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, O my God! to hear my prayer and grant my desires, [here mention your request] through the merits of Our Saviour Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen."

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 2nd

For INTENTIONS OF ST. JOHN'S ROSARY GROUP
Requested by Catherine Chang

Tuesday, December 5th

For + SOUSA FAMILY
Requested by The Melo Family

Wednesday, December 6th

For + THERESA COOPER
Requested by Georgina Revells

Thursday, December 7th

For + CATHERINE CAIRNS
Requested by Anna Molloy

Friday, December 8th

For INTENTIONS OF LILA JANE ATTERBERRY
Requested by Maureen Carr

Saturday, December 9th

For + VANEZA MARCELINO
Requested by St. John's Parishioners



*The Sanctuary Light burns this week
in loving memory of
Larry Talbot*

Please Pray For The Sick

Chiu Wong, Cathy Connor, Gillian Haughey, Christine Clementi, Anne Abate, Isabel Cairns, Marianne Loranger, Christine Curran, Jacob McLean, Carl D'Sousa, Diane Meldrum, Carmel Richard



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. Don't walk with cash? Want to collection points on your credit cards, just scan the QR code and the 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. If you would like to find out about our PAG (Pre-authorized Giving) system, please contact the office. We depend on your weekly giving to support you and the operations of the Parish. Thank you for making a gift to your Parish.



	2022	2023
Sunday Offertory	\$ 3281	\$2852
Offertory PAG:	\$ 1183	\$1421



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've moved out of the parish, when you arrive in a new parish, make a note to register there. They'll want to hear from you! 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.

In The News

Friars Student Writing Contest 2024 (November 08, to January 15, 2024) Theme: "You shall love the Lord your God ... and your neighbour as yourself." (Luke 10:27). High school students (ages 13-19 years) in the Catholic School Boards located in the Archdiocese of Toronto are invited to participate in this annual event that commemorates the global Week of Prayer for Christian Unity from January 18- 25. Write a five-hundred-word essay that explores the 2024 theme. Great prizes await the top three submissions. Students are to consult the resources at <https://rb.gy/wajo9> to understand the meaning and purpose of the theme and address the focus question found on the poster @ <https://bit.ly/3G0I4zT> and submit their entries at, <https://www.catholicregister.org/writingaward> Contact: ecumenical@archtoronto.org or call 416.934.3400 (Ext. 527) for more information or questions.

'WHEN YOU BELIEVE' - A heartwarming Christmas concert series by the Seraphim & Cherubim Chorus, unfolds like a holiday story told in song. Join us on an uplifting voyage through the most beloved melodies of Christmas past, present, and future with a few magical surprises along the way. Let's ring in the season together December 8th, 7:30 pm at St. Bonaventure Parish. Advanced tickets available online at www.seraphimandcherubim.ca

CAROLLING IN THE PARK: Join us on Tuesday, December 12th at Glen Stewart Park, Glen Manor Drive & Queen St. E. (south of the bridge, north of Queen), at 7:30 pm. Sing with choirs and the Salvation Army Band. Special visitor, collection for the Army, and refreshments. Dress warmly and bring a flashlight. For more info. contact David Breech 416.759.9997

"POUR OUT" ADORATION NIGHT: Join us on Dec. 15th from 7 to 9 pm at Merciful Redeemer Parish - 2775 Erin Centre Blvd., Mississauga for this Advent special for all ages! Reflect on how God pours Himself out for us by giving us His only Son. An evening of praise and worship, adoration, prayer ministry, talk and confession. Featuring Fr. Michael Corpus - No registration required.

THE FRANCIS DE SALES CENTRE ACCEPTING HIGH SCHOOL APPLICATIONS FOR 2024-2025: Students entering grades 9-12 are encouraged to apply to The Francis De Sales Centre (FSC) at Mary, Mother of God School. A unique, affordable independent school rooted in the Catholic tradition, FSC engages students with a rigorous academic program in both the sciences and the humanities through small, seminar-style classes that are lively and engaging. It has a joyful and dynamic student life centred on daily prayer, including the Rosary and part of the Divine Office, and weekly cultural excursions. Access an application packages call 416.531.7897, or visit marymotherofgodschool.org

Little Levity: A truck loaded with Vicks VapoRub overturned on the highway. Police report there is no congestion in the area. Peace begins with a smile.....Mother Teresa

Parish News

ADVENT, CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS SCHEDULE

Advent Day of Confession

Wednesday, December 13th

8:45 am to 9:15 am

11:45 am to 12:30 pm

6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

During Advent, available from 3:30 pm until 4:15 pm Saturdays

Christmas Masses

Sunday, 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

Monday, December 25th - 11:00 am

NEW YEAR'S MASSES

Sunday, December 31st - New Year's Eve - 4:30 pm

Monday, January 1st - New Year's Day Mass – 11:00 am

Regular Sunday Masses continue Saturday, December 23rd at 4:30 pm, Sunday December 24th at 9 & 11 am, & Saturday December 30th at 4:30 pm & Sunday, December 31st at 9 & 11 am



DAILY REFLECTIONS FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS: bring prayer and Scripture into everyday life in a thought-provoking and lasting way. It helps busy people enrich their prayer life during the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Get yours today. Available in the vestibule for just \$5.

PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION: registration is now open and will run until December 14, for registered parishioners of St. John's parish, attending Sunday Eucharist, with either Catholic School or public school students. Visit our website for full details.

ST. JOHN'S CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: are beginning to prepare for the annual Christmas Pageant to be presented before the 4:30 pm Mass on Christmas Eve. Permission/information forms are available from the Children's Liturgy and Catechism teachers. To audition/participate, please meet in the church basement on December 3rd, following the 9 am Mass. Rehearsals will be held on Dec. 10 and 17th. If you have questions, please contact Marlo Taylor at 647.233.7636.



KNIGHTS ADVENT SOCK & MITTS DRIVE: Have you ever walked around with cold and wet hands and feet, well many of our poor and homeless do. Each year, during Advent, the Knights ask your help to donate new unwrapped socks and mitts for the poor and homeless. Beginning, Dec 3rd, please place your donations in the baskets available in the vestibule.



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