

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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Fr. Felix Antony, O.Carm., **Assoc. Pastor** rfelix@sjocross.org 224

Rev. Mr. John Cannon, **Deacon** deaconjohn@sjocross.org 222

PARISH SECRETARY – Violanta Nicholson 223

YOUTH MINISTER – Ante Skoko ym@sjocross.org 226

RECEPTIONIST – Liane Harris



*We saw his star in the East
and have come to worship Him*

Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12 *The Visit of the Wise Men*

Making Christ Manifest to all the World

This Sunday, we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. The word epiphany comes from the Greek epiphainen, a verb that means “to manifest” or “to make known.” This is what God did in the Incarnation. He made Himself known to humanity. One principle event is the visit of the foreign Magi, representing all the nations coming to know Christ.

Even 2000 years later, Christ still desires to make Himself known to the ends of the earth and we as stewards have the great privilege of helping in this important mission. The USCCB in their Pastoral Letter on Stewardship says that “God wishes human beings to be his collaborators in the work of creation, redemption, and sanctification; and such collaboration involves stewardship in its most profound sense.” The USCCB also says that the “practice of authentic Christian stewardship inevitably leads to evangelization.”

Therefore, to be true and authentic stewards means that we cannot keep the gift of the Gospel for ourselves, but we must go out into the world and proclaim it to others. How often do we realize our important role in evangelization? Let us strive to use our time and talents well by sharing the faith with those around us, with our family members, our co-workers and our neighbors. Perhaps one tangible act we can do this week is invite someone we know who has fallen away from their faith to join for Mass next Sunday. In doing this, we will take seriously the dismissal at the end of Mass to “go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.”



RESERVATIONS

CHURCH

Tue	Jan 7	Adult Choir Practice 8:00-10:00pm
Wed	Jan 8	Band Practice 8:00-10:00pm
Thurs	Jan 9	Folk Choir Practice 8:00-10:00pm

NESSINGER HALL

Mon	Jan 6	Knights of Columbus 7:00-9:30pm
Tue	Jan 7	Prime Time Line Dancing 1:00-4:00pm
Tue	Jan 7	Bible Study: Bible Timeline 7:00-9:00pm
Wed	Jan 8	Christian Initiation of Children 6:30-7:30pm
Thurs	Jan 9	Confirmation Session 6:30-8:30pm
Fri	Jan 10	LIFETEEN 7:00-9:00pm
Sat	Jan 11	Confirmation Session 10:00am-12:00pm
Sat	Jan 11	Movie Night “For Greater Glory” 6:00-9:00pm

SEMINAR ROOM

Mon	Jan 6	Christian Initiation of Adults 7:00-9:00pm
Wed	Jan 8	Prime Time Crafts 1:00-4:00pm
Wed	Jan 8	Sacramental Preparation 6:30-7:30pm
Thurs	Jan 9	St. Vincent de Paul Society 7:30-9:00pm
Sat	Jan 11	Lay Carmelite Formation I 9:30am-12:00pm

READINGS OF THE WEEK

Mon	Jan 6	1 John 3:22-4:6; Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25
Tue	Jan 7	1 John 4:7-10; Mark 6:34-44
Wed	Jan 8	1 John 4:11-18; Mark 6:45-52
Thurs	Jan 9	1 John 4:19-5:4; Luke 4:14-22a
Fri	Jan 10	1 John 5:5-13; Luke 5:12-16
Sat	Jan 11	1 John 5:14-21; John 3:22-30
Sun	Jan 12	Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Matthew 3:13-17

The one who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new."

*Jesus said to St. John
Revelations 21:5*

MASS INTENTIONS

Thurs	Jan 7 9am	For the soul of Nury Andrews, requested by the Andrews Family
Sat	Jan 11 5pm	For the soul of Felix DaCosta, requested by Gavin DaCosta and Family

HOLY FAMILY ROSARY

In his apostolic exhortation 'Amoris Laetitia', Pope Francis reminds us that the Holy Family exudes the beauty of family life. He then recalls the words of Pope Paul VI that the Holy Family "illuminates the principle which gives shape to every family".



During the past several years, The Knights of Columbus has begun a number of important initiatives to help our families draw closer to the Holy Family and, in this way to get caught up into Divine Love.

There is an ICON of the Blessed Holy Family travelling from Rome. This ICON will be in our church from Wednesday, January 15 to Wednesday, January 22. This initiative has the blessings of His Holiness, Pope Francis and is led by Carl Anderson, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus.

It is the hope that this initiative will promote true family values through the example that we can derive from the Blessed Holy Family.

You are encouraged to participate in a Family Rosary, led by a brother Knight and his family, in partnership with our own Rosary Apostolate team.

The Family Rosary will be at the following times:

January 15, Wed @ 6:30pm in the church before the 7:00 pm mass with the honour guard
 January 16, Thursday @ 7:00pm in the church
 January 17, Friday @ 7:00pm in the church
 January 18, Saturday after the 5:00 pm mass
 January 19, Sunday after the 4:00 pm mass
 January 20, Monday @7:00 pm in the church
 January 21, Tuesday @7:00 pm, Seminar Room
 January 22, Wed @ 6:30 pm before the 7:00pm mass

We encourage you and your family to come out and participate in the family rosary during these times.

Let us pray together for families!

YOUTH MINISTRY EVENTS

Enjoy your Christmas break!

Next EDGE Night: Mon Jan 13th - IGNITED WITHIN: Sacrament of Confirmation

Next LIFE Night: Fri Jan 10th - BELIEVE IT OR NOT: Atheism

Schedule & Registration @ www.jcym.ca

 EDGE  LIFE TEEN

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS PARISH ADULT FAITH FORMATION

VISION:

The St. John of the Cross Parish becomes a vibrant, evangelistic, and faith-filled community that serves and supports its diverse members and the broader community.

MISSION:

To re-ignite, strengthen, and support the faith of the laity that they may become true missionary disciples of Jesus Christ.

PARENTS! Mark your calendars!

First Communion meetings will be held at St. John of the Cross Church in January 2020 for parents of children who received First Reconciliation in November. Please attend one of these meetings:

Sunday, January 19, 2020, 7:00pm

or

Tuesday, January 21, 2020, 7:00pm

Invitations and registrations will be delivered to the schools on the first week of January 2020. You will be required to submit your child's Baptismal certificate upon registration.

Call 905.821.1331 x 225 if you have any questions.

2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES

As of January 1st, please use only your 2020 Offering Envelopes. DO NOT USE any 2019 envelopes in 2020. Labeled Offering Envelopes are available for pick up. Labeled envelopes not picked up by mid-February will be taken out for re-use.

JC Youth Ministry – December 2019 Update



EDGE helps Middle Schoolers (Grade 5-8) unleash who they were created to be, in Christ.

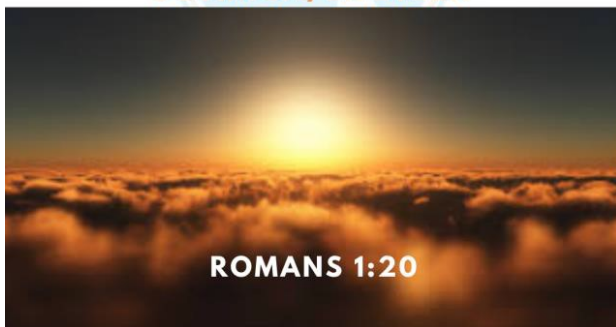


Edge is a Catholic middle school youth ministry program. It provides a safe fun place for youth to find solid Catholic community, to get answers to their questions about faith, and, most importantly, to experience Jesus in a profound and personal way. Edge speaks to the physical, psychological, cognitive, relational, and spiritual maturation of middle school youth. Edge has different semesters of Edge Nights every year, retreats, and has an adult Core Team, to assist in ministry and teaching in a way that young people can understand.

Our doors are always open to new youth!



LIFE TEEN strengthens teens' Catholic identity, while rooting them firmly in Christ and His Church



We at JCYM believe a revolution is happening. And we believe that this revolution is taking place in our Church, in our homes, in our schools and in our workplaces. It is a Catholic revolution, it is a generation of teenagers, parents, young and old alike who are rising up to proudly live their lives for Jesus Christ. The LIFE TEEN ministry at St. John of the Cross is a small part of this larger movement that extends far beyond the walls of our parish. LIFE TEEN began as a ministry in 2005 in Arizona & has since spread through North America; guided by the Holy Spirit through the intercession of Mary, drawing strength through the Holy Mass & Eucharist.

Our doors are always open to new youth!

Follow us ☺



Youth Minister Ante Skoko | ym@sjocross.org | 905.821.1331 Ext.226

www.jcym.ca

www.facebook.com/jcym18 | www.instagram.com/jcym

JC Youth Ministry – December 2019 Update



CHOSEN

YOUR JOURNEY TOWARD CONFIRMATION

www.jcym.ca/confirmation | confirmation@sjocross.org

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confirmation@sjocross.org

SESS#	THU SESSION	SAT SESSION	THEME	DESCRIPTION	LESS #
7	Thursday, 9 January 2020	Saturday, 11 January 2020	What does the Holy Spirit do for me?	Gifts for the Journey	13
			Why have I been Chosen?	Sealed and Sent in Confirmation	14
8	Thursday, 23 January 2020	Saturday, 25 January 2020	Why do I have to go to Mass?	Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist	15
			What does it mean to say "I do"?	Marriage, a sign of God's Love	16



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1st Wednesday Monthly | Western Region Parishes
www.sjocym.com/young-adults | www.facebook.com/SpiritusVitaeTO



Our Next Movie Night: For Greater Glory

6:15pm Sat Jan 11th | Open to All | Free | Refreshments

www.jcym.ca/movienight



We ♥ love

having you as part of our Flock

Keep in touch with us
via email and text.

Text SJOC
to 514-900-0130

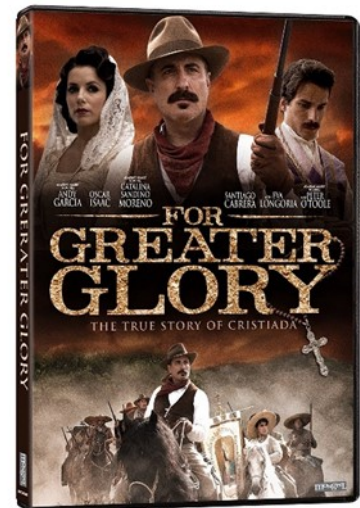
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In late 1920s Mexico, retired Gen. Gorostieta (Andy Garcia) and his wife (Eva Longoria) watch their country degenerate into violent civil war when the government enacts a series of anti-Catholic laws. Gorostieta is at first hesitant to join the rebels, known as Cristeros, until he begins to see the cost of religious persecution on his countrymen. Though the odds are against him, the general nevertheless transforms a ragtag band of rebels into a formidable fighting force.



Youth Minister Ante Skoko | ym@sjocross.org | 905.821.1331 Ext.226

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Pope Francis: "Like the Magi on Epiphany, don't be afraid to take risks"

"If we want to find Jesus, we have to overcome our fear of taking risks, our self-satisfaction and our indolent refusal to ask anything more of life," Francis said. "We need to take risks simply to meet a Child."

"Those risks are immensely worth the effort," the pope said, "since in finding that Child, in discovering his tenderness and love, we rediscover ourselves."

The Three Wise Men, also traditionally called the Magi, were the only ones who saw the star leading the way to the manger, the pope said, because they were among the few people who raised their eyes to the heavens.



"We often make do with looking at the ground: it's enough to have our health, a little money and a bit of entertainment," Francis added. "I wonder if we still know how to look up at the sky. Do we know how to dream, to long for God, to expect the newness he brings, or do we let ourselves be swept along by life, like dry branches before the wind?"

The Magi, he continued, were not satisfied with "just getting by, with keeping afloat" and continued instead to look up and follow the path. Many others who instead raised their eyes toward the heavens chose not to follow the star to Bethlehem, maybe, the pope explained, because it wasn't as bright as others.

"Jesus' star does not dazzle or overwhelm, but gently invites," he said, calling faithful to beware of the "meteors" and "shooting stars" that promise success, wealth and fortune only to quickly fade away and "mislead rather than lead." The Lord's star, he said, while not shining as bright as others, is a reliable and constant light that "takes you by the hand in life and accompanies you" to peace and joy as it did with the Magi.

Another quality the pope encouraged massgoers to borrow from the Three Wise Men is to "set out" in order to find Jesus. In order to do this, faithful must also free themselves from

unnecessary burdens and push through life's obstacles. "Jesus allows himself to be found by those who seek him, but to find him we need to get up and go, not sit around but take risks, not stand still, but set out," Francis said.



"Jesus makes demands: he tells those who seek him to leave behind the armchair of worldly comforts and the reassuring warmth of hearth and home. Following Jesus is not a polite etiquette to be observed, but a journey to be undertaken."

The pope admitted that setting out is not easy. Herod stayed locked in his palace, sending others to gather information in his stead, and all of Jerusalem was afraid of the changes that would be brought in by the Son of God. Worse still, the pope continued, were the scribes and priests, who knew about the ancient prophecy and told Herod, but did not set out to go to Bethlehem.

"Theirs can be the temptation of those who are used to being believers: they can talk at length about the faith they know so well, but will not take a personal risk for the Lord. They talk, but do not pray; they complain, but do no good," Francis said.

On the other hand, the Magi "talk little and journey much," and once they arrive at the manger they gave gifts, imitating Jesus who came to the world to offer His life. "To give freely, for the Lord's sake, without expecting any-



thing in return: this is the sure sign that we have found Jesus," the pope said. "To do good without counting the cost, even when unasked, even when you gain nothing thereby, even if it is unpleasant. That is what God wants."

Just as Jesus gave everything for the poor, hungry and needy, so are Catholics encouraged to be close and help the sick and down-trodden. "These are gifts freely given, and they cannot be lacking in the lives of Christians," he added.

EnCourage Toronto

Do you or does a loved one experience same-sex attraction? Courage & EnCourage provide spiritual support and pastoral guidance in full accordance with authentic Catholic teaching on homosexuality and chastity. For more information on our meetings and events, see contact info below:

EnCourage: Spiritual support for family and friends of those who experience same-sex attraction; faithful to Church teaching on chastity.

Chaplain: Fr. Eric Rodrigues

Phone: 416.928.5094

Email: encouragetoronto@yahoo.com

Courage: Spiritual support for adults who experience same-sex attraction and who desire to develop a life of interior chastity in union with Christ.

Chaplain: Fr. Kevin Belgrave

Phone: 416.928.5094

Email: couragetoronto@yahoo.ca

All inquiries are kept confidential.

SHARELIFE

Learn more about how your gift to ShareLife is making a difference! ShareLife has released its annual Impact Report, detailing the results of the 2019 campaign and the many ways your generosity is improving the lives of those in need. Copies of the report are available at the parish or can be read online at www.sharelife.org.



ARE YOU MOVING?

Please let the parish office know.

On the Holy Eucharist

The soul hungers for God, and nothing but God can satiate it. Therefore, He came to dwell on earth and assumed a Body in order that this Body might become the Food of our souls.

St. John Vianney

SAVE THE DATE!



Saturday, February 8, 2020
Knights of Columbus
20th Anniversary Valentine
Dinner and Dance
Apollo Convention Centre



Tickets will be sold after the masses starting next week, January 11th weekend.

Or you may call:

Trevor — 905.785.2973

Mike — 905.819.1414

PRIME TIME CLUB

A social group for those over 50 with a membership of \$10 per year. Held occasionally are outings, Saturday evening dinners in Nessinger Hall and luncheon in local restaurants. Held weekly are Line Dancing on Tuesdays at 1pm & Craft Group on Wednesdays at 2pm.

Contact Mary at 905.824.8537.

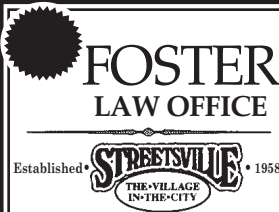
PARISH VOLUNTEER SCREENING PROCESS

If you are interested in volunteering at St. John of the Cross Parish, please obtain the necessary application form from the Parish Secretary. As a reminder, our volunteer ministries are either General Risk or **High Risk** (which involve working with vulnerable participants, e.g. children, the elderly, those with developmental disabilities or people experiencing trauma or abuse). **High Risk Ministry volunteers will be required to go through a screening process (interview, three reference checks and police clearance).** Please note that any current General Risk Ministry volunteer wishing to join a High Risk Ministry will still need to go through the screening process. We wish to thank all volunteers for their interest and valuable time.

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

We are glad to have you in our parish community. Feel free to introduce yourself to our Pastor, Fr. Joyson or to our Associate Pastor, Fr. Felix, and when you get a chance, come by the Parish Office to register as a new parishioner.

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



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