

Sunday, June 28, 2026

St John of the Cross Parish Happy Canada Day!

Happy
Canada
DAY

**GOD KEEP OUR LAND
GLORIOUS AND FREE**



<p>PARISH OFFICE</p>	<p>PARISH OFFICE HOURS</p>
<p>6890 Glen Erin Drive, Mississauga, ON L5N 2E1 Tel: 905.821.1331 E-mail: sjocrossmi@archtoronto.org Website: https://stjohnofthecrossmi.archtoronto.org</p>	<p>Monday to Friday: 9:30am - 3:00pm Saturday: 9:30am–12:00pm and 3:15- 6:15pm Sunday: 9:30 am 1:30pm</p>
<p>PASTORAL TEAM</p> <p>Fr. Joyson George, O.Carm, Pastor Ext. 228 Fr.JGeorge@archtoronto.org Fr. Joby Joseph, O.Carm, Associate Pastor Ext. 224 joby.joseph@archtoronto.org Deacon Mark Romeo 229 mromeo@archtoronto.org Deacon Ferdinand D’Souza fdsouza@archtoronto.org Liane Harris, Pastoral Associate LHarris@archtoronto.org 226 Violanta Nicholson, Secretary VNicholson@archtoronto.org 222 Diane Mejia, Reception 221</p>	<p>MASS TIMES</p> <p>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</p> <p>RECONCILIATION</p> <p>6:00- 6:45pm before Wednesday 7pm Mass or appointment.</p> <p>SICK AND HOUNBOUND</p> <p>Please contact the office.</p>
<p>SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION</p> <p>1st Communion/Reconciliation Sjoc-firstcommunion@archtoronto.org 225 Confirmation, Sjoc-confirmation@archtoronto.org 230 Youth Group, Sjoc-youthministry@archtoronto.org 223 St.Vincent de Paul Society 305</p>	<p>Two Steps for E-Transfer:</p> <p>1) Send donations to: admin@sjocross.org 2) A separate email message to admin@sjocross.org with your answer, your, Tel. number, & purpose of this fund.</p>
<p>BAPTISM</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>MARRIAGE</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>AddME</p> <p>To receive parish notifications, weekly bulletin & Sunday Mass link, click AddMe to be added to the Parish Email List.</p>	<p>Live Stream</p> <p>All 9am masses, Monday to Saturday, & the Saturday 5pm (Sunday Mass) Holy Mass are live streamed.</p> <p> Click here for Live Stream</p>

BULLETIN DEADLINE—MONDAY AT NOON, TWO WEEKS BEFORE

NOT WHAT YOU THINK

Along the mystical, Carmelite Way ...



John's Dark Night: Not What You Think

John identifies two distinct "nights": the 'Dark Night of the Senses' (which comes first) and the 'Dark Night of the Spirit' (which goes deeper). Both are passages, not destinations. Both involve a particular kind of darkness. But this darkness isn't the absence of God. It is too much presence.

Think about staring directly at the sun. The brightness is so overwhelming that it blinds you. Your eyes can't process that much light, so you see darkness instead. That is what John means. God is so intensely present, so radically close, that our normal ways of sensing and experiencing God completely fail.

It is deepening intimacy with God. It is growing beyond images, feelings, and consolations into a more mature relationship with the Divine. It is learning to love God for His own sake, not for how He makes us feel. Common experiences of spiritual "darkness" include prayer feeling completely dry, where the words that once moved you now feel empty and mechanical. Bible reading that used to nourish your soul suddenly leaves you cold and distracted. Going to church feels like going through motions — liturgy that once lifted your heart now just makes you aware of how empty you feel. God seems silent, distant, maybe even absent. John of the Cross would say: Wait. This might not be spiritual failure. This might actually be spiritual growth. God may be weaning you from dependence on spiritual "feelings" and leading you into deeper reality. You are learning to love Him not because prayer feels good or because you get emotional highs from worship, but simply because of who He is — God. It is like a child maturing beyond loving their parents only when they get what they want, learning instead to love them for who they are.

John offers a practical test to help discern whether you are experiencing his Dark Night or simply drifting away from faith. Ask yourself these questions: Do you still desire God, even without "feeling" God? Despite the dryness, is there still a pull toward prayer, toward holiness, toward deeper relationship? Do you feel drawn to silence, solitude, and simplicity more than you used to? Do you find yourself avoiding distractions more naturally than before?

If you answer yes to these questions, you might actually be in what John calls the Dark Night. Which means you are not failing, you are growing.

Excerpt from Carmelite Friars: <https://www.carmelite.uk.net/spirituality/johns-dark-night-not-what-you-think/>



Join us on July 3rd, 9am & 7pm for the

1st FRIDAY HOLY MASS

Followed by:

ADORATION & BENEDICTION

Come, let us worship our Gracious & Merciful God, fully present in the Blessed Sacrament.



Parish Summer Fest



in honour of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Feast Mass on Saturday, July 18th, at 4pm

Outdoor procession reciting the rosary after the Feast Mass followed by the blessing and distribution of the brown scapulars.

Games, music, food, cake, ice cream, BBQ, facepainting, and many other fun activities in the parking lot for everyone after the distribution of scapulars.

All are welcome to come and enjoy as we celebrate Our Lady of Mount Carmel, the heavenly Patroness of the Carmelite Order. The Mass will be at 4pm instead of @ 5pm.

Novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel starts on Friday, July 10th after all Masses.

The Parish Office will be closed on Wednesday, July 1st, for Canada Day. Stay safe as you celebrate our great country with gratitude!

Cardinal Leo's message for Canada Day: <https://www.archtoronto.org/en/outreach/news/archdiocesan/cardinal-leos-message-for-canada-day-july-1-2026/>

Follow SJOC Parish in:



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BULLETIN DEADLINE—MONDAY AT NOON, TWO WEEKS BEFORE

Join us for Canada Day Holy Mass Celebration at 9am followed by the Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help. There will be **no 7pm Mass** on Wednesday, July 1st, Canada Day.



Happy Canada Day!

Such a blessing to live in this beautiful and prosperous land. *Thank you, God!*

We pray for all the people in Canada, that we may learn to value what we have — land, freedom, opportunities, and diversity.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, June 29, 9am

1. For the Repose of Oscar Lopes, requested by the Friends of Oscar
2. For the Repose of Alice Aguiar, requested by the Aguiar Family
3. For Special Blessings on Nadine, Adrian & Max, requested by the Family

Tuesday, June 30, 9am

1. In Thanksgiving & Birthday Blessings for Erva Joseph, requested by the Joseph Family
2. For the Repose of Alice D'Souza, requested by Peter D'Souza & Family

Wednesday, July 1, 9am

1. For the Repose of Iris Menezes, requested by Robert & Hedy
2. In Thanksgiving & Wedding Anniversary Blessings for Kristel & Gyles, requested by John, Sabrina & Family
3. For the Repose of Alice Baptista, requested by the Rodgers Family

Wednesday, July 1, 7pm

1. For the Special Intentions of the Menezes Family, requested by the Menezes Family

Thursday, July 2, 9am

1. For the Repose of Lawrence Lewis, requested by the Nicholson Family
2. For the Repose of Alfredo Fernandes, requested by the Family

Friday, July 3, 9am

1. In Thanksgiving & Birthday Blessings for Mike Rhodes, requested by Heather
2. For the Repose of Ida Maria Antao-Lewis, requested by the Nicholson Family

Friday, July 3, 7pm

1. For the Repose of Aileen Pilapil, requested by the Buhain Family
2. For the Repose of Darwin Raymundo, requested by the Buhain Family
3. In Thanksgiving & Birthday Blessings for Eleanore Flores, requested by Eleanore

Saturday, July 4, 9am

1. For the Repose of Juliana Moraes, requested by the Family
2. In Thanksgiving & Birthday Blessings of Laurencia Flores, requested by the Family
3. For the Repose of Gene Falcao, requested by the Rodgers Family
4. In Thanksgiving for Blessings Received, requested by the Jurado-Tiglao Family

Saturday, July 4, 5pm

1. For the Repose of Douglas Colaco, requested by Angie Mendonsa
2. For the Repose of Juliana Moraes, requested by the Family

Sunday, July 5, 8am

1. For Blessings on the Baptism of Aurora Elizabeth Dristas-Kostruba
2. For the Repose of Maria Staub Kulcsar, requested by the Kulcsar-Dritas Family

Sunday, July 5, 10am

1. For the Repose of Rijina Loka, requested by Amal Loka
2. For the Repose of Wilfred D'Costa, requested by the Rodgers Family

Wishing all our students, teachers, and school personnels a wonderful and safe summer break.



BE PART OF THE SJOC FLOCK!

Text **SJOC** to **514.900.0130**



and receive text notifications from the parish.

CHURCH		
Tues	Jun 30	Joyful Worship Choir 7:00pm
Thurs	July 2	Folk Choir 7:00pm
NESSINGER HALL		
Tues	June 30	Line Dancing 1:00-3:00pm
Sat	July 4	Lay Carmelites 9:00am-3:00pm
BASEMENT CARMEL A ROOM		
Fri	July 3	Prayer Group 7:00-9:00pm

Love God because He is God.

Please be reminded to dress modestly when coming to church. The church is a house of God and our common place of worship.

No low neckline clothing, short, short skirts/dress, no tank tops, backless, nor spaghetti straps.

Thank you for helping keep the church a holy place of prayer.

SUMMER PARISH OFFICE HOURS

(Monday, June 29th to Labour Day, September 7th)

Monday to Friday: 9:30am—3:00pm

Saturday: 9:30am -12:00pm and 3:15-6:15pm

Sunday: 9:30am—1:30pm



There will be a 2nd collection next weekend for the Building Fund. *Thank you for your generosity!*

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