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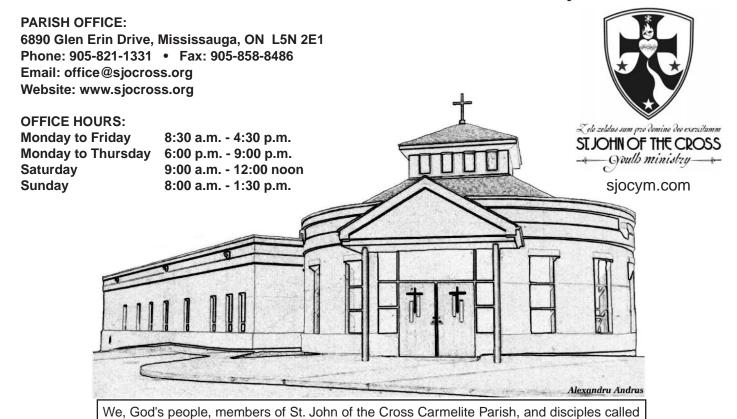
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St. John of the Cross Parish

Served by the Carmelites



through baptism to be prophetic, priestly, and holy, have been chosen to serve, help, and

PASTORAL TEAM

Confirmation

guide each other on our Christian pilgrimage through life, to the Kingdom of God.

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday:

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m. Sunday:

WEEKDAY MASSES AT THE CHURCH

Monday through Saturday: 9:00 a.m. Every Wednesday: additional mass 7:00 p.m. followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help First Friday: additional mass 7:00 p.m. followed by Adoration

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Other times by appointment.

BAPTISM

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Parents are required to attend the Baptism Preparation Class. They are also encouraged to attend the class prior to the birth of the baby. Godparents are also expected to attend this class. A registration package is available at the Parish Office or at our website.

SCHOOLS St. Albert of Jerusalem 905-785-9298 St. Elizabeth Seton 905-821-2277 St. John of the Cross 905-824-3058

Fr. Joyson George, O Carm., Pastor pastor@sjocross.org

Rev. Mr. John Cannon, **Deacon** deaconjohn@sjocross.org

YOUTH MINISTER - Ante Skoko ym@sjocross.org

PARISH SECRETARY – Violanta Nicholson

RECEPTIONIST – Liane Harris

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION First Communion & First Reconciliation

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Fr. Felix Antony, O.Carm., Assoc. Pastor frfelix@sjocross.org

905-826-5572 St. Richard St. Teresa of Avila 905-858-3462 St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus 905-785-0066 Our Lady of Mount Carmel 905-824-1025

MARRIAGE

It is required that one of those to be married resides within the Parish boundary. Couples planning to be married must contact the Parish Office at least one year in advance of their proposed date. They are required to complete a Marriage Preparation Course.

SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Please contact the parish office if confined to home or hospitalization so sacramental care may be provided.

JOHN OF THE CROSS was born in 1542 at Fontiveros in Spain. He entered the Carmelite Community and was ordained a priest in 1567. Renowned for his wisdom and sanctity, he died at Ubeda in 1591. His writings are not only classics of spirituality, but also of Spanish literature. His best known books are The Ascent of Mount Carmel, The Dark Night of the Soul, and The Living Flame of Love.

3rd Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10 2nd Reading: James 5:7-10 Gospel: Matthew 11: 2-11

Jesus Praises John the Baptist

Rejoicing Amidst the Darkness

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." These are the words

proclaimed in the entrance antiphon of Mass for Gaudete Sunday this week. It urges us to constantly rejoice in the Lord, and as good

"... so that your joy may be complete."

stewards of Christ, we should always strive to live lives inundated with the joy that flows from the Lord.

In order to do this, we must understand the difference between joy and happiness, for the Lord never promised us happiness. Instead He says, "I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete" (John 15:11). Happiness is a result of our good circumstances, because we feel good, or we had something positive happen to us, etc. Joy on the other hand goes much deeper. Henri Nouwen describes it as "the experience of knowing that you are unconditionally loved and that nothing—sickness, failure, emotional distress, oppression, war, or even death—can take that love away."

So joy is the ability to remain happy due to our awareness of being beloved sons and daughters of God even amidst the trials of our life. Henri Nouwen further describes joy as a choice we must make every day. How often in our difficult lives do we take solace and rejoice in our identities of being beloved children of God? This Gaudete Sunday, let us strive to be more intentionally joyful, and to pray to Christ for strength, for He says, "Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete" (John 16:24).

St. John of the Cross Parish Community Prayer Group

Invites you to an evening of prayer, Holy Mass, Adoration & Benediction, Praise & Worship, Talk, and Fellowship

When: First Friday, January 3rd, 6:30-9:30pm

Let us gather in Praise & Thanksgiving!

Happy Feast Day to our Patron Saint, St. John of the Cross! December 14th

"Live in faith and hope, though it be in darkness, for in this darkness God protects the soul. Cast your care upon God for you are His and He will not forget you. Do not think that He is leaving you alone, for that would be to wrong Him."—St. John of the Cross

RESERVATIONS

CHURCH

Sun	Dec 15	An Evening Musical of Song 6:00pm
Mon	Dec 16	Advent Parish Reconciliation 7:00-8:30pm
Tue	Dec 17	St. Richard School Advent Mass 6:00pm
Tue	Dec 17	Adult Choir Practice 7:00-9:00pm
Wed	Dec 18	Band Practice 8:00-10:00pm
Thurs	Dec 19	St. Elizabeth Seton 6:30pm
Thurs	Dec 19	Folk Choir Practice 8:00-10:00pm

SEMINAR ROOM

Mon	Dec 16	RCIA 7:00—9:00pm
Tue	Dec 17	Faith Formation 6:30-7:30pm
Wed	Dec 18	Prime Time Craft 2:00-4:00pm
Wed	Dec 18	Sacramental Preparation 6:30-7:30pm
Thurs	Dec 19	St. Vincent de Paul Society 7:00-9:00pm
Sat	Dec 21	Confirmation 10:00am-12:00noon

NESSINGER HALL

Tue	Dec 17	Prime Time Club Line Dancing 1:00-3:00pm
Tue	Dec 17	St. Richard School 6:00-8:00pm
Wed	Dec 18	CIC 6:30-7:30pm
Sat	Dec 19	Confirmation Session 6:30-8:30pm
Sat	Dec 21	CFCFFL 3:00-11:00pm

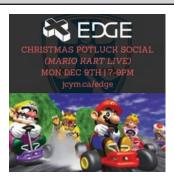
READINGS OF THE WEEK

Mon	Dec 16	Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a; Matthew 21:23-27
Tue	Dec 17	Genesis 49:2,8-10; Matthew 1:1-17
Wed	Dec 18	Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-24
Thurs	Dec 19	Judges 13:2-7,24-25a; Luke 1:5-25
Fri	Dec 20	Isaiah 7:10-14,8:10d; Luke 1:26-38
Sat	Dec 21	Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Luke 1:39-45
Sun	Dec 22	Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24

	MASS INTENTIONS				
<u> </u>	MASSIMIEMIONS				
Mon	Dec 16 9am	For the soul of Jacob Chacko, requested by Manoj Jacob For the soul of Edgardo Margarejo, requested by his son, Albert Margarejo			
Tues	Dec 17 9am	For the living intentions of Maikel Michriky, requested by Maikel For thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for the blessings received, requested by Ivy Cornelio			
Wed	Dec 18 9am	For the healing of Nadine & Adrian Kenny, requested by Anne Kenny			
Thurs	Dec 19 9am	For thanksgiving from Erva and Tiffany Joseph, requested by Joseph Family For the living intentions of Maikel Michriky, requested by Maikel			
Fri	Dec 20 9am	For the soul of Nathalia D'Souza, requested by the D'Souza Family			
Sat	Dec 21 9am	For thanksgiving of Marina & Zeno's 49th Wedding Anniversary, requested by Zeno Perera For the living intentions of Maikel Michriky, requested by Maikel			
	5pm	 For the soul of Bernadette Avasoratnam, requested by Minusthi For the soul of Santuzza and Umberto Ragogna, requested by Heidi Cairney For the soul of Querobino Almeida, requested by Clara D'Souza 			
Sun	Dec 22 10am	For the soul of Glicerio Catalig, requested by Eufemia Catalig and family			
	4pm	For the soul of Charles Martis, requested by Tony and Lesline Martis For the soul of Muriel Martis, requested by Tony and Lesline Martis			

YOUTH MINISTRY EVENTS





Full Schedule & Registration @ www.jcym.ca

PARISH CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2019—2020

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16th 7:00—8:30 PM

AN EVENING MUSICAL OF SONG

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15th, 6:00 PM

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES: TUESDAY, DEC 24th

4:00 PM, 7:00 PM, 9:00 PM, and 12 MIDNIGHT

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES: WEDNESDAY, DEC 25th

10:00 AM, 12:00 PM

(Note: There will **not be** an 8:00AM or 4:00PM Mass)

FEAST OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD (NEW YEAR'S EVE)

VIGIL MASSES, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31st 5:00 PM and 7:00 PM

FEAST OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD (NEW YEAR'S DAY)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1st 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM



Get your 2019—2020 Sunday Missal by the Parish Office, 1 for \$5, 3 for \$10

NEIGHBORING PARISH ADVENT RECONCILIATION

St. Josephine Bakhita: Dec. 15th to Dec. 23rd, 6:00-7:00pm

Merciful Redeemer Parish: Monday, December 16th, 3:00-5:00pm, 7:00-9:00pm

St. Joseph Parish: Tuesday. December 17th, 7:00-9:00pm **St. Martin of Tours:** Thursday, December 19th, 7:00-9:00pm

St. Francis Xavier: Thursday, December 19th, 9:30-11:30am, 4:00-6:00pm, 7:00-8:30pm



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