

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

Email: office@sjocross.org

Website: www.sjocross.org



Leho zelatus sum pro domino deo exercituum
ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS
YOUTH MINISTRY

sjocym.com

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Monday to Thursday 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Sunday 8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.



Alexandru Andrus

We, God's people, members of St. John of the Cross Carmelite Parish, and disciples called through baptism to be prophetic, priestly, and holy, have been chosen to serve, help, and guide each other on our Christian pilgrimage through life, to the Kingdom of God.

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

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

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.

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.

PASTORAL TEAM

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

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

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

Tel/Voice Mail

PARISH SECRETARY – Violanta Nicholson 223

YOUTH MINISTER – Ante Skoko ym@sjocross.org 226

RECEPTIONIST – Liane Harris

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

First Communion & First Reconciliation 225

Confirmation 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. Thérèse of the Child Jesus 905-785-0066

Our Lady of Mount Carmel 905-824-1025

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.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Pentecost Sunday

1st Reading: Acts 2.1-11

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12.3b-7, 12-13

Gospel: John 20.19-23

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

Being Strengthened by the Spirit

Today, we celebrate Pentecost Sunday which is called by many as the birthday of the Church. Let us take some time to reflect on the Holy Spirit in our lives as stewards. Firstly, we should never fail to marvel at the fact that starting with 11 lowly men 2000 years ago, the Catholic Church still continues to this day and the name of Jesus is praised and adored all over the world. This is the power of the Holy Spirit. From a human standpoint, the church should have failed centuries ago if it were not sustained by the Spirit. This should inspire us as stewards to rely on the Holy Spirit to guide all of our actions.

Moreover, in today's second reading from Corinthians, St. Paul says that "there are varieties of gifts, but the same spirit ... [and] to each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." Each of us as stewards have particular gifts and talents from the Spirit that are not to be hoarded but generously used for the "common good" of the Church. We should all take time to reflect on what particular way is God calling us to serve Him. None of us are exempt from this call for St. Paul explains that we are all to work for the good of the Church in our own ways.

Let us pray this week for a greater outpouring of the Holy Spirit into our lives. May the same Spirit that has birthed the Church and guided her through the millennium continue to raise up great stewards to continue to carry out the great commission of Christ in all the world.

"... with the Spirit, the Church is the holy People of God, mission is the spread of joy, as others become our brothers and sisters, all loved by the same Father".

Pope Francis

READINGS OF THE WEEK		
Mon	June 1	Genesis 3:9-15, 20; John 19:25-27
Tue	June 2	2 Peter 3:12-15a, 17-18; Mark 12:13-17
Wed	June 3	2 Timothy 1:1-3, 6-12; Mark 12:18-27
Thurs	June 4	2 Timothy 2:8-15; Mark 12:28-34
Fri	June 5	2 Timothy 3:10-17; Mark 12:35-37
Sat	June 6	2 Timothy 4:1-8; Mark 12:38-44
Sun	June 7	Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9; 2Cor 13:11-13; John 3:16-18

**PENTECOST SUNDAY:
Third ShareLife Sunday
May 31, 2020**



Every Gift to ShareLife is a Sacred Trust

At ShareLife, we pride ourselves on being responsible and accountable to you, our generous donors. By keeping administrative and fundraising costs at 11% - one of the lowest in the nonprofit sector—we ensure the maximum amount possible goes to the vital work of our agencies.

**June 7 is the next ShareLife Sunday.
Please give generously.**

**MARRIAGE
PREPARATION
COURSE
FALL SESSIONS**



**OCTOBER 20—NOVEMBER 5, 2020
TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS
7:00-9:00PM**

**CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE
FOR DETAILS AND TO REGISTER.**

Dear Parishioners of St. John of the Cross,

Happy Feast of the Pentecost!

I hope and pray that the Spirit of God strengthens and enriches you during this time of pandemic. Please let me know if the parish can help you during these difficult times.

We would like to express our gratitude to you all who generously support the parish over the last few weeks by dropping off your envelopes into the parish mailbox or mailing them out to us or signing up for PAG and credit card payments. May God bless your generous heart.

We would like to enlist again the many ways that you can continue to donate to our home parish.

1. Using your offertory envelopes, **drop off** your regular weekly offertory contribution to the parish mailbox outside the church door closest to the outdoor statue of Our Lady of Mount Carmel or **mail** to the parish office (St. John of the Cross Parish, 6890 Glen Erin Drive, Mississauga, ON L5N 2E1).

2. Contribute to your parish offertory through **Pre-Authorized Giving**.

You can obtain a form from the parish website or print from <https://bit.ly/SJOCPAG>.

You can email the completed PAG form and a scanned copy of your voided check to office@sjocross.org. Contributions are withdrawn from your bank account on the dates you specified.

3. Contribute to your parish offertory by **credit card**.

Visit <https://bit.ly/SJOCCard>.

Select St. John of the Cross Parish in the drop down menu. You can make a one time or recurring contribution to your parish's offertory or other special funds.

4. You can contribute to the offertory via **on-line banking**. To do this, the Archdiocese of

Toronto will need to send you your unique account number.

Please e-mail campaign@archtoronto.org.

In the body of your email to the Archdiocese, write (1). *Your name*, (2). *Your address*, (3). *Parish Name*, and (4). *Municipality*. You will be emailed your account information which you can use to set up the Archdiocese of Toronto as a payee in your on-line banking. Your gift will be forwarded to our parish. You can make a one time or recurring gift to our offertory.

Thank you for your many contributions to our parish community. I'm looking forward to the day that we all gather to celebrate our faith at our home parish church of St. John of the Cross.

Sincerely,
Fr. Joyson

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

CHILDREN'S ONLINE CATECHESIS:

Grades 2, 3, and 4

Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30pm

Topic for June 3:

Church



DAS! 19 to 29 year-olds

A friendly space to
Discuss-Ask-Share.
Thursdays, 7:00-8:00pm

Topic for June 4:
*Can only Christians
be saved?*



Email the Parish Office if you are interested to participate in this young adult gathering.

Pope at Mass: the Holy Spirit brings harmony within us and among us

Reflecting on the liturgy of the day, the Pope explained that thanks to the Holy Spirit, the disciples' worries disappeared. Rejuvenated by the Spirit, he said, their lives were changed, and he pointed out that "far from being an abstract reality: he is the Person who is most concrete and close, the one who changes our lives". "How does he do this?" the Pope asked: "The Holy Spirit did not make things easier for them," he said, "he didn't work spectacular miracles, he didn't take away their difficulties and their opponents. The Spirit brought into the lives of the disciples a harmony that had been lacking, his own harmony, for he *is harmony*".

Harmony

The Pope said that "seeing the Risen Lord is not enough, unless we welcome him into our hearts."

He explained that it is the Spirit who makes Jesus live within us, raising us up from within.

"That is why when Jesus appears to his disciples, he repeats the words, 'Peace be with you!', and bestows the Spirit," he said. Peace, Pope Francis explained, is not a matter of resolving outward problems, it's about receiving the Holy Spirit.

Only filled with the Spirit, he said, our hearts can be peaceful and we can achieve a harmony so profound that it can

"even turn persecutions into blessings".

"Resolving momentary problems will not bring peace. What makes a difference is the peace of Jesus, the harmony of the Spirit," he



said.

Spirit of peace

Pope Francis said that at today's frenzied pace of life, harmony seems swept aside and often we look for quick fixes.

But more than anything else, he said, we need the Spirit.

"The Spirit is peace in the midst of restlessness, confidence in the midst of discouragement, joy in sadness, youth in aging, courage in the hour of trial," he said.

Without the Spirit, the Pope continued, our Christian life unravels, lacking the love that brings everything together.

"Without the Spirit, Jesus remains a personage from the past; with the Spirit, he is a person alive in our own time. Without the Spirit, Scripture is a dead letter; with the Spirit it is a word of life. A Christianity without the Spirit is joyless moralism; with the Spirit, it is life," he said.

The Pope noted that the Holy Spirit does not bring only harmony *within us* but also *among us*, distributing the great variety of the Church's qualities and gifts creatively.

And on the basis of this variety, he continued, the Spirit builds unity: "From the beginning of creation, he has done this. Because he is a specialist in changing chaos into cosmos, in creating harmony."

Spirit of unity

Underscoring the fact that lack of harmony in today's world has led to stark divisions, the Pope said "There are those who have too much and those who have nothing, those who want to live to a hundred and those who cannot even be born".

He said that in "the age of the computer, distances are increasing: the more we use the social media, the less social we are becoming".





We need the Spirit of unity, Pope Francis said, to regenerate us as Church, as God's People and as a human family.

He decried the temptation to "cling to our little group", to resist all contamination.

"The Holy Spirit, on the other hand, brings together those who were distant, unites those far off, brings home those who were scattered. He blends different tonalities in a single harmony, because before all else he sees goodness," he said.

The Pope continued saying "He looks at individuals before looking at their mistakes, at persons before their actions" and explained that the Spirit shapes the Church and the world as a place of sons and daughters, brothers and sisters.

Those who live by the Spirit, he said, "bring peace where there is discord, concord where there is conflict. Those who are spiritual repay evil with good. They respond to arrogance with meekness, to malice with goodness, to shouting with silence, to gossip with prayer, to defeatism with encouragement".

Pope Francis concluded his homily with the invitation to adopt the Spirit's way of seeing things: "Then everything changes: with the Spirit, the Church is the holy People of God, mission is the spread of joy, as others become our brothers and sisters, all loved by the same Father".

Without the Spirit, the Church is an organization

Without the Spirit, he warned, "the Church becomes an organization, her mission becomes propaganda, her communion an exertion".

"Let us daily implore the gift of the Spirit," he said: "Holy Spirit, harmony of God, you who turn fear into trust and self-centredness into self-gift, come to us. (...) Make us artisans of concord, sowers of goodness, apostles of hope."

SACRAMENTS ARE CONTINUOUSLY CELEBRATED AT ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS PARISH (These did not stop)

Contact the Parish Office for information or to make an appointment:

Baptism
Reconciliation
Matrimony
Anointing of the Sick

Must follow safety and health guidelines.

"With my mouth, ' God says, ' I kiss my own chosen creation. I uniquely, lovingly, embrace every image I have made out of the earth's clay. With a fiery spirit I transform it into a body to serve all the world. "

Hildegard of Bingen

Update from the Archdiocese of Toronto May 27, 2020

The decision to close our parish churches on March 24, 2020, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic was a very difficult one and we recognize the tremendous spiritual sacrifice of the faithful during this time. We also want to do all that we can to minimize the potential spread of Covid-19 in our community.

We know that you have questions and are anxious to return to your local parish. This update will let you know where we are at present and what we've been doing to prepare for the days ahead.

Thank you for your continued patience. We join in collective prayer, anticipating the day that we may all be together once again.

Q. How is the Archdiocese of Toronto preparing for re-opening?

A. Four archdiocesan task forces have been addressing the following pandemic-related issues:

1. Re-opening of churches;
 2. Re-opening of offices;
 3. Financial implications and related issues; and
- Best practices that can be implemented post-pandemic.

We are also working closely with the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario (ACBO) to offer dioceses and churches a consistent approach to re-opening across the province. All this work has been done in consultation with health and safety experts.

We've held virtual town halls with our clergy and staff, to keep them apprised of our plans along the way. Pastors have been communicating directly with the faithful in a variety of ways – through the parish website, by mail, text, phone and through social media.

Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto, has provided regular updates to the faithful. These and other Covid-19 related resources can be accessed by visiting: www.archtoronto.org/covid19.

You can subscribe to receive these updates if you're not already receiving them.

You can subscribe to receive these updates if you're not already receiving them.

Q. Why not re-open the churches now?

A. Throughout this process, we have been part of conversations and meetings with all levels of government to advocate for re-opening places of worship as soon as it is safe to do so. We've also discussed the unique nature of our worship spaces, how we plan to create a safe environment for the faithful and we've shared our draft plans for re-opening.

While we would all like to re-open right away, we must do so thoughtfully and responsibly, as we do everything possible to ensure the safety of all. As Cardinal Collins wrote in his May 7 statement to the faithful, *"We should also recall that we Christians defend the sanctity of human life from the first moment of conception until natural death: in a time of pestilence, that commitment of ours requires us to follow the reasonable norms designed to protect the lives of those around us."*

Q. I understand the Province of Ontario has amended its Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, to allow for drive-in religious services. Can we have an outdoor Mass at my parish?

A. The amendment was passed, however, it contains several restrictions which would not make the celebration of Holy Mass feasible. Parking lot Masses are not permitted in the Archdiocese of Toronto.

Q. When will we re-open churches?

A. That is the question on everyone's minds. Unfortunately, we can't give you a firm date at this time. We rely on the direction of the top health officials in our province who have expertise in pandemic planning. Once they indicate it is safe to do so, we will re-open churches when we are confident that parishes can provide a safe environment for the faithful. We are planning for a phased re-opening, similar to what is being done in churches around the world.

Q. What will it look like when we re-open churches?

A. The re-opening period will require a number of changes from our pre-pandemic operations. We anticipate that capacity limits will be necessary once churches re-open, beginning with smaller numbers and increasing as it is safe to do so. Physical distancing (2 metres/6 feet) measures will also be introduced and our desire to socialize as a faith community will be

limited for a period of time. Enhanced worship space cleaning measures will also be required at and before every Mass. These require significant supplies and volunteers to ensure they are implemented properly. We are working with experts to finalize the specific measures that will be required.

Q. How about weddings, funerals and baptisms? What is the status of these sacramental celebrations?

A. Weddings and baptisms can proceed at present but are limited by the guidelines of local health authorities to 5 people including the celebrant. Funerals continue with a limit of 10 people. We recognize these numbers create anxiety and frustration for many people. We anticipate as churches begin to re-open these numbers will increase. However at this time, we cannot give an indication of what those numbers will be and when they can happen.

Q. What about First Communion and Confirmation celebrations for children of sacramental age that are scheduled to take place around this time of year?

A. These celebrations are not able to take place at this time. Whether these are re-scheduled to the fall or to a date in 2021 is largely dependent on how soon we are able to return to church in greater numbers. We will continue to keep you informed as plans are finalized.

Q. What about candidates for Baptism or reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church that were scheduled to take place at the Easter Vigil?

A. The Baptism of candidates or their reception into the Catholic Church can take place on an individual basis within the limits imposed by the health authorities, of 5 people, including the minister. Alternatively, these liturgical celebrations should be the focus of attention when churches re-open.

Q. Where is Mass televised/offered online?

A. While we recognize it is not the same as attending Mass at your local church, there are many opportunities to watch daily or Sunday Mass. Visit www.archtoronto.org/covid19 and click on “Watch the Mass” – you’ll find options for daily Mass with Cardinal

Collins from St. Michael’s Cathedral as well as links to parish celebrations offered each Sunday (or in some cases more frequently). The daily televised Mass, produced by the National Catholic Broadcasting Council, airs on a number of networks including Salt & Light Catholic Television, YesTV and VisionTV. Consult your local listings or visit www.DailyTVMass.com for a full schedule.

While public Masses are currently suspended, priests across the Archdiocese of Toronto celebrate daily Mass – be assured that your parish priest is praying for you daily throughout this period of pandemic.

Q. How can I help?

A. As noted, we will need significant volunteer assistance as we re-open churches. If you would like to offer your time and talents to assist at your local parish, please contact them and let them know you’d like to help and your availability. You can also visit: www.archtoronto.org/covid19 to learn about additional volunteer opportunities with local charities.

We’ve also been heartened by the many parishioners who have asked how they can continue to financial support their parish. A number of donation options are available including credit card, pre-authorized giving or dropping off your donation at the parish office. You can learn more about financially supporting your parish by visiting [our website](#).

THANK YOU

We recognize this is a particularly challenging time for all. Thank you for your patience during this period of closure. Know that we are working tirelessly to prepare and create a safe environment for you and your loved ones. We want to welcome you back as soon as it is safe to do so!

Please join us in praying for all those who are sick and those who have died during this time of pandemic. We also remember in our prayers those caring for the ill, our health care professionals and the countless front line workers labouring during these difficult days.

We will continue to keep you updated as plans evolve.

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