

Sunday, November 1, 2020

St. John of the Cross Parish

Served by the Carmelites



PARISH OFFICE:

6890 Glen Erin Drive, Mississauga, ON L5N 2E1

Phone: 905.821.1331 * Fax: 905.858.8486

E-mail: office@sjocross.org

Parish Website: www.sjocross.org

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday	9:30am—4:30pm
Tuesday to Friday	8:30am—4:30pm
Wednesday	6:00pm—9:00pm
Saturday	9:00am—12:00noon
Sunday	8:00am—1:30pm

PASTORAL TEAM

Fr. Joyson George, O.Carm, Pastor Ext. 228
pastor@sjocross.org

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

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

SECRETARY—Violanta Nicholson 223

RECEPTION—Liane Harris

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

1st Communion & 1st Reconciliation 225

Confirmation, confirmation@sjocross.org 230

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY 305

SCHOOLS

St. Albert of Jerusalem 905.785.9298

St. Elizabeth Seton 905.821.2277

St. John of the Cross 905.824.3058

St. Richard 905.826.5572

St. Teresa of Avila 905.858.3462

St. Therese of the Child Jesus 905.785.0066

Our Lady of Mount Carmel 905.824.1025

ST. 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.

**LET US CONTINUE TO STAY VIGILANT
FOR SAFETY & HEALTH!**

SOCIAL DISTANCE—SANITIZE HANDS

WEAR MASK—DISINFECT YOUR SPACE

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm, 4:00pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday through Saturday 9:00am

Additional Mass on Wednesday 7:00pm

Followed by the Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Additional Mass on 1st Friday 7:00pm

Followed by Adoration and Benediction

RECONCILIATION

After the 9:00am morning mass, Monday through Saturday or by appointment.

Contact the parish office to make an 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 expected to attend the class. A registration package is available at the Parish Office or at our website.

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.

Registration is required for Sunday masses. Click to Register for Mass.



Register for Mass



Click here for Live Stream

5pm Saturday Mass is livestreamed!

Click on AddMe to be added into the Parish Email List in order to receive parish notifications.





**CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR NEWLY
CONFIRMED, FULL
MEMBERS OF THE
CHURCH!**

Your home parish of SJOC keeps you and your family in prayers.

May you always live in the Holy Spirit and grow strong in faith and love of God and neighbor.

God bless you!

DAILY MASS READINGS

November 2	Job 19:1, 23-27; 1Cor 15:20-23; John 12:23-26
November 3	Phil 2:5-11; Luke 14:15-24
November 4	Phil 2:12-18; Luke 14:25-33
November 5	Phil 3:3-8a++; Luke 15:1-10
November 6	Phil 3:17-21; 4:1; Luke 16:1-8
November 7	Phil 4:10-19; Luke 16:9-15
November 8	Wis 6:12-16; Thess 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

ENDING POVERTY TOGETHER

Ending Poverty Together is an interactive virtual workshop designed to help redefine your understanding of poverty — both causes and solutions — in Canada and abroad. Connect with individuals in your community while gaining a healthy, hope-filled approach to poverty alleviation. Join thousands of Canadians who have enjoyed the interactive content, videos and discussion.

This free event is hosted by the Newman Centre Toronto.

REGISTER: <http://bit.ly/EndingPovertyWorkshop>

CONTACT: lenita.lopes@newmantoronto.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, November 3, 9am

1. For wisdom and fortitude for Nadine and Adrian Kenny, requested by a parishioner
2. For birthday blessings for Teresa Mejia, requested by the Mejia Family

Thursday, November 5, 9am

1. For birthday blessings for Johnson Fernandes, requested by Mom & Dad

Friday, November 6, 9am

1. For the soul of Lawrence & Ida Lewis, requested by the Nicholson Family
2. For the souls of Polson and Annie Karam, requested by the Nicolson Family
3. For the soul of Eda Avelina Truant, requested by the family

Friday, November 6, 7pm

1. For the soul of John D'Souza, requested by the D'Souza Family
2. For the healing and comfort of Agnes D'Souza, requested by Ferdie and Anita

Saturday, November 7, 9am

1. For the soul of Nury Andrews, requested by the Andrews Family
2. For the soul of Eda Avelina Truant, requested by the Family
3. For the souls of Teresa Simion and Kenneth Marie, requested by Vincent Andrews

Saturday, November 7, 5pm

1. For the soul of Larry G., requested by LouAnn and Family
2. For the soul of Chan Lin Hai, requested by the Chan Family

Sunday, November 8, 12pm

1. For the soul of Mirella Mootooveeren, requested by the Labonte Family

For these intentions and for the souls in purgatory, we pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayers.

Remembering the Souls



Write the soul(s) of your loved ones to be included in the Book of Life which will be placed in the altar in the whole month of November.

<http://bit.ly/RememberingtheSouls>

Why Do Catholics Pray for the Dead?

BY FR. JOE SCOTT MAY 18, 2008
BUSTED HALO

Praying for the dead can be a helpful part of the grieving process, but it's also part of Catholic tradition to pray for those who are no longer here on Earth with us. So, where did the practice come from?

The earliest Scriptural reference to prayers for the dead comes in the second book of Maccabees. The books of Maccabees were among the latest written books found in the Old Testament, and they recount the struggle of the Jewish people for freedom against the Seleucid Empire, around 100-200 years before the birth of Christ. As such, they are written from an Orthodox Jewish point of view. The second book of Maccabees tells how Judas Maccabee, the Jewish leader, led his troops into battle in 163 B.C. When the battle ended, he directed that the bodies of those Jews who had died to be buried. As soldiers prepared their slain comrades for burial, they discovered that each was wearing an amulet taken as booty from a pagan Temple. This violated the law of Deuteronomy and so Judas and his soldiers prayed that God would forgive the sin these men had committed (II Maccabees 12:39-45).

This is the first indication in the Bible of a belief that prayers offered by the living can help free the dead from any sin that would separate them from God in the life to come. It is echoed in the New Testament when Paul offers a prayer for a man named Onesiphorus who had died: "May the Lord grant him to find mercy from the Lord on that day" (II Timothy 1:18). The cave-like tombs under the city of Rome, which we call catacombs, also bear evidence that members of the Roman Christian community gathered there to pray for their fellow followers of Christ who lay buried there. By the fourth century, prayers for the dead are men-

tioned in Christian literature as though they were already a longstanding custom.

The practice of praying for the dead is rooted first in Christian belief in the everlasting life promised in Jesus' teachings and foreshadowed by his disciples' experience that God had raised him from the dead. After death, even though separated from our earthly body, we yet continue a personal existence. It is as living persons that God invites us into a relationship whose life transcends death.

Praying for the dead has further origins in our belief in the communion of saints. Members of this community who are living often assist each other in faith by prayers and other forms of spiritual support. Christians who have died continue to be members of the communion of saints. We believe that we can assist them by our prayers, and they can assist us by theirs. Our prayers for the dead begin at the moment of death. Often family members will gather in prayer around the bedside of the person who has died. The Order of Christian Funerals includes a Vigil Service for the deceased, which can be held in the home, in the church, or in a funeral home chapel, the funeral Mass and the Rite of Committal (which generally takes place at the burial site). The prayers express hope that God will free the person who has died from any burden of sin and prepare a place for him or her in heaven. Death remains a mystery for us—a great unknown. Yet Christian language evokes a hopeful imagination in the presence of death, an assurance that our love, linked to Christ's love, can help bridge whatever barriers might keep those whom we love from fully enjoying the presence of a loving and life-giving God.



7 Characteristics of the Saints

1) All saints are filled with the love of God.

They have chosen God above all others and made a definite commitment to God. In her book *Saint Watching* (Viking Press), Phyllis McGinley writes that saints are human beings with an added dimension. “They are obsessed by goodness and by God as Michelangelo was obsessed by line and form, as Shakespeare was bewitched by language, Beethoven by sound.”

2) All saints love other human beings.

It cannot be any other way. In the First Letter of John (4:20) we read: “If anyone says, ‘I love God,’ but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.” McGinley also says that, although saints may be different

in many ways, they are always generous. You will never find a stingy saint.

3) All saints are risk-takers.

When God called, they answered. For some it was taking a chance on a new way of life in a new place. In the Old Testament, we have the example of Abraham, called at an old age to leave his country and to go to the place God had selected for him. Even today, it is difficult for older people to leave their level of comfort and to face the new and unknown.

Abraham’s story is a marvelous example of trust in God, but even more so of a decision to plunge into the unknown. Like Abraham, saints responded to the graces that were given to them. Some were called to be popes, bishops, abbots or abbesses. Others found their calling in a quiet, reserved life, far away from the center of activity. Saint Julian of Norwich lived in a small cell attached to a church. She was even walled in, but that did not keep people away; they came to her and asked for her spiritual advice.

Saint Catherine of Siena lived at home, not in a convent, as a person dedicated to God. People

flocked to her, but not because she wanted them to.

Others, whose names are not well-known, lived simple lives among their families and friends, serving God with all their hearts, but never making a splash in the world.

4) The saints are humble.

Humility has always had a poor press; many people think that humility means saying derogatory things about oneself. Far from it! The saints showed their humility by using whatever gifts they had to perfection, but never attributing these gifts to themselves.

Saint Augustine and Saint Thomas Aquinas were brilliant men and they did not go around saying how stupid they were. They did acknowledge, however, that all they knew was as nothing compared to the infinite wisdom of God.

5) Saints are people of prayer.

Some, especially members of religious orders, had entire days of prayer. Others found their time with God in other ways.

Dorothy Day — not canonized but recognized by many as a truly holy person—started her day with prayer but said that she met God daily in the crowds of the poor who came to her hospitality house. None of the saints saw prayer as a waste of time or as an

activity for only the weak or naive.

6) The saints are not perfect.

Each of the saints had human flaws and faults. They made mistakes. Even at the end of their lives, they still found themselves in need of contrition, pardon and reconciliation.

Saint Jerome, it is said, had a fearful temper. When another scholar of his time, a former friend, Rufinus, questioned his conclusions, Saint Jerome wrote pamphlet after pamphlet blasting him. Saint Aloysius apparently had bad timing in his spiritual quest; the other novices were just as happy when he was not there. He was the kind of saint who did not seem to know how to enjoy the things of this life.

Some saints misunderstood their own visions. When Saint Francis was told to rebuild the Church, he thought it meant the local church



building. It is interesting and amusing to note that Jesus did not clarify the request for him until after he had exerted a lot of sweat and energy repairing an old church.

Saint Joan of Arc was coerced into signing a retraction of her visions, although she later retracted that retraction.

Saint John Vianney, “the Curé of Ars,” did not believe the children of La Salette concerning their visions of the Virgin Mary.

During the time of the Babylonian Captivity of the Papacy at the end of the 14th century and beginning of the 15th, when one pope resided in Avignon and another pope in Rome, saints found themselves on opposite sides of the rival popes, as confused as many of the common people were.

7) The saints are people of their times.

One wonders how anyone escapes being of his or her time. There were injustices around the saints that they did not speak out against. Saint Paul did not condemn slavery but encouraged slaves to obey their masters. Saint Thomas Aquinas considered women unequal to men. He believed their only task in life was to bear children.

If we look at the lives of all the saints, we can certainly find faults. Far from discouraging us, this can give us courage. Perfection is not what we are striving for, unless it is as perfect a love as possible.

Saints among Us

My father died several years ago at the age of 91. He did nothing that the world would call special in his life. He was the father of a large family. He worked hard and endured a loss of hearing for many years. And he always tried to follow the straight and narrow path as he saw it.

My father found real joy in going to Mass and celebrating the festivals of the Church. He was always the one who was there for us, saying the kind and understanding word, offering help when needed and knowing when to let go. God was very real in his life. His faith was always strong, and people said of him the most important thing one can say of a man, “He was a good man.”

I doubt if my father ever thought about being a saint. I do know that in his own way, he was one. And he, more than any priest or bishop or canonized saint, taught me what it means to live the humble, simple life of faith.

We laypersons must recognize our call to holiness. There are no class distinctions in the Church or in the Christian life. Nor are there any obstacles in the lay life that prevent one from striving and achieving a deep spiritual life. We need to look at the obstacles and see them for what they are: opportunities. There are enough opportunities, enough suffering, enough challenges and, above all, enough grace for all of us to be as passionate about God as the saints are.

(Taken from Franciscan Media, www.franciscanmedia.org)

Prayer for the Canonization of Fr. Michael McGivney Founder of the Knights of Columbus

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify your venerable servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.)

ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE SCHOOL

St. Michael's College School is Ontario's only independent Catholic school for young men from Grade 7 to Grade 12. The office of Admissions is now considering applications for September 2021.

St. Michael's College School offers a generous bursary programme that provides financial aid to qualifying students.

For more info, call 416.653.3180.

Website: stmichaelscollegeschool.com

Saint-Making 101

We need to talk about becoming a saint with a lowercase *s*—one of the millions of unnamed and unknown persons who have found God in their lives and loved God with all their minds, souls and hearts.

You know many of them and so do I. We had a secretary at the university, my alma mater, who was the most generous and giving person I knew. She died young, but even the week before her death she was eager to help anyone who needed anything. I also know a young teacher with great wit, intelligence and humor. He is the most profoundly prayerful person I have ever met.

But none of us can *make* ourselves saints. None of us can even say the name of Jesus in faith without his grace. It is God who reaches out to us, not we who first choose God. God reaches out to us every day in a million ways, so grace is always there. It all starts with God and it ends with God, and in between there are nothing but God-laden moments, although we may not always recognize them as such.

Tough Act to Follow

We all have our favorite saints—the joyful Saint Francis of Assisi, the gentle Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, her older Carmelite sister, the strong and sensible Saint Teresa of Avila.

It is very Catholic and delightful, it seems to me, the way we feel so at home with the saints that we not only admire them and ask their intercession with God for spiritual favors, but also send them requests for the daily things of life. Saint Anthony of Padua is a good example. Some of us remember the little prayer rhyme to him: “Tony, Tony, look around; something’s lost that must be found.”

Still, we tend to think that we can never imitate or measure up to most of the saints. We look at the saints who died for their faith—the martyrs—some of whom suffered horribly. Some of us are frightened when we think of Saint Joan of Arc being burned alive, the torture that the North American Jesuit martyrs suffered in 1646 or the

long and lonely prison terms of some of today’s martyrs. We shudder and hope that God will preserve us from those trials.

We think of the missionaries of old who left their homes and all that was familiar to them and headed off to serve God, which required immense sacrifices, sickness or even death. Some went with the disapproval of their families, which must have torn them deeply. These saints we cannot hope to imitate. They had a special calling from God that far surpasses our ordinary assignments.

We think of those who founded religious orders or established new types of service in the Church. Again, these people had a unique vocation. It is very hard to find on the Church’s liturgical calendar just plain everyday people.

LOVE FOR GOD AND NEIGHBOR

The reason is not that those everyday people do not often become saints. It may be because they do not have “lobbyists.” More than 80 percent of the canonized saints are clerics or members of religious orders. Since canonization takes so long, one needs a group dedicated to the work of seeing it through to Rome.

In spite of this, it is important for us to remember that those who have become saints did so not because of the so-called great deeds they performed, but because of the love of God and neighbor that drove them. We don’t have to look hard to find the truth of this. All we need are the words of Saint Paul:

“If I speak in human and angelic tongues but do not have love, I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge; if I have all faith so as to move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing.

“If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing” (1 Corinthians 13:1-3).

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY



Bundle Up Weekend @ St. John of the Cross

This year will be Friday, October 30th @ 6pm to Sunday, Nov 1st @6pm

The Pod will be placed in the parking lot so donations can be collected before and after all Masses on that weekend.

DO NOT ACCEPT	ACCEPT
Appliances, Dishes	Bedding, drapes and textiles
Books	Boots and shoes – Any and all!
Baby furniture items – cribs, highchairs, strollers etc.	Clothing and coats – Any and all!
Furniture – Small dressers are accepted	Towels
Mattresses	New Toys Only
Construction Material, Videos and Cassettes	

We wish to Thank Our Parishioners for all donations.

Sunday, November 1, 2020

Operation Christmas Child is Back!

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to provide God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus.

We invite you to pack a shoebox to put a smile on a child's face this Christmas. You are welcome to use your own shoebox or shoeboxes will be available before and after all the masses during the weekend of October 24th and 25th.

Filled shoeboxes are due back at the Church on Nov 14- Nov 15.

To Include	Do Not Include
Small Toys- toy cars, jump rope, balls etc.	<i>Candy, chocolate, toothpaste</i>
School Supplies- pens, pencils, markers, crayons, notebooks, paper, coloring books	<i>Used or damaged items</i>
Non-liquid Hygiene Items- toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths	<i>War- related items such as toy guns, knives, military figures</i>
Accessories- socks, hats, sunglasses	<i>Liquids or lotions</i>
A Personal Note- You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself, your family, or group	<i>Medications or vitamins</i>

For any further questions contact: Jovita 416-834-3672



Sunday, November 1, 2020



family at the Heart of formation

Featured Speakers:



Cardinal Thomas Collins



Patrick Sullivan
Creator of
Me and My House
Catholic Parenting Program



Archdiocese
of Toronto

Office of Formation for Discipleship

**A virtual gathering of families
in the Archdiocese of Toronto**

**Saturday, November 28, 2020
10 a.m. to 9:15 p.m.**

Online Zoom sessions and offline activities

Celebrate your faith and form your
Catholic family culture at home!

Parents and children of all ages are invited to join us.

Includes: prayer, songs, games, scripture,
Q&A with Cardinal Collins, family activity challenges,
and an evening parent talk and discussion
with lay evangelist, Patrick Sullivan.

Free to attend, but tickets are limited.

Register today at
www.archtoronto.org/family

*"But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed,
knowing from whom you learned it." 2 Timothy 3:14*

The 2020 Baby Bottle Campaign!



The Knights of Columbus Council 12706 at St. John of the Cross will be participating in BBC 2020 in support of JFJ Hope Centre. The campaign will begin on Saturday, October 3rd and run until Sunday, November 8th.

Due to public health restrictions we will not be handing out empty baby bottles. You can donate online to support the JFJ Hope Centre through the following link:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/8707>.

Under the section: **“MESSAGE FOR JFJ HOPE CENTRE”** please type **St. John of the Cross**.

If you would like to donate offline, you can write a cheque payable to "JFJ Hope Centre" and mail it to:

JFJ Hope Centre
5- 6655 Kitimat Rd,
Mississauga, ON L5N 6J4

Please indicate that you are a parishioner of St. John of the Cross on your cheque.



Because of your donations, a young couple can receive counselling for an unplanned pregnancy, a single mom will get practical help and parenting supports, and children will benefit from the relationship counselling their parents' receive. Strong families build a strong world.

You can discover more about the JFJ Hope Centre and the services they offer in our community by watching the following YouTube video: <https://youtu.be/ymhjWIWfYXO>

Thank you for strengthening families in our community!