

Sunday, February 23, 2025



Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven.

— Luke 6:37

St. John of the Cross Parish

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6890 Glen Erin Drive, Mississauga, ON L5N 2E1 Tel: 905.821.1331 E-mail: sjocrossmi@archtoronto.org Website: https://stjohnofthecrossmi.archtoronto.org		Monday to Friday: 9:30am - 4:30pm and 6:00 - 8.30pm Saturday: 9:00am–12:00pm and 3:15- 6:15pm Sunday: 8:30 am 1:30pm	
PASTORAL TEAM		MASS TIMES	
Fr. Joyson George, O.Carm, Pastor Fr.JGeorge@archtoronto.org	Ext. 228	Mondays to Saturdays: 9:00am Additional Masses on Wednesdays & 1st Fridays: 7:00pm Sundays: 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm, and 4:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass at 5:00pm on Saturday	
Fr. Joby Joseph, O.Carm, Associate Pastor joby.joseph@archtoronto.org	Ext. 224	RECONCILIATION 6:00- 6:45pm before Wednesday 7pm Mass or appointment.	
Deacon Mark Romeo mromeo@archtoronto.org	222		
Deacon Ferdinand D'Souza fdsouza@archtoronto.org		SICK AND HOMEBOUND Please contact the office.	
Liane Harris, Pastoral Associate LHarris@archtoronto.org	226	Two Steps for E-Transfer:	
Violanta Nicholson, Secretary VNicholson@archtoronto.org	223	1) Send donations to: admin@sjocross.org	
Diane Mejia, Reception	221	2) A separate email message to admin@sjocross.org with your answer, your, Tel. number, & purpose of this fund.	
SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION		MARRIAGE	
1st Communion/1st Reconciliation Sjoc-firstcommunion@arctoronto.org	225	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.	
Confirmation, Sjoc-confirmation@archtoronto.org	230	Live Stream All 9am masses, Monday to Saturday, & the Saturday 5pm (Sunday Mass) Holy Mass are live streamed.  Click here for Live Stream	
Youth Group, Sjoc-youthministry@archtoronto.org			
Vincent de Paul Society	305		
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 completed forms to the parish office.			
AddME			
To receive parish notifications, weekly bulletin & Sunday Mass link, click AddMe to be added to the Parish Email List.			

BULLETIN DEADLINE—MONDAY AT NOON, TWO WEEKS BEFORE

BLESSED SACRAMENT ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration is a deeply significant practice in the life of a Catholic. This act of devotion allows the faithful to spend time in the real presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Adoration not only strengthens one's personal relationship with Christ but also provides a space for peace, silence, and reflection amidst daily life.



It is a time for silent prayer, meditation, and encountering God's love in a tangible way. As we kneel before the Blessed Sacrament we remember that the Eucharist is the center of our faith. In addition, praying before the Blessed Sacrament is an opportunity to intercede for the needs of the world, our communities, and our families. It is an act of humility and surrender, where we recognize our dependence on God and seek his grace to live as authentic disciples of Christ.

The Parish Adoration Chapel is a place of silent, personal prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

**Along the Mystical Carmelite Way
Aspects of Carmelite Prayer**

The Carmelite method of prayer begins with the understanding that prayer involves a relationship. The creature responds to the Creator's loving initiative through the gift of personhood. God created human beings in his image and likeness precisely so that a relationship of love might develop. This relationship begins with the particular attraction the soul experiences and grows through frequent meditation and contact (i.e. prayer).

God approaches individual souls in various ways: for example, as a Friend, Bridegroom, Savior, Father, Child, Brother, Truth, King, and so on. He does so to elicit love. The soul must discover its chief attraction as a starting point and respond to this love.

For instance, St. Teresa of Avila (1515-1582) developed an intense love for Jesus as her closest friend. Her famous definition of prayer reveals this: "Mental prayer, in my opinion, is nothing else than an intimate sharing between friends; it means taking time frequently to be alone with Him whom we know loves us." (Life 8:7) Similarly, she says elsewhere, "Believe me, you should remain with so good a friend as long as you can ... Do you think it's some small matter to have a friend like this at your side?" (Way 26:1)

St. John of the Cross distinguished himself by a passionate love for Jesus crucified and for Jesus as the Bridegroom of the soul. St. Thérèse of Lisieux (1873-1897), was noted for her love of the Child Jesus, God the Father, and Jesus as the suffering servant of Isaiah 53. St. Teresa Benedicta (Edith Stein) was attracted to Jesus as Incarnate truth.

How about you? Who is God to you?



Participating in the Divine Nature through the 3 Theological Virtues

The human virtues are rooted in the theological virtues, which adapt man's faculties for participation in the divine nature: for the theological virtues relate directly to God. They are the foundation of Christian moral activity; they animate it and give it its special character. They inform and give life to all the moral virtues. They are the pledge of the presence and action of the Holy Spirit in the faculties of the human being. There are three theological virtues: faith, hope, and charity.

Faith is the theological virtue by which we believe in God and believe all that he has said and revealed to us, and that Holy Church proposes for our belief, because he is truth itself. By faith "man freely commits his entire self to God."

For this reason the believer seeks to know and do God's will.

The disciple of Christ must not only keep the faith and live on it, but also profess it, confidently bear witness to it, and spread it.



Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit.

The virtue of hope responds to the aspiration to happiness which God has placed in the heart of every man; it takes up the hopes that inspire men's activities and purifies them so as to order them to the Kingdom of heaven; it keeps man from discouragement; it sustains him during times of abandonment; it opens up his heart in expectation of eternal beatitude.

Charity is the theological virtue by which we love God above all things for his own sake, and our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God.

The practice of all the virtues is animated and inspired by charity, which "binds everything together in perfect harmony"; it is the form of the virtues; it articulates and orders them among themselves; it is the source and the goal of their Christian practice.

The fruits of charity are joy, peace, and mercy; charity demands beneficence and fraternal correction; it is benevolence; it fosters reciprocity and remains disinterested and generous; it is friendship and communion: Love is itself the fulfillment of all our works.

(Catechism of the Catholic Church, CCC)

Faith Formation Q & A:

What changed in the world as a result of the Resurrection?



Answer: Because death is now no longer the end of everything, joy and hope came into the world. Now that death "no longer has dominion" (Rom 6:9) over Jesus, it has no more power over us, either, who belong to Jesus. (CCC 655, 658)

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, February 24, 9am

1. For the Repose of Sherwin Dique, requested by the Dique Family
2. In Thanksgiving for Blessings Received, requested by Ena Barrett
3. For the Repose of Mary D’Costa, requested by the Family

Tuesday, February 25, 9am

1. For the Repose of Sherwin Dique, requested by the Pereira Family
2. For the Repose of Thomas Appili, requested by Norman Kutemperor
3. For the Birthday Blessings of Michael Fernandes, requested by the Fernandes Family
4. For the Repose of Nelly Parna, requested by the Herrera Family

Wednesday, February 26, 9am

1. For the Repose of Bertha D’Costa, requested by the Rodgers Family
2. For the Repose of Bertha Monteiro, requested by Earl & Indira Coutinho

Friday, February 28, 9am

1. For the Repose of Ammini & George Chacko, requested by the Benjamin Family
2. For the Repose of Thome Fernandes, requested by the Fernandes/deSouza Family
3. In Thanksgiving & Birthday Blessings for Joyce Gulati, requested by the Gulati Family
4. For the Birthday Blessings of Dolores Macaraeg, requested by Hazel Fouts

Saturday, March 1, 9am

1. For the Souls in Purgatory & Unborn Babies, requested by the Chaves Family
2. In Thanksgiving & Birthday Blessings of Bob Nairn, requested by Josephine Luetke
3. For the Birthday Blessings of Dorita Regio, requested by the Family

Saturday, March 1, 5pm

1. For the Repose of Jose Romao Escorcio, requested by Zeferina Escorcio & Family
2. For the Repose of Robert D’Silva, requested by Louisa D’Silva & Family

Sunday, March 2, 12pm

1. For the Repose of Hermie & Anthony Mascarenhas, requested by Lloyd & Marie D’Souza
2. For the Repose of Yvonne & Arthur D’Souza, requested by Lloyd & Marie D’Souza
3. For the Repose of Cynthia Mary Paguandas, requested by the Family

Coffee Sunday this weekend!

We thank the Lectors Ministry for hosting the Coffee Sunday after all Sunday Masses this weekend, February 22nd & 23rd.

Come, enjoy the fellowship in the rotunda and get to know another parishioner!



2024 TAX RECEIPTS

2024 Tax Receipts are ready for pickup. Kindly verify the address on the receipt to make sure that you are picking up your own Tax Receipt.

If you prefer to receive an email copy of your tax receipt, please email the parish office at sjocrossmi@archtoronto.org



PANCAKE SUPPER

Tuesday, March 4, 2025

5:30pm-7:30pm

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Secondary School
3700 Trelawny Circle, Mississauga

TICKETS \$7.00 each or 5 for \$30.00

Tickets will be sold after all Sunday Masses on
February 22-23 & March 1-2

A ShareLife fundraiser.

FREE 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. Each appointment will be about 30 minutes.

Tax preparations can be done in-person or by telephone interview. Let the accountant know when they call you to confirm your schedule.



There will be a Building Fund Collection next weekend for the ongoing projects in the church. *Thank you for your generosity!*

God’s love for us is not greater in heaven that it is now.—St. Thomas Aquinas

CHURCH

Mon	Feb. 24	Adult Choir 7:00-8:30pm
Tue	Feb. 25	Joyful Worship Choir 7:00-8:30pm
Wed	Feb. 26	Band Choir 8:00pm
Thurs	Feb. 27	Folk Choir 7:00pm-8:30pm
Sat	Mar. 1	Children’s Choir 10:00am

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS ROOM

Wed	Feb. 26	PTC Crafts 1:00-3:00pm
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NESSINGER HALL

Mon	Feb. 24	RCIA 7:00-9:00pm
Tue	Feb. 25	PTC Line Dancing 1:00-3:00pm
Tue	Feb. 25	Parish Bible Study 7:00-8:45pm
Wed	Feb. 26	CIC 6:00-6:45pm
Thurs	Feb. 27	Alpha Program 7:00-9:00pm
Fri	Feb. 28	PTC Event 6:00-9:00pm
Sat	Mar. 1	Men’s Fraternity 6:00am-9:00am
Sat	Mar. 1	Lay Carmelites 9:00am-3:00pm

BASEMENT CARMELA

Fri	Feb. 28	GPS Kids Bible Study 6:00pm
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BASEMENT LISIEUX ROOM

Wed	Feb. 26	Sacramental Preparation 6:00-7:30pm
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