St. John of the Cross Parish



PARISH OFFICE

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PASTORAL TEAM

Fr. Joyson George, O.Carm, Pastor Fr.JGeorge@archtoronto.org	Ext. 228
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

St. Villent de Paul Socie

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 HOURS

Monday to Friday: 9:30am—4:30pm and 6:00-8:30pm Saturday: 9:30am –12:00pm and 3:15-6:15pm Sunday: 9:30am—1:30pm

MASS TIMES

Mondays to Saturdays: 9:00am Additional Mass on Wednesdays: 7:00pm Additional Mass on 1st Fridays: 7:00pm Sundays: 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm, and 4:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass at 5:00pm on Saturday

AddMe

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



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

PLEASE OBSERVE SAFETY PROTO-COLS FOR EVERYONE'S SAFETY:

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

Two Steps for E-Transfer:

- 1) Send donations to: <u>admin@sjocross.org</u>
- 2) Send a separate email message to <u>admin@sjocross.org</u> with your Security Answer, your Name, Phone number, and pur-

pose of this fund.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 21, 9am

- 1. Thanksgiving Birthday Blessings for Ashley Eugine, requested by the DeSouza Family
- 2. Blessings for Marie Harrison, requested by Marie
- 3. For the soul of Sylvia Hessing, requested by Charmaine & Kenneth Lynch & Family

Tuesday, March 22, 9am

- 1. Blessings for Marie Harrison, requested by Marie
- 2. For the Healing of James Harrison, requested by the Family

Wednesday, March 23, 9am

- 1. For the soul of Ernest Ambrose, requested by the Robson Family
- 2. For the soul of Sylvia D'Cunha, requested by Valerian & Blanche Lewis
- 3. For the soul of Antony Pallippatt, requested by a Parishioner

Wednesday, March 23, 7pm

- 1. For the soul of Stanislaus Devotta, requested by Trevor & Albina
- 2. For the soul of Antony Pallippatt, requested by Fernandes & D'Souza Families

Thursday, March 24, 9am

- 1. For the soul of Ida Maria Lewis, requested by the Nicholson Family
- **2.** For the soul of Manuel De Jesus Garcia, requested by the Garcia Family

Friday, March 25, 9am

- 1. For the conversion of Cleve, requested by the Family
- 2. For the soul of Alice Lewis, requested by Valerian & Blanche Lewis

Saturday, March 26, 5pm

- 1. For the soul of Mark Tavares, requested by the Tavares Family
- 2. For the soul of George Fernandes, requested by the Tavares Family
- 3. For the soul of Phillip Christopher, requested by the D'Silva Family

Sunday, March 27, 8am

1. For God's Blessings on Gordon Pratt, requested by Brenda Pratt

- 2. For the soul of Thomas Kavanagh, requested by Mike & Colleen Kavanagh
- 3. For the soul of Thomas Cleary, requested by Mike & Colleen Kavanagh

Sunday, March 27, 12pm

1. For the soul of Roland Lopez, requested by the Lopez Family

SEEKING GARDENING VOLUNTEERS

The Gardening Committee has lost a few volunteers for work or family reasons and is looking for new ones. The Committee will meet on Tuesday mornings from 9:00 am to about 11:00 am May to September. No gardening experience is necessary. If you can spare the time, please call Al at 416 970 9242.



PRAY FOR THE ELECTS

Please pick a name from the Basket of the Elects in the rotunda and pray for that person as he/she prepares to



receive the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil and become a member of the Church.

They need your support and prayers. *Thank you!*



Easter Mass Cards are now available at the parish office for \$3 each.

PARISH LENTEN MISSION

The Seven Last Words



Fr. Henry Alva OFM Cap. Monday to Wednesday March 28th–30th

7:00рм-9:00рм

Fr Henry Alva, a student at St Aloysius College, Mangaluru, completed his formation for priesthood with the Capuchins and was ordained in 1987. He served as a missionary in Papua New Guinea for 12 years and as the rector of 'Deena Seva Ashram', Institute of Philosophy, Bengaluru for six years.

Fr Henry Alva has been residing in Canada for the past twelve years. He is well known for his dedicated spiritual services for Capuchins, various parishes and prayer groups and especially for the Konkani community in Canada. By profession, he is a counselor. He is an experienced family and marriage therapist and helps many families. He is also a very good teacher and teaches counseling at 'Toronto Institute of Pastoral Counseling Education.

Fr Henry Alva became the first priest who preached Lenten retreat in Konkani organized by Mangalorean Association of Canada during the Holy season on Lent nine years ago. He is a very popular personality in Canada not only amongst communities of Indian origin but also with faithful of different nationalities. His loveable nature and inspiring homilies makes him extra-special. He is truly a great gift for youth in Canada who always guides them to a right path based on gospel values.

Mark_your calendar!



DAILY MASS READINGS		
March 21	2 Kings 5:1-15a; Luke 4:24-30	
March 22	Daniel 3:25,34-43; Matt. 18:21-35	
March 23	Deut.4:1,5-9; Matthew 5:17-19	
March 24	Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23	
March 25	Isaiah 7:10-14,8:10d; Heb. 10:4-10 Luke 1:26-38	
March 26	Hosea 5:15b-6:6; Luke 18:9-14	
March 27	Joshua 5:9a,10-12; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Luke 15:1-3,11-32	

Register for **The Mass** program and the way you look at the Mass will never be the same again.



Plunge yourself into this 5-week in-person journey. Additional info in this bulletin.



"Dr. Sri's best-selling study program, *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass*, has been a blessing for thousands over the past decade. ... We need to recommit ourselves to the central act of our faith with passion and joy. This marvelously written aid will help us join ourselves to the Lord as he offers himself to the Father in the Sacrifice of the Mass."

Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput OFM Cap.

Stations of the Cross every Friday evening at 7pm during Lent followed by the Holy Mass.

Mind Fasting

Fasting from judging others Fasting from idle gossip Fasting from lying to make ourselves look good Fasting from the scourge of envy Fasting from resentments and grudges Fasting from some vice or addiction.

Spirit Feasting

Feasting on gratitude for what we have Feasting on reconciliation Feasting on optimism and hope Feasting on kindness, compassion, and forgiveness. Feasting on patience and appreciation of others Feasting on love.

Fr. Max Oliva S.J.

Baby Bottle Campaign!



The Baby Bottle Campaign is drawing to a close! Thank you so much for

your support! Please bring your bottles back to church next week – March 26th and 27th!

Thank you and God bless!



"... 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: PRAYER

We are into the 3rd pillar during Lent, boys and girls: Prayer!

Of course, we pray every day, right? We pray in school, at home, and in the church. Sometimes, we pray by ourselves, and sometimes, with others. Praying is keeping our friendship with God strong. We tell Him about our day, we tell Him about what makes us happy or sad, we tell Him about everything and anything. After all, He is our bestest friend, right?

During Lent, there's other kinds of prayers that we

can also do, especially with the family. For example, you can do the **Stations of the Cross** together. Do you know that doing the Stations of the Cross is like going on a time travel 2000 years



backwards? As you move from station to station, it's like going from spot to spot in Jerusalem where Jesus walked. You and your family can do the Stations of the Cross right here at St. John of the Cross Church. You can join the whole community at 7pm every Friday during Lent or you can come at any other time when the church is open.

Another practice you and your family can do during Lent is to come to church and just visit the



tabernacle a few times a week. This is called **Visiting.** You can sit, kneel and just being there with Jesus. As Catholic Christians, we believe that Jesus is pre-

sent in the Blessed Sacrament. When we sit with Him, He also sits with us. Isn't that wonderful?

Let's see What other special things can we do during Lent that relates to prayer?

Ask Mom and Dad, boys and girls. They may have some ideas.

Looking forward to see you all in church!



After the Holy Mass, please wait for the priest to reach the back of the church before leaving.

2021 TAX RECEIPTS

Tax receipts 2021 are ready for pick up at your convenience.

If you prefer that your receipt be emailed to you, please email the parish office at

sjocrossmi@archtoronto.org

Thank you for your generosity!

CATHOLIC FAITH Q & A:

Q: What are the rights and responsibilities of a godparent?

A. According to the Code of Canon Law the godparent is to be an adult who, "together with the parents will help the baptized to lead a Christian life in harmony with baptism, and to fulfill faithfully the obligations connected with it" (Canon 872).

The Church's tradition teaches that the obligation of a godparent is serious. He or she is gravely bound to cooperate with the parents to insure that the godchild is raised in the Catholic faith and fulfills the obligations expected of a believing Catholic. When the parents neglect their duty in this regard, the godparents must do everything possible to provide their godchild with the necessary Catholic training needed to live a life consistent with the Church's teachings. In our day, many godparents do not recognize the gravity of this obligation. Their responsibility for the Catholic upbringing of their godchild continues through life. Of course the godparents are to exercise great charity and prudence and respect for the rights of the parents. Nevertheless the godparents' responsibility remains.

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 12:00 PM, 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.

To qualify for the CVITP program, the income requirements (Approx.) 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, selfemployment / business income or returns for deceased individuals.

Interest income must be below \$1,000.

Answered by Fr. John Hardon S.J.

BEREAVEMENT SESSIONS

Registration for the April Bereavement Sessions is now open. Sessions begin April 5th on Tuesday evenings from 6 pm to 8 pm. All sessions will be held in the Seminar room in person.

Grieving is the most difficult of journeys but 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 from our loved ones.

Suffering a loss during the pandemic has been even more difficult as we need socialization and someone to lean on. Please contact Muriel Haney for more information at **Muriel1066@bell.net** and be sure to include your phone number.

Masks will be required.

A Biblical Walk Through **THE MASS**



with our Lord all over again!



The Mass is nothing short of amazing. Through it, we encounter God in the most <u>intimate</u> way possible as we hear him speak to us in the Liturgy of the Word and as we receive him Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist.

The words, the gestures, and the rituals of the Mass are rich in meaning. *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass* explores the extraordinary biblical roots of the Liturgy and reveals what it all means and why it all matters. This fascinating tour of the Mass will renew your faith and deepen your love for and devotion to the Holy Eucharist.

Registration fee of \$42 includes the book, workbook, and video access.

Sessions are in-person every Tuesday for 5 weeks starting on May 10th, from 7:00-8:30pm.

Register at the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Registration deadline: Sunday, April 3rd.

Couples may share the study materials.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Friday Nights STATIONS OF THE CROSS followed by Holy Mass 7pm March 28th–30th PARISH MISSION by Fr. Henry Alva OFM Cap. 7pm-9pm **PARISH RECONCILIATION** April 5th 7pm-9pm April 9th/10th PALM SUNDAY Saturday, April 9th, 5pm Sunday, April 10th 8am, 10am, 12pm, 4pm April 14th HOLY THURSDAY Holy Eucharist with Washing of 8pm-12am the Feet followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament April 15th **GOOD FRIDAY** Stations of the Cross (Youth) 10:00am **Celebration of the Passion of Our Lord** 3:00pm 7:00pm **Celebration of the Passion of Our Lord** April 16th HOLY SATURDAY **Easter Sunday Vigil Mass** 8:00pm April 17th EASTER SUNDAY 8am, 10am, 12pm, 4pm April 24th **DIVINE MERCY Prayer by Parish Prayer Group** 3pm

PARISH MOVIE NIGHT Thursday, March 31st 6:30-8:30pm



One of the cinema's most intensely powerful movie-going experiences, The Passion of the Christ has become a critically acclaimed, global boxoffice phenomenon. It depicts the final twelve hours in the life of Jesus of Nazareth, on the day of his crucifixion in Jerusalem.

Click to register:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/ tZItcuipqDovHdXQ6Hn0JN3zVfsmv4mSmzrI

Check link



Pope Francis' Lenten Message:

Sow Seeds of Goodness

In his message for Lent 2022, Pope Francis invites the faithful to sow seeds of goodness, so that we might reap a harvest of salvation for ourselves and others.

By Christopher Wells

Pope Francis based his Message for Lent 2022 on a passage from St Paul's Letter to the Galatians, "Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all" (6:9-10).

God's Co-Workers

Beginning with the image of sowing and reaping, the Holy Father points out that "Lent invites us to conversion, to a change in mindset, so that life's truth and beauty may be found not so much in possessing as in giving, not so much in accumulating as in sowing and sharing goodness."

God, he explains, is the first to sow, sowing "abundant seeds of goodness in our human family." During the period of Lent, "we are called to respond to God's gift" by listening to His Word, so that it might "bear fruit in our lives." In this way, we become "God's co-workers," which is a grace of sharing in God's own "bountiful goodness."

Reaping the Harvest

This, in turn, leads to a harvest. When we sow seeds of goodness and kindness, "no matter how small," in our own lives, we radiate light and carry "the fragrance of Christ to the world." Recalling the Gospel proverb, "one sows, while another reaps," Pope Francis reminds us that "we see only a small portion of the fruits we sow." The Pope explains that "sowing goodness for the benefit of others frees us from narrow self-interest, infuses us our actions with gratuitousness, and makes us part of the magnificent horizon of God's benevolent plan."

Prayer, Fasting, and Charitable Giving

The Holy Father goes on to connect Paul's words to the Galatians to the traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fast-

ing, and almsgiving. "Let us not grow tired of praying," he says, realizing that we need God and others. "Let us not grow tired of uprooting evil from our lives," embracing fasting in order "to fortify our spirit for the battle against sin," especially through the sacrament of Confession and by fighting against concupiscence. "Let us not grow tired of doing good in active charity towards our neighbour," giving joyfully and generously to others, especially those in most need.

Pope Francis says that each year during Lent "we are reminded that 'goodness, together with love, justice, and solidarity, are not achieved once and for all; they have to be realized each day."

Do Not Grow Tired of Doing Good

He concludes his message by reminding us that "the soil is prepared by fasting, watered by prayer, and enriched by charity." He invites us, once again, not to grow tired of doing good,

2 ShareLife



1st Sharelife Collection next weekend, March 26-27.

Your contribution helps fund the much needed programs in our community.

Thank you for your generosity!

