

Sunday, December 21, 2025

# Fourth Sunday of Advent



## St John of the Cross Parish

<b>PARISH OFFICE</b>	<b>PARISH OFFICE HOURS</b>
6890 Glen Erin Drive, Mississauga, ON L5N 2E1 Tel: 905.821.1331 E-mail: <a href="mailto:sjocrossmi@archtoronto.org">sjocrossmi@archtoronto.org</a> Website: <a href="https://stjohnofthecrossmi.archtoronto.org">https://stjohnofthecrossmi.archtoronto.org</a>	Monday to Friday: 9:30am - 4:30pm and 5:30 - 8:30pm Saturday: 9:00am–12:00pm and 3:15- 6:15pm Sunday: 8:30 am 1:30pm
<b>PASTORAL TEAM</b>	<b>MASS TIMES</b>
Fr. Joyson George, O.Carm, Pastor Ext. 228 <a href="mailto:Fr.JGeorge@archtoronto.org">Fr.JGeorge@archtoronto.org</a> Fr. Joby Joseph, O.Carm, Associate Pastor Ext. 224 <a href="mailto:joby.joseph@archtoronto.org">joby.joseph@archtoronto.org</a> Deacon Mark Romeo 229 <a href="mailto:mromeo@archtoronto.org">mromeo@archtoronto.org</a> Deacon Ferdinand D'Souza <a href="mailto:fdsouza@archtoronto.org">fdsouza@archtoronto.org</a> Liane Harris, Pastoral Associate LHarris@archtoronto.org 226 Violanta Nicholson, Secretary VNicholson@archtoronto.org 222 Diane Mejia, Reception 221	Mondays to Saturdays: 9:00am Additional Masses on Wednesdays & 1st Fridays: 7:00pm <b>Sundays:</b> 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm, and 4:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass at 5:00pm on Saturday <b>RECONCILIATION</b> 6:00- 6:45pm before Wednesday 7pm Mass or appointment. <b>SICK AND HOMEBOUND</b> Please contact the office.
<b>SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION</b>	<b>Two Steps for E-Transfer:</b>
1st Communion/1st Reconciliation <a href="mailto:Sjoc-firstcommunion@archtoronto.org">Sjoc-firstcommunion@archtoronto.org</a> 225 Confirmation, <a href="mailto:Sjoc-confirmation@archtoronto.org">Sjoc-confirmation@archtoronto.org</a> 230 Youth Group, Ryan Belluz, <a href="mailto:RBelluz@archtoronto.org">RBelluz@archtoronto.org</a> 222	<b>1) Send donations to:</b> <a href="mailto:admin@sjocross.org">admin@sjocross.org</a> <b>2) A separate email message to</b> <a href="mailto:admin@sjocross.org">admin@sjocross.org</a> with your answer, your, Tel. number, & purpose of this fund.
<b>BAPTISM</b>	<b>MARRIAGE</b>
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 completed forms to the parish office.	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.
<b>AddME</b>	<b>Live Stream</b>
To receive parish notifications, weekly bulletin & Sunday Mass link, click <b>AddMe</b> to be added to the Parish Email List.	All 9am masses, Monday to Saturday, & the Saturday 5pm (Sunday Mass) Holy Mass are live streamed. <div>  <a href="#">Click here for Live Stream</a> </div>

**BULLETIN DEADLINE—MONDAY AT NOON, TWO WEEKS BEFORE**

Sunday, December 21, 2025



## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

**Christmas Candlelight Carol Service**  
Sunday, December 21st, 6:00pm

**Christmas Eve Mass**  
Wednesday, December 24th  
4pm, 6pm, 8pm, 10pm, and Midnight 12am



**Christmas Day Mass**  
Thursday, December 25th  
10am and 12pm

**New Year's Eve Mass**  
Wednesday, December 31st  
4pm and 6pm

**Mary, Mother of God Mass  
(New Year's Day)**  
Thursday, January 1st  
10am and 12pm

### ADVENT WREATH PRAYER AT HOME



#### Lighting of the 4th Candle

All four candles are lit on the fourth Sunday, followed by the prayer.

#### Let us pray.

Stir up Thy might, we pray Thee, O Lord, and come; rescue us through Thy great strength so that salvation, which has been hindered by our sins, may be hastened by the grace of Thy gentle mercy. Who livest and reignest for ever and ever. Amen.



The Alpha Marriage Course will start on Feb 1st to March 22nd 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm  
For course inquiries, please contact: sjocalpham@gmail.com  
For preview and more details, visit: www.themarriagecourse.org



Scan for more info and to register

Alpha Marriage Course will start on Feb. 1st—March 22nd. Scan QR code for details.

### BAKE SALE FOR BAPTISMAL FONT

The Parish Women's Group is holding the last Bake & Book Sale of the year this weekend, December 20th-21st to raise funds towards the purchase of the Baptismal Font for the church. They will also have a book sale of religious books and auction of religious statues.

*Come! Debit, credit, or cash is accepted.*

Thank you for your support!

*Merry Christmas to you all!*



*Glory to God in the highest; and on earth peace to people of good will.*

### SEASON OF CHRISTMAS

The season of Christmas begins with evening prayer on Christmas Eve & concludes with the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, observed on January 11, 2026.

The season is marked by the many feasts of Christmas: Mary, the Mother of God, the Epiphany of the Lord, and the Baptism of the Lord. The Sunday within the octave of Christmas is celebrated as the feast of the Holy Family.

The Christmas season also contains the two holy days of obligation: the Birth of Christ (Dec. 25th) and the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God (Jan. 1).

The evening Masses on Christmas Eve (December 24th) are celebrations for the Birth of Christ.

The birth of Jesus begins the events that culminate in the events of his death and resurrection: the paschal mystery. The liturgy already looks forward to Easter: "He has come to raise the fallen world to himself, to make creation whole again, & to lead humanity from exile back to your heavenly kingdom."

### A Prayer for Peace in the World at Christmas

Dear Lord, during this Christmas season, I pray for peace in our world. In a time filled with conflict and strife, may the message of Christ's birth resonate in the hearts of all people. Help us to be instruments of Your peace, spreading love and goodwill wherever we go. Let the spirit of Christmas inspire us to seek understanding and harmony with our neighbors. May leaders and communities come together towards resolutions that foster unity and hope. I ask that Your peace reign in our hearts, homes, and throughout the world. Amen.



The Blessed Sacrament Adoration Chapel is open on Dec. 24, 8am-9pm & on Dec. 25, 8am-1:30pm.

Please do not park at the Meadowvale Bible Baptist church parking lot across the street. They need their parking space for their services.

There will be no 9am Holy Mass on Wed., Dec. 24.

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**BULLETIN DEADLINE—MONDAY AT NOON, TWO WEEKS BEFORE**



## MASS INTENTIONS

### Monday, December 22, 9am

1. For the Birthday & Anniversary Blessings of Zeno & Marina, requested by Marina
2. For the Spiritual Healing of Cleve, requested by the Family
3. For the Repose of Enemesia Generale & Loreto Lee, requested by Oscar & May Lee
4. For the Repose of Babu Paul, requested by Anna Babu

### Tuesday, December 23, 9am

1. For the Repose of John Benjamin, requested by the Benjamin Family
2. For the Repose of Maria Alicia Sifontes, requested by her Friends
3. For the Repose of Arthur Fernandez, requested by Glen & Cyrena Fernandez
4. In Thanksgiving & Birthday Blessings for Christine Reyes, requested by Christine Reyes
5. For the Repose of Teofila Talana, requested by the Permejo Family
6. For the Repose of Sheila Pinto, requested by Marilyn Bansod

### Wednesday, December 24, 4pm

1. For the Repose of Pedrinho Rodrigues, requested by his Family
2. For the Repose of Ana Paula De Souza, requested by Annunciation Da Cunha
3. For the Repose of Barbara Reinhart, requested by the Family
4. For the Repose of Rita & Bob Reed, requested by the Williams Family

### Wednesday, December 24, 6pm

1. For the Repose of Leanne Rodgers, requested by Mom & Dad
2. For the Repose of Angela Thomas, requested by the Robson Family

### Wednesday, December 24, 8pm

1. For the Repose of Simone & Robert Young, requested by Kim, Renee & Families
2. For the Repose of Lucy D'Souza, requested by the Gomes Family
3. For the Repose of Gregory & Piedad Coutinho, requested by Ashley Coutinho & Family
4. For the Repose of Bella Gomes, requested by Ayres Gomes & Family
5. For the Repose of Peter Carlo Braganza, requested by Priscilla Braganza & Family
6. For the Repose of Christopher Gomes, requested by Ayres Gomes & Family

### Thursday, December 25, 10am

1. For the Repose of Katherine & Stanislav Bobnic, requested by the Jensen, Bobnic & St. John Families
2. For the Repose of Barbara Reinhart, requested by the Family

### Thursday, December 25, 12pm

1. For the Deceased Members of the Flores Family, requested by the Family
2. For the Deceased Members of the Del Socorro Family, requested by the Family
3. For the Repose of Agapilo Del Socorro, requested by the Flores Family

### Friday, December 26, 9am

1. For the Repose of Bernice Joseph, requested by Gillian Gordon & Family
2. For the Repose of Arsenio Sebastian Sr., requested by the Sebastian Family
3. For the Repose of Zofia Ziemak, requested by Joanna & Pawel Kurnat

### Saturday, December 27, 9am

1. In Thanksgiving for Blessings & Graces Received, requested by the Chaves Family

### Saturday, December 27, 5pm

1. For the Repose of Pius & Effie Goveas, requested by Doris Goveas
2. In Thanksgiving & Wedding Anniversary Blessings for John & Sabrina Fernandes
3. For the Repose of Mary Fernandes, requested by her Family
4. For the Repose of Robert D'Silva, requested by Louisa D'Silva & Family

## BALLAD OF ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

The *Romances* of St John of the Cross offer perhaps the most theologically rich and tender meditation on the Incarnation in all Christian literature. Writing in ballad form, John imagines the eternal conversation within the Trinity about humanity's redemption.

In these verses, we overhear the Father speaking to the Son about creating humanity:

*A bride who will love you  
Is what I want to give you, My Son,  
One who deserves you  
And who at your side  
Could eat bread at our table  
The same as I.*

When sin enters, the Father grieves:

*I see that if I desire to give him  
Someone who to him is equal,  
I can find her only  
In the likeness of your beauty.*

The Son's response captures the heart of Christmas:

*Then I shall go and seek my bride  
And take upon myself  
Her weariness and labours  
In which she suffers so.*



***Wishing you and your loved ones  
a very Blessed Christmas!***

CHURCH		
Mon	Dec 22	Adult Choir 6:30-9:00pm
NESSINGER HALL		
Sat	Dec 27	Men's Fraternity 6:00-9:00am
BASEMENT LISIEUX ROOM		
Mon	Dec 22	Joyful Worship Choir 7:00pm

5. For the Repose of Lydia D'Costa, requested by Sathu & Vita D'Sa Family
6. For the Repose of Tina Gurrieri, requested by Cora Linda Penney
7. In Thanksgiving for Blessings & Graces bestowed upon this parish community and for my loved ones, requested by Liane

### Sunday, December 28, 8am

1. For the Repose of Yorrick DeSouza Sr., requested by the DeSouza Family
2. For the Repose of Peter Kien Hoang, requested by Le Hoang

### Sunday, December 28, 10am

1. For the Repose of Joe & Louisa D'Souza, requested by Sandra & Craig D'Souza
2. For the Repose of Paul Alan Sciberras, requested by the Family
3. For the Repose of Linda Abranches, requested by Wellington & Ruby Abranches & Family
4. For the Repose of Geraldine DeCruze, requested by her Family

### Sunday, December 28, 12pm

1. In Thanksgiving & Birthday Blessings for Christine & Mai Nguyen Barry, requested by Remy Barry



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