

St. John of the Cross Parish

Served by the Carmelites

PARISH OFFICE: 6890 Glen Erin Drive, Mississauga, ON L5N 2E1

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PASTORAL TEAM

Tel/Voice Mail

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PARISH SECRETARY – Violanta Nicholson 229

RECEPTIONIST – Liane Harris 221

Youth Minister – Ante Skoko ym@sjocross.org 226



READINGS OF THE WEEK

Mon	Dec. 24	Isaiah 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25
Tues	Dec. 25	Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18
Wed	Dec. 26	Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22
Thurs	Dec. 27	1 John 1:1-4; John 20:2-8
Fri	Dec. 28	1 John 1:5-2:2; Matthew 2:13-18
Sat	Dec. 29	1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35
Sun	Dec. 30	1 Samuel 1:11, 20-22, 24-28++; 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52

CHURCH

Wed	Dec. 26	Band Practice 8:00-10:00pm
Thurs	Dec. 27	Folk Choir Practice 8:00-10:00pm



Would you like one of the priests or the deacon from St. John of the Cross Parish visit you while you are in the hospital? Or would you like to celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick? *Please let us know by calling the parish office.*



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Telephone voice mail extensions at the parish for questions regarding sacramental preparation for baptized children attending Catholic school. Message will be returned by Sacramental Team.
 905.821.1331 x 225 1st Communion / Reconciliation
 905.821.1331 x 230 Confirmation
 Messages left on these voice mails will be returned by members of the Sacramental Team.

PLEASE PRAY FOR POPE FRANCIS' DECEMBER INTENTION

Evangelization – In the Service of the Transmission of Faith

That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

Our Father Hail Mary Glory Be



With Jesus, there is peace, joy, and great love in our hearts for all.
 A Blessed Christmas to you and to your family!

Christmas Reflections

Jesus is born but have we found Him yet?



O come Divine Messiah
 The world in silence waits the day
 When hope shall sing of triumph
 And sadness flees away.



Christmas is a commemoration of God's coming into the world. He came for all of us - believers and non-believers alike. His birth should bring us hope and triumph which will dispel the sadness from our lives. But after years of celebrating Christmas after Christmas, many of us are yet to see that triumph in our lives and our hopes may be giving way to despair. Has the Messiah really come? If He has where is He? Why doesn't He bring the triumph that dispels the sadness of man?



The real problem today is that we are waiting for God to literally come to us. We celebrate His birth just like that of any one of us - offering prayers, eating, drinking and making merry. We celebrate his coming into the world but we do not welcome Him into our hearts and lives. Yes, He has come into the world and is very much in our midst but unfortunately we refuse to recognize Him, therefore, fail to welcome Him.

By being born to poor parents, in an environment of extreme poverty, Jesus is telling us where He dwells - not in places of majesty and glamour but among the poor and the down-trodden, the sick and dying, the hungry, the oppressed and in those we love and even in those we hate. In short, He is among the masses. Amidst our celebrations this Christmas, let us pause a while to look around us, to recognize that Jesus who was born into the world two thousand years ago. He is among us in every person and in every trial and tribulation we encounter in our lives. Let us take a moment to look around to recognize Him in those who do not have joy and peace in their lives.

Let us do the little within our means to alleviate the pain and misery in their lives. Let us do whatever we can to give them the hope that triumph will one day wipe out the sadness in the hearts.

We too, like Jesus, must have the humility to come down from our positions of comfort and power to meet Him in the people around us. If we isolate ourselves from the masses by building a fortress around us with all our wealth and power together with greed, selfishness and pride, then we can keep waiting for Jesus all our lives but it will only be in vain.

To us then His birth into this world, that is Christmas, will be just another day to celebrate, eat, drink and make merry. It will never become the day when hope shall sing of triumph and sadness flees away.

(Excerpts from <https://www.catholic.org/featured/headline.php?ID=5268>)



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24

4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm, and Midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25

10:00AM and 12:00PM

FEAST DAY MARY MOTHER OF GOD,

VIGIL MASS, DECEMBER 31

5:00PM and 7:00PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY, JANUARY 1

10:00AM and 12:00PM

O Come Let Us Adore Him




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VOCATION IN THE CHURCH

Are you called to follow in the footsteps of Mary as a priest or religious or deacon to carry the Good News of God's great Love? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or deacon in His church, call Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto, 416.968.0997 or email vocations@archtoronto.org.



SAVE THE DATE

Knights of Columbus

Annual Valentine Dinner/Dance on Saturday, February 2nd at Swagat Banquet Hall



OFFERTORY ENVELOPES 2019

These are now available for pick-up at the Rotunda. Envelopes are arranged numerically. If you do not know your envelope number, please refer to the list on the table by the boxes of envelopes. Please verify the labels on the box to make sure that your name and address is correct. Notify the office if your address has changed.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Parish Office Schedule

Mon., Dec. 24 th	Office Closed at noon
Tues., Dec. 25 th	Office Closed
Wed., Dec. 26 th	Office Closed
Mon., Dec. 31 st	Office Closed at noon
Tues., Jan. 1 st	Office Closed

A CARMELITE MOMENT

Prayer of Blessed Mary of the Angels



Lord, you have told us that you live forever in the hearts of the chaste. By the prayers of the virgin Blessed Mary of the Angels help us to live by your grace and to become temples of your Spirit.

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