St. John of the Cross Parish



PARISH OFFICE

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PASTORAL TEAM

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Fr. Felix Antony, O.Carm., Assoc. Pastor	224
FAntony@archtoronto.org Liane Harris, Pastoral Associate	226
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Secretary—Violanta Nicholson	223
VNicholson@archtoronto.org	
Reception—Diane Mejia	221
SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION	
1st Communion & 1st Reconciliation	225
Confirmation, confirmation@sjocross.org	230
St. Vincent de Paul Society	305

RECONCILIATION After the 9am Masses Mon. to Saturday or by 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.

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.

Served by the Carmelites

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

Monday to Friday: 9:30am—4:30pm Saturday:9:30am –1:00pm Sunday: 9:30am—1:30pm



Registration is required for in-person participation in the weekend Holy Masses: Saturday at 5pm; Sunday at 8am, 10am, 12noon, & 4pm.



All 9am morning masses, Monday to Saturday and the Saturday 5pm (Sunday Mass) Holy Mass will be livestreamed.

AddMe

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

PLEASE OBSERVE SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR EVERYONE'S SAFETY:

- 1. 6-ft distancing
- 2. Wear mask
- Sanitize your hands when you come inside the church

Two Steps for E-Transfer:

- 1) Send donations to: admin@sjocross.org
- 2) Send a separate email message to

<u>admin@sjocross.org</u> with your Security Answer, your Name, Phone number, and purpose of this fund.

BULLETIN DEADLINE—MONDAY AT NOON

DAILY MASS READINGS				
January 10	1 Samuel 1:1-8; Mark 1:14-20			
January 11	1 Samuel 1:9-20; Mark 1:21-28			
January 12	1 Sam. 3:1-10,19-20; Mark 1:29-39			
January 13	1 Sam.4:1c-11; Mark 1:40-45			
January 14	1 Sam.8:4-7,10-22a; Mark 2:1-12			
January 15	1 Samuel 9:1-4,17-19,10:1a; Mark 2:13-17			
January 16	Isaiah 62:1-5; 1 Cor 12:4-11; John 2:1-12			

MILESTONE MARRIAGE MASS

As part of Marriage Sunday 2022 celebrations, Bishop Robert Kasun, CSB, will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples celebrating milestone anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+) in 2022. The Mass will take place at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 13 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto). Due to social distancing measures, cathedral attendance is limited to pre-registered couples celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries and a maximum of one guest per celebrant couple. Given the limited attendance at the cathedral, we encourage milestone celebrants to register early. Please visit <u>www.archtoronto.org/marriage</u> to register.

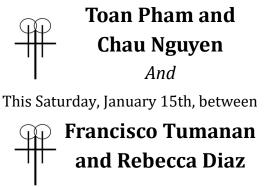
FIRST COMMUNION REGISTRATION MEETINGS

The First Communion Registration scheduled on January 16th and 18th for parents with children going for First Communion this year is postponed until further notice.

"Thank you for your commandments, Lord, that lead and guide me along your path. Amen."

WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is a promise of marriage this Tuesday, January 11th, between

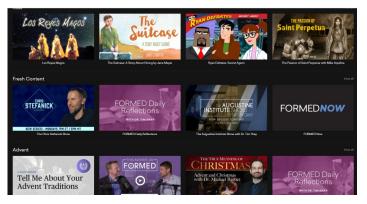


Let us pray for these couples as they prepare for their wedding.



Free sign up for St. John of the Cross parishioners.

https://formed.org/signup



2022 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

These are now available for pick-up and are on the table outside the parish office. Envelopes are numerically arranged. There is a list on the table to refer to, if needed. Please inform the office if your address has changed.

"... Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." Matthew 19:14



FAMILY ACTIVITY FOR THE WEEK: 1st Sacrament: BAPTISM

Happy New Year, guys! Hope you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year holidays. We had a mild weather most of the time which makes it easier to go outdoors.

This Sunday , January 9th, is the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus. Talking about baptism, do you know that Baptism is one of the seven sacraments in the Catholic Church? In fact, it is the first sacrament! In other words, a person cannot receive the other sacraments like Confirmation, 1st Communion, Reconciliation (often times called Confession), etc. without first being baptized. Baptism is the sacrament that makes one a child of God and once you are a child of God, you can receive all the other gifts that God has planned to give you And He has a LOT of gifts to give you ... when the time is right.

Baptism also makes one a member of God's Church. So, every Sunday, all the members of God's Church gather together in the church to pray together, to sing, AND to eat! It's a heavenly celebration that we participate in every Sunday Mass Actually, in every Mass, whatever day it is.

Talking about Baptism again, do you know what is needed in baptism? Well, aside from the child to be

baptized, the parents and godparents, we also need the water and the prayers. Ask Mom or Dad to get your family bible and read the book of Matthew, Chapter 28, Verse 19. You will see that Jesus said to baptize in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. And that is what the celebrant (a priest or deacon) does. He pours water on the head of the child to be baptized as he says, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen." And the person is baptized, a child of God, member of the Church, and freed from the original sin. *Praise the Lord!*



BAPTISM WORD SEARCH AT SJOC PARISH

Ρ	Ρ	Y	G	Α	Α	Μ	D	N	Α	R	G	0	Ρ
Ι	Α	Μ	Н	Т	G	С	G	R	Α	Ν	D	Ρ	Α
В	С	R	Т	С	F	Ρ	R	Ι	Ε	S	Т	N	W
F	Α	Y	Ε	Υ	R	0	R	Η	N	Ε	G	В	Α
Α	N	R	Ε	N	Α	U	Н	Α	Α	Α	Α	F	Т
Μ	D	Т	R	Н	Т	Μ	Н	R	G	В	F	Α	Ε
Ι	L	G	Ι	F	Т	S	Ε	С	Y	R	R	D	R
L	Ε	Ρ	R	Ι	Ε	S	J	D	Y	0	J	0	Α
Y	Т	Ρ	Μ	С	F	Α	Т	Η	Ε	R	Α	R	N
S	R	Ε	S	L	Т	N	Α	Α	W	Α	Н	0	R
G	Ε	N	С	Н	F	Α	F	G	J	Ε	С	F	D
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Ε	Α	F	U	Ε	Т	R	Η	Ρ	Y	S	Α	S	Α

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 10, 9am

- 1. Thanksgiving for Blessings Received, requested by Raymond D'Souza & Family
- Thanksgiving for the 52nd Wedding Anniversary of Dennis & Julie Martins, requested by the Rodrigues Family

Tuesday, January 11, 9am

- 1. For the soul of Junita Vaz, requested by the D'Souza & Vaz Families
- 2. For the 20th Wedding Anniversary of Deborah & Raj Serro, requested by the Serro Family
- 3. Thanksgiving Birthday Blessings for Ella Desouza, requested by the Desouza Family
- 4. Thanksgiving Birthday Blessings for Mervyn Rodrigues, requested by the Rodrigues Family

Wednesday, January 12, 9am

- 1. For the souls of Mariano & Annie Lewis, requested by Marcus Antao & Family
- 2. For the souls of Porforio & John D'Souza, requested by the D'Souza Family
- 3. For the souls of Antonio & Remedios Magallanes, requested by Remy Barry

Wednesday, January 12, 7pm

1. For the soul of Monica D'Souza, requested by Nina Tobias & Family

Friday, January 14, 9am

- 1. For the soul of Lawrence Lewis, requested by the Nicholson Family
- 2. For the soul of Pluciano Dias, requested by Marcus Antao & Family

Saturday, January 15, 9am

1. For the soul of Clarence Rodgers, requested by the Rodgers Family

Saturday, January 15, 5pm

- 1. For the soul of Hector Crasto, requested by the Family
- 2. For the soul of Andrew Rottenberg, requested by Jose & Cristina Velez

Sunday, January 16, 8am

1. For the deceased members of the Martins & Rodrigues families, requested by the Rodrigues Family

Sunday, January 16, 12pm

- 1. For the soul of Stella Fernandes, requested by Percy Castelino & Family
- 2. For the soul of Rudolph Roche, requested by Nelly Roche & Family

PRAYER OF REPENTANCE

Loving Father, I am sorry for all the ways I have offended You, knowingly and unknowingly. I have sinned in what I have done and in what I have failed to do. I

come before You and ask for the grace of a deeply repentant heart. Heavenly Father, forgive me for all my sins, faults



and failings and for the times I have gone astray from You. Amen.

CATHOLIC FAITH Q & A:

Q: If the mother is baptized and thus freed from Original Sin, how is it that her child is born with Original Sin?

A: Human parents can supply to their children only the fallen human nature that came from Adam and Eve. They cannot supply what is divine and supernatural.

Even in terms of mere human nature, parents are only able to supply the basic elements. So, for example, the child receives from his parents a brain and an intellect, as basic elements that come with human nature. But parents cannot transfer at conception their knowledge of language, or mathematics, or history to the child. The child must acquire this for himself, with the help of others.

If this is the case with human nature, it is even more so with the supernatural life of grace. The mother may be baptized, and free of Original Sin, but she cannot communicate this to her child, only God can. And thus she must bring her child to the Lord for baptism, who begins a saving work in which the child must grow.

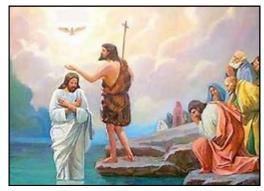
Msgr. Charles Pope, Sunday Visitor

BULLETIN DEADLINE—MONDAY AT NOON

Reflections of the Baptism of the Lord

Origin of baptism: Neither John nor Jesus invented baptism. It had been practiced for centuries among the Jews as a ritual equivalent to our Confession. Until the fall of the Temple in 70 AD, it was common for Jewish people to use a special pool called a *Mikveh* -- literally a "collection of water" – as a means of spiritual cleansing, to remove spiritual impurity and sin. Men took this bath weekly on the eve of the Sabbath; women, monthly. Jesus transformed this continuing ritual into the one single, definitive act by which we begin our life of Faith. In effect, He fused His Divine Essence with the water and the ceremony.

The turning point: Jesus' baptism by John was a mystical experience that Jesus felt deep within his soul at the crucial turning point of his life. The opening of the Heavens with Holy Spirit descending as a dove upon Jesus, and the Voice declaring of Jesus, "This is My beloved Son with Whom I am well pleased," are God's revelation to mankind of the Mystery that He is Triune. The presence of the Triune God at this baptism, reveals Jesus' true identity and mission. The Heavens' opening also indicates that this was a moment of God's powerful intervention in human history and in the life of His



Son. His baptism by John was a very important event in the life of Jesus. First, it was a moment of <u>decision</u>. It marked the end of Jesus' private life, which had prepared him for his public ministry. Second, it was a moment of <u>identification</u> with his people in their God-ward movement initiated by John the Baptist (quality of a good leader). Third, it was a moment of <u>approval</u>. Jesus might have been waiting for a signal of approval from his Heavenly Father, and during his baptism Jesus got this approval of himself as the Father's "beloved Son." Fourth, it was a moment of <u>conviction</u>. At this baptism, Jesus received certainties (assurances) from Heaven about his identity and the nature of his mission: a) He was the "Chosen One" and the "beloved Son of God"; b) his mission of saving mankind would be fulfilled, not by conquering the Romans, but by becoming the "suffering servant" of God, i.e., by the cross. Fifth, it was a moment of <u>equipment</u>. When He descended on Jesus in the form of a dove (symbol of gentleness), the Holy Spirit equipped Jesus with the power of healing, and that of preaching the "Good News" - that God is a loving Father, Who wants to save all human beings from their sins through His Son.

Life messages: 1) The baptism of Jesus reminds us of our **identity and mission**. First, it reminds us of **who we are** and **Whose we are**. By Baptism we become the adoptive sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters of Jesus, members of his Church, heirs of Heaven and temples of the Holy Spirit. We become incorporated into the Church, the Body of Christ, and made sharers in the priesthood of Christ [CCC #1279].

<u>2) Jesus' baptism reminds us of **our mission**</u>: To <u>experience the presence of God within us</u>, to acknowledge our own dignity as God's children and to appreciate the Divine Presence in others by honoring them, loving them and serving them in all humility; <u>and to accept both the good and the bad experiences of life as the gifts of a loving Heavenly Father</u> for our growth in holiness;

3) <u>This is the day for us to **remember the graces we have received in Baptism and to renew our Baptismal promises:** On the day of our Baptism, as Pope St. John Paul II explains, "We were anointed with the Oil of Catechumens, the sign of Christ's gentle strength, to fight against evil.</u>

Let us ask Our Lord today to make us faithful to our Baptismal promises. Let us thank Him for the privilege of being joined to His mission of preaching the "Good News" by our transparent Christian lives of love, mercy, service, and forgiveness. [Excerpts from Fr. Anthony Kadavil, Vatican News]

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