

Sunday, March 14, 2021

# St. John of the Cross Parish

*Served by the Carmelites*



**Register  
for Mass**

Registration is required for Sunday Holy Mass and for Friday Stations of the Cross. Registrations open every Monday at 8pm. Click Register for Mass to sign up.



**Click here for  
Live Stream**

Saturday 6pm Holy Mass is livestreamed. Click 'Click here for Live Stream' to join in.

## AddMe

To receive parish notifications, weekly bulletin and Sunday Mass link, click **AddMe** to be added into the Parish Email List.

## LOCKDOWN SCHEDULE

### RECONCILIATION

Contact the parish office to make an appointment.

### BAPTISM

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 for download. Email the completed forms to the parish office.

### PRIVATE PRAYER

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. Please call the office before you leave your house to ensure that someone is available to open the door when you get here.

### 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 office.

### PARISH OFFICE:

6890 Glen Erin Drive, Mississauga, ON L5N 2E1

Phone: 905.821.1331 \* Fax: 905.858.8486

E-mail: [office@sjocross.org](mailto:office@sjocross.org)

Parish Website: [www.sjocross.org](http://www.sjocross.org)

Office is closed on Monday afternoons and all day Sundays. In other times, please call to make an appointment.

### PASTORAL TEAM

Fr. Joyson George, O.Carm, Pastor Ext. 228

[pastor@sjocross.org](mailto:pastor@sjocross.org)

Fr. Felix Antony, O.Carm., Assoc. Pastor 224

[frfelix@sjocross.org](mailto:frfelix@sjocross.org)

SECRETARY—Violanta Nicholson 223

RECEPTION — Liane Harris ○

### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

1st Communion & 1st Reconciliation 225

Confirmation, [confirmation@sjocross.org](mailto:confirmation@sjocross.org) 230

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY 305

**LET US BE RELIGIOUS IN FOLLOWING THE  
SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR THE SAFETY &  
HEALTH OF ALL.**

***LET US LIVE OUT CHARITY!***

**SOCIAL DISTANCE— WASH HANDS OFTEN**

**- WEAR MASK PROPERLY—DISINFECT**

**THE SPACE THAT YOU USE**

**GO OUT FOR ESSENTIAL REASONS ONLY.**



WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT



There is a promise of marriage this Saturday, March 20th between

JOHN FAUSTINO & CHRISTINE ALEGRE

Please pray for this couple as they prepare for their wedding.

“Love that leads to marriage is a gift from God and a great act of faith toward other human beings.”

DAILY MASS READINGS

Table with 2 columns: Date and Readings. Rows include dates from March 15 to March 21 with corresponding biblical references.

BEREAVEMENT SESSIONS

Registration for the April Bereavement Sessions begin April 13th on Tuesdays from 6 pm to 8 pm. Sessions will be held outside at Aquitaine Park.

Grieving is the most difficult of journeys and is the price we pay for loving someone. We need one another to support and nurture our healing to help ease the pain of separation.

Suffering a loss during this pandemic is even more difficult due to COVID-19 19 restrictions.

Please contact Muriel Haney for more information at Muriel1066@bell.net

SJOC COMMUNITY ROSARY

During the lockdown, SJOC Parish Community gathers in virtual prayer every Thursday from 7-8pm.



This Thursday, March 18th, we will be doing the Community Rosary in front of the statue of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in the rotunda. We will greet, sing, and pray. We will offer our intentions to her powerful intercession. After our virtual gathering, we will have a chance to sit in silence, for private prayer. See you there!

Click to register:

https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEpcuGvrjloHNCpvyYAXKG-taBcSeEPYfKdT

“Prayer is the best weapon we possess. It is the key that opens the heart of God.” - Padre Pio

Two Steps to E-Transfer:

- 1) send donations to: admin@sjocross.org
2) send a separate email message to admin@sjocross.org with your Security Answer, your Name, Phone number, and purpose of this fund. i.e: mass intention and the date the mass intention is offered, weekly/monthly donation.

**INCOME TAX PREPARATION**

*For Eligible Individuals*

Free income tax preparation for low income individuals is offered by the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP), coordinated by the Canada Revenue Agency. Contact the parish office to check eligibility and to book an appointment on Saturdays from 9 AM to 11:30 AM, during the months of March and April.

Due to the current restrictions, all tax preparation will be completed by way of telephone interview with the approval of the taxpayer.

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

To qualify for the CVITP program, the income requirements are as follows:

- \$35,000 for a single person who has no dependents
- \$45,000 for a single parent and 1 child plus \$2,500 per additional dependent
- \$45,000 for a couple plus \$2,500 per dependent

The clinic does not complete tax returns for individuals with rental income, capital gains, self-employment / business income or returns for deceased individuals.

Interest income must be below \$1,000.

**Friday 7pm Stations of the Cross and Holy Mass, Saturday 6pm, and Sunday Masses requires registration. Registration opens on Mondays at 8pm.**

**TAX RECEIPTS**

Tax receipts 2020 are ready for pick up. Please pick them up when you come for Saturday/Sunday Communion Service.

**Tax receipts can also be emailed to you.**

lease email the parish office at office@sjocross.org.

*Thank you for your generosity!*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Monday, March 15, 9am**

1. For the soul of Clarence Rodgers, requested by friends of the family
2. For birthday & thanksgiving blessings for Serene, requested by mum
3. For the souls of Elisabeth & Alfred Zeitler, requested by Margit Smith
4. Thanksgiving for blessings received, requested by Diana and Ashwin

**Tuesday, March 16, 9am**

1. For thanksgiving & birthday blessings for Kevin Fernandes, requested by Kyle, Sean & Sandra
2. For the soul of Especia Perez, requested by the Yap Family
3. For the soul of Maria Helena Moniz, requested by John & Aida Almeida & Family

**Thursday, March 18, 9am**

1. For the soul of Felicia Lawrence, requested by Christine Lawrence & Family
2. For the soul of Joe D'Souza (Goa), requested by D'Souza & Fernandes Families
3. For the well-being of Pope Francis, requested by Robert & Hedy

**Friday, March 19, 9am**

1. For the souls of Avis & Vernon Jobity, requested by Erva Joseph
2. Thanksgiving to St. Joseph, requested by the Nicholson Family
3. For the healing of Nadine & Adrian Kenny, requested by a parishioner

**Saturday, March 20, 9am**

1. For the soul of Augustine Charlie Desouza, requested by the Desouza family

**Saturday, March 20, 5pm**

1. For the soul of Crod Maranan, requested by Cristina Rivera
2. For the soul of John Fernandes, requested by Fernandes Family
3. For the souls of Michael and Laura Joseph, requested by Jolene and Noel
4. For the birthday blessings for Greg, requested by the Lee family

**Sunday, March 21, 8am**

1. For birthday thanksgiving and blessings for Ashley Eugene, requested by Heather Desouza and family

**Sunday, March 21, 10am**

1. For the healing and quick recovery of Ron Patrick, requested by his wife and family

*For these intentions, we pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayers.*

## 4th SUNDAY OF LENT REFLECTION

### Second Scrutiny Sunday

A man born blind from birth encounters the Lord Jesus. Jesus *spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the pool of Siloam"—which means Sent. So he went and washed, and came back able to see.*



There is always a deeper spiritual reality taking place in the Gospels. The physical healing of the man born blind is pointing toward a spiritual healing that the Lord desires to accomplish within us. When we come into contact with Jesus Christ, our blindness is corrected.

Let's apply this Scrutiny to our own lives. We all come into this world blind—in a way. I've never heard of a baby entering into this world with eyes wide open. Our eyes are closed at birth and slowly—very slowly a baby begins to adjust to the new environment. They are not living in fluid any longer! No wonder they scream!

When we come into this world, we are all blind in many ways.

Our eyes need time to adjust to the intensity of the light. As our eyes open, a whole different world is set before us.

Even after we receive the Sacrament of Baptism as children and are made children of God, we need to be instructed in the Faith. We need to be instructed to choose the good and to avoid evil.

Our spiritual vision needs to be awakened. We do not come into this world knowing that we have a supernatural destiny. That has to be told to us. We do not come into this world knowing that God the Father sent His Only Begotten Son into the world to save us from our sins. All of these truths from Divine Revelation have to be taught and explained to us.

Baptism disposes us to receive the Truth of Divine Revelation. The Grace that we receive in Baptism has to be nourished and cultivated or the world, the flesh and the devil will damage our ability to see with the vision of Faith.



Over the course of our lives, even though we may have raised in the Faith and received the Sacraments, we develop a vision problem.

Perhaps we develop spiritual cataracts that keep us from perceiving the Truth of Divine Revelation.

Through encountering the God-Man Jesus Christ in the Sacraments, He corrects our "vision problem."

May I suggest making a thorough examination of conscience this Lent and make it a priority to receive the Sacrament of Penance (Confession) before Easter. Maybe there is something in your life that you have never brought up in Confession, perhaps because you didn't know how to say it or out of embarrassment. It might be something that is preventing us from seeing with the eyes of Faith in a clear manner. Don't be afraid to confess it, drop it and move on.

In the Sacraments, our "vision problem" is corrected and we are given beginning of the vision of a supernatural reality that ends in Eternal Life with the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in the Glory of Heaven.

There and only there, will our "vision problem," be fully corrected.

*Father John Paul/ National Catholic Register*





Archdiocese  
of Toronto

March 12, 2021

Earlier today, the provincial government announced changes to the restrictions on places of worship currently in the Grey (Lockdown) Zone. As of Monday, March 15, 2021, churches in this designation (in the archdiocese, currently Toronto and Peel Regions) will be permitted 15 per cent capacity for religious services.

This is a significant improvement from the hard cap of 10 people that has been in place for several months and it is a more balanced approach in light of the recently relaxed restrictions in other sectors.

## **Your Voices Were Heard**

A week ago, we launched the “A Place to Worship” campaign, inviting the faithful to contact their Member of Provincial Parliament to ask for a fair and balanced approach to restrictions for places of worship. More than 13,000 letters were written, with 80 per cent sent within 48 hours of the request. I am grateful to all those who participated in the campaign.

Earlier this week, a diverse group of faith leaders had the opportunity to meet virtually with Premier Ford, Minister Elliott and Dr. Williams to discuss our concerns. I wish to extend my profound gratitude to the provincial government for sharing generously of their time and for the healthy dialogue that was exchanged.

I know that many Members of Provincial Parliament also advocated for a just and equitable approach for places of worship, on behalf of their constituents, and I thank them as well.

## **WorshipSafe Health & Safety Protocols**

As Catholics, the source and summit of our spiritual life is participation in the Eucharist. The faithful have not been able to experience this reality since December 2020 in Toronto and Peel.

In light of today’s announcement, I have asked churches in these areas to begin celebrating public Masses as soon as they are able to implement our WorshipSafe health and safety protocols, as early as March 15, 2021 and no later than Thursday, March 18, 2021. Please contact your local parish for more details regarding their plans.

**Sunday, March 14, 2021**

These safety protocols have been in place since our re-opening in June 2020. From June to December of last year, with attendance of 1.5 million, fewer than 50 people who attended our churches reported COVID-19 cases; none of their cases was traced back to the church as a source of community transmission and there is no evidence that they infected others while at church.

## **Continued Vigilance**

I do wish to stress that the Grey (Lockdown) Zones are still very much in areas where positive cases of Covid-19 are highest in the province. We must continue to take the necessary steps, out of love for neighbour, to protect one another. We recognize the vast majority of the faithful will not be attending services in person.

In addition to our WorshipSafe measures, livestreaming of services will continue and dispensation from the Sunday Eucharist remains. The elderly, those with compromised immune systems or other health conditions should be encouraged to exercise extreme caution about any outings, including attendance at church.

## **A Time for Christian Love**

This is a time of great emotional and spiritual trauma, and people need the strength offered by faith. Whether it has been comforting the family grieving the loss of a parent, praying with a spouse who has experienced domestic violence, or assisting a suicidal parishioner suffering from isolation and insecurity in the midst of the pandemic, faith communities continue to be on the front line of prayer, care and outreach.

We will continue to safely and thoughtfully support those who need us most during this period of pandemic, as we continue to pray for those who are sick, those who have died and those who continue to care for them.

Thank you once again to all those who engaged in respectful dialogue with their elected Member of Provincial Parliament. May God continue to bless you now and always.

Sincerely in Christ,

***† Thomas Card. Collins***

Thomas Cardinal Collins

Archbishop of Toronto

## LONG TERM COMMITMENT TO OUR NEIGHBOOR IN NEED

The **Society of Saint Vincent de Paul**, at the parish level offers food, food vouchers, clothing, furniture and whatever items our benefactors give to us to pass on to our neighbours in need.

### Last year 2020 St John of The Cross Vincentians accomplished:

251 Home Visits. We Visited

142 Adults & 100 Children.

We delivered over; 300 cartons of food, 50 boxes of diapers, wipes, depends and toiletries

We gave out \$50,455.00 in food vouchers and 484 bus tickets.

### ADDITIONALLY, WE:

Paid Utilities

Bought Tables, Chairs, Beds and Mattresses

Twinned with Our Lady of Angels Church, Kingston Jamaica

Last Christmas, we spent \$5,475.00 in food vouchers and gave \$9,680.00 in gift cards

Christmas 2020 we served 73 families. We also gave them food hampers We have no age limits and do not need any documentation.

Last September, we distributed 54 x \$100.00 vouchers (\$5400.00) to children towards back-to-school costs.

### OUR MOST IMPORTANT ROLE HOME VISITS

On our home visits we also brought information on programs that could help people to help themselves. That is our most important role.

"A hand up rather than just a hand out."

Our 36 volunteer members spent 846 hours providing services to our Neighbors In Need despite the Covid 19 pandemic.

We always remember that it is only with the great unending generosity of our parishioners, schools and benefactors in the community that makes this possible. Thank You

### FOR INFORMATION:

St. John of the Cross, 6890 Glen Erin Drive, Mississauga, 905-821-1331 Ext 305.



### Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

St John of The Cross Conference

Registration # 132410671RR0429

(All funding is from the poor box).

Sunday, March 14, 2021

# STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Every Friday at 7pm during Lent followed by  
the Eucharistic Celebration.

Access the livestream from the parish  
website, [www.sjocross.org](http://www.sjocross.org)  
and click on Live Stream.

*“We adore you, O Christ, and we praise You.”*

*“Because by your holy Cross You have redeemed  
the world.”*



Sunday, March 14, 2021



# FISH & CHIPS KNIGHT

**Saturday, March 27, 2021**

\$12 per meal or \$11 for 5 meals & above  
Curbside pick-up @ St. John of the Cross Church  
between 4pm – 6pm



**Avoid disappointment & reserve your meal by  
Wednesday, March 24.  
[FishnChips Order Form](#)**

Contact Allan Matthews 647.448.0649 or Trevor Phillips 647.229.7356  
e-transfer: fishnchips12706@gmail.com  
Password: fishnchips