

St. Joan of Arc

Proclaiming and Living the Gospel through Stewardship. All are Welcome.

1701 Bloor Street West Toronto, ON M6P 1B1 www.joanofarc.ca email parish@joanofarc.ca

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Served by the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Robert Langone, SA Pastor (Ext. 1008) frbob@joanofarc.ca

Rev. Alexander Reed, SA Parochial Vicar (Ext. 1002) alex@joanofarc.ca

Mrs. Rosanne Kelly Pastoral Assistant (Ext 1007) parish@joanofarc.ca

Ms. Anne Francis Accounting Office (Ext 1004) finance@joanofarc.ca

Mr. Arturo Gonzalez Religious Education Contact (Ext 1003) religioused@joanofarc.ca

Ms. M.J. Ramos Parish Manager (Ext. 1005) mj@joanofarc.ca

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Servers Call the office

Eucharistic Ministers Catrina Bova

Lectors:
Genia Vanderkruk
10:00AM Choir
Susan McElcheran
Rehearsal: Thursday 7:30 PM
12:00 Noon Choir

Greeters/Ushers: Call the office

CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST

Monday - Saturday 5:30 PM

> Sunday 10:00 AM 12:00 PM

CELEBRATION OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM or by appointment.

BAPTISMS

Arrangements are made through the Religious Education office. Couples expecting a child are encouraged to contact the office before the child is born. Please contact Ext 1003, for more information.

MARRIAGE

Please call Fr. Bob at least one year prior to the planned wedding date.

Pastoral Visitation of the Sick: To arrange for a visit Call the office Ext 1007

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm Wednesdays - Closed

ORGANIZATIONS & ACTIVITIES

Catholic Women's League
4th Monday of the Month

Children's Liturgy 10:00 AM Mass

Creation Care Ministry 2nd Tuesday of each month 7pm.

Development and Peace www.devp.org 3rd Monday of the month 7:00 PM

Merrymakers
3rd Thursday of the month 12:00 PM

Knights of Columbus

1st Thursday of the Month

Parish Council Every two months

St. Vincent de Paul Society 2nd Saturday of the Month 1:00 PM



Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 14 5:30pm Int. of Gregory

Sunday, December 15 10am Lil and Joe Zerebeski † 12pm Parish Community

Monday, December 16 5:30 pm Annie Cornelius †

Tuesday, December 17 5:30 pm Sofia Prus †

Wednesday, December 18 5:30 pm Aida Guiao †

Thursday, December 19 5:30 pm William Trchala †

Friday, December 20 5:30pm Edilia Martin †

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The Sick: Inez Meleca, Charles Coupal, Lucia Xavier da Silveira, Louis Gris, Marianne Chard, Debbie Wagstaff, Mary Kelly, Carmel Foley, Janina Blok, Vivian Gonneau.

The Deceased:

John Robertson, Moya Carton, Edna Schlatau, Cyril Davis.





The Friar's Nook

JOHN THE BAPTIST accompanies us for a large part of the Advent season. We see in him the embodiment of a virtue that is indispensable for enjoying this lasting joy: humility and tolerance. Among his disciples, word spreads that he could be the long-awaited Messiah. Many come to him with questions to guide their own lives: "So what should we do?" (Lk 3:10). But when the Lord's cousin senses the thoughts of their hearts, he does not hesitate to affirm: "I baptize you with water, but one who is stronger than I is coming, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie" (Lk 3:16). Despite his success, despite the true good he accomplishes, John knows that all his activity has full meaning only if it is oriented toward Christ.

Humility helps us to orient our existence toward the greatness of God and tolerance give us patience. Pride, on the other hand, "does not believe that God is so great that he can make himself small, that he can truly come close to us". On the other hand, those who are humble, without denying their own talents or losing the motivation to work in the best way possible, find their joy in bowing down before a child, as the kings of the East or the shepherds did.

"The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds," St. Paul tells us (Phil 4:7). The virtue of humility teaches us that the only important judgment is that of a God who shows himself to us in the face of a smiling child. Every time we approach, through prayer, the concrete love of Jesus, we free ourselves from judgments about ourselves, which often do not correspond to reality and end up robbing us of peace. We discover that God loves us not for what we do or what we do not do, but for what we are: his children. And he also helps us not to judge others and be tolerant. In Bethlehem we can transform our gaze into a humbler gaze, and then become a source of peace and joy for those around us.

Fr. Alexander

Blessed bits of info...Solemnity of Immaculate Conception

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception celebrates the solemn belief in the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is universally celebrated on December 8, nine months before the feast of the Nativity of Mary, which is celebrated on September 8. As Pope Francis said in his Dec. 8, 2013, homily, "Mary sustains our journey toward Christmas, for she teaches us how to live this Advent season in expectation of the Lord. "The day "serves as an eloquent reminder of Mary's eager expectation of the 'Light of the World' and helps members of the family keep their own light of grace burning brightly as the best preparation for his coming."

Christmas Schedule New Year Schedule

Christmas Eve, December 24

5:30 pm Children's Liturgy & pageant 8:00 pm Christmas Liturgy 12:00 am Christmas Liturgy

Christmas Day, December 25

10:00 am Christmas Liturgy *No Evening Mass

*December 26. No Evening Mass

New Year's Eve, December 31 5:30 pm The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

New Year's Day, January 1st

10:00 am Mary, The Holy Mother of God Liturgy *No Evening Mass

January 2nd, regular schedule for evening Mass

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE: CREATE HOPE

There will be the final signing of the Action Card next weekend – Dec. 14/15 along with our Fair Trade Weekend. If you wish, you are invited to take home a Due Diligence PETITION to have signed by family, friends and colleagues and return at our January Fair Trade Weekend (Jan.25/26), a great way to share about peasant and rural communities who feed the world, the challenges they face and how we as Canadians can help. (Note: One Signature only on the Card or the Petition)

French Mass - December 22: We warmly invite you to join us for Mass on Sunday, December 22nd at 5:00 PM, celebrated in French, Come celebrate the season of Advent and prepare your hearts for Christmas in a special way. All are welcome! We look forward to seeing you there!

Living the Gospel through ShareLife NEW: Your gift will double in value! From November 1 until year end, your contribution to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be matched by an anonymous donor up to a total of \$500,000. Your support of ShareLife is improving the lives of our brothers and sisters in the Deaf and hard of hearing community. "If you ever wonder what impact you are making - you are sending Deaf kids to an accessible American Sign Language (ASL) camp in the summer; you are connecting Deaf kids with Deaf mentors; you are inspiring Deaf kids to achieve their dreams; you are teaching family members ASL so they can communicate with their Deaf children. When you give, it goes a long way." - Kelly Mackenzie, Silent Voice Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, or at sharelife.org/donate.

From Mj's Desk: After much prayer, reflection, and with a heart full of gratitude, I have made the decision to step down from my role as Parish Manager to pursue a new career path in teaching, effective January. I am truly humbled by the love, support, and prayers I have received from the St. Joan of Arc community throughout my time here. It has been a great privilege to serve this parish, and I will carry the spirit of this community with me as I move forward. For any parish-related matters, please continue to reach out to the parish office. I hope to have the opportunity to say farewell to many of you in person next weekend after the 5:30 PM Mass and during the Coffee Hour on Sunday. Thank you again for your kindness, encouragement, and prayers. Please keep Marck and me in your prayers as we embark on this new chapter.

Here's a holy little secret...The candy cane is shaped like a shepherd's crook, reminding us that Jesus, the Good Shepherd, came into our world at Christmas. The red stripe symbolizes Christ's sacrifice and the white background His purity. Candy canes have a peppermint flavor, reminiscent of hyssop which had medicinal purposes. The peppermint flavor reminds us that our healing came at the price of Christ's life. The candy cane is meant to be broken and shared, just as Jesus' Body is broken and shared at every Eucharist.

Parish Office Closed:

December 23, 2024 to January 3, 2025

Dates to Remember

Dec 14 – Advent Retreat with La Xaviere sisters 9am

Dec 14/15 – Special Collection for Flowers

Dec 14/15 - D&P Fair Trade

Dec 15 – Christmas Dinner

Dec 19 - Advent day of Confessions 7:30pm

Monthly Offertory 2024

Offertory	November
Envelopes	\$8,745
Loose	\$3,181
PAG	\$6,427
Total	\$18,353

Contributions to the Building Maintenance Fund for the month of November were \$2,782.

ShareLife Campaign Contributions

January to November 2024

Parish \$9,737.50 Through Archdiocese \$24,499.00 Total \$34,236.50

Campaign Parish Goal

\$ 62,800.00

Goal reached 54.5%

For more parish updates, please visit our facebook page www.facebook.com/ **JoanOfArcToronto**



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