

UNITY IN DIVERSITY

"Moved by the Good News of Jesus Christ... We Journey with St. Joseph"

Pastor: Fr. Roshan Loy D'Souza, CSC Secretary/Bookkeeper: Nerie Bernal Custodian: Allan Cobham

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Friday: 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Music Ministry: Megan Montifar & Eric Fahn

PARISH MINISTRIES

Altar Servers
Children's Liturgy
Collection Counters
Communion to the Sick
Lectors & Eucharistic
Ministries
Legion of Mary
Social Action Committee

Parish Council

Finance Council Girl Guides

If you feel called to serve the church through any of these ministries, please call the parish office.

St. Vincent de Paul Society:

The Knights of Columbus: 647-885-7299

St. Joseph Catholic School:

Principal: Eoghan Morishita-Miki

Phone: 416-393-5209

MASS TIMES:

Monday No Mass
Tuesday, & Thursday 9:00 am
Wednesday & Friday 7:00 pm
Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm
Sunday 10:00 am

CELEBRATION OF SACRAMENTS

Sacrament of Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation and Marriage:

Please contact the office to begin the process of preparation.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday before the vigil mass or on request anytime.

Ministry to and Anointing of the Sick:

Please advise us if you have someone ill at home, hospital or in a nursing home so that we can minister to them.

New members please register at the office.

Hall Rental: Please contact the parish office at 416-466-7815.

162 Leslie St. Toronto, ON M4M 3C7

Email: stjosephparishtoronto@gmail.com / stjosephTO@archtoronto.org

Website: www.stjosephTO@archtoronto.org

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT: MARCH 09, 2025



Lent: The Power of Prayer

The liturgical season of Lent can often become crowded and confused as we wrestle with what to give up and how to stay on track, but when we get down to the heart of it, Lent is about only one thing—growing deeper in our relationship with the Lord.

What are the three pillars of Lent? To help keep us on track, the church offers us three pillars to focus our efforts during the 40 days of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. While the practice of fasting during this season is widely known and observed, many are not aware of how to properly incorporate prayer during Lent.

God calls us to begin or strengthen our daily prayer regimen so that we may come to know him on a personal level. If we are truly going to grow in a relationship with Jesus Christ, increasing our time in prayer is exactly where we need to start.

What does Lenten prayer look like? Prayer is our communication with the triune God—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is a two-way relationship of both listening and speaking. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says, "This mystery [of faith], then, requires that the faithful believe in it, that they celebrate it, and that they live from it in a vital and personal relationship with the living and true God. This relationship is prayer" (CCC 2558).

During Lent, we are called to pray as a way to connect with God and reflect on Jesus' sacrifice. Prayer helps us become attuned to God's voice, seek forgiveness and grow closer to him. It's a time for self-reflection and renewal, inviting us to align our lives with God's will. Through prayer, we find comfort, hope and strength in knowing that God is with us during our 40-day journey through Lent and beyond. Many saints have offered their personal reflections on what prayer is and how it unites us to God:

"Prayer is a surge of the heart, it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy." — *St. Therese of Lisieux*. "Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God." — *St. John of Damascus*. "Whether we realize it or not, prayer is the encounter of God's thirst with ours. God thirsts that we may thirst for him." — *St. Augustine*.

If prayer is already a consistent habit in our daily lives, we can try adding something of greater intensity for the season of Lent such as attending daily Mass, praying a whole Rosary or chaplet every day or spending an extended period of time in silent contemplation.

Have a Blessed Lent: Fr. Roshan Loy D'Souza, CSC



REMEMBERING ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, Making a charitable Bequest:

Having a properly made will is one of

the best gifts anyone can leave their loved ones in the event of their passing. It also ensures that charities and causes closest to their hearts will be sustained. By putting the parish in their will, parishioners can help the Church faithfully carry out the pastoral mission entrusted to her by our Lord, for generations to come. For more information, Contact:

St. Joseph Church: 416 466 7815 / 416 518 0276.

The Week Ahead:

Mar 09: First Sunday of Lent

Mar 16: Second Sunday of Lent

Mar 17: St. Patrick , Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Mar 18: St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Mar 19: St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mar 23: Third Sunday of Lent



Archdiocese Come & See Weekend of Toronto Discernment Retreat

The Office of Vocations is hosting a Come & See Weekend Discernment Retreat for single Catholic men 18 years and older, at St. Augustine's Seminary on Friday, March 14, (6:30 p.m.) until Sunday, March 16, (2 p.m.) to cultivate a deeper prayer life and relationship with Jesus Christ; leading to a better discernment of God's call for their lives. There will be time for prayer, reflection and information on the process of becoming one of Christ's disciples as a Catholic priest. For more information, contact the Office of Vocations via email: vocations@archtoronto.org. Registrations must be done online at www.vocationstoronto.ca/comesee

CONTACT: Office of Vocations:

EMAIL: vocations@archtoronto.org -



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT: MARCH 09, 2025



POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION

For March 2025:

For Families in Crisis:

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gift, even in their differences.



Be an ALTAR Server: St. Joseph's Church provides young Catholics in grades 4 through 12 (ages 10 and up) with the opportunity to grow stronger in their faith and become more active in the celebration of the Mass by altar serving. There will be training for both new and returning altar servers and is required prior to being scheduled for Sunday Masses.



Children's Liturgy during every Sunday at 10:00 am Mass: Children's Liturgy is designed to give children a better understanding of the Mass and the readings.

It provides a foundation for learning and participation that will remain with them throughout their lives.



First Holy Communion & Reconciliation Sessions:

Every Sunday at 10:00 am. For us as Catholics, there is nothing greater than to receive Jesus, truly present in the Eucharist at Mass.



Sacrament of Confirmation:

In Confirmation the Christian becomes more closely united with Christ. With the strengthening of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit the Christian is able to accept new responsibilities for witnessing Jesus to the world.

Sessions for the candidates: April 06, 13 & 20. All the candidates are requested to be present for these sessions and the following.

St. Joseph Novena: From March 10, 2025 to March 18, 2025



Easter Basket: April 20, 2025

Mother's Day Basket: May 11, 2025 Father's Day BBQ: June 15, 2025 Karaoke Night: July 26, 2025

Volunteers Appreciation: August 23, 2025



WEEKEND COLLECTION:

March 01-02, 2025 : \$1,151.30

Thank you for your constant support and generous contribution.

Kindly contribute through Pre - Authorized Giving. Forms are available in the foyer.

A Big thanks to Knights of Columbus, Council 9079.



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 09:

10:00 am: † Brenda Malone

Req. Lorie Malone

Sammy, Elizabeth & Liberal Birthdays **Blessings & Family Intentions**

Req. Maria Carmo Oliveira

Healing Intentions—Sofia Salvador

Req. Jocelyn Salvador

March 10: NO MASS Monday,

Tuesday, March 11:

9:00 am: **Special Intentions**

Req. Toni Muise

Wednesday, March 12:

7:00 pm: † For the Unborn

Req. Toni Muise & Marilyn Roberts

Thursday, March 13:

9:00 am: **Special Intentions**

Req. Toni Muise

Friday, March 14:

7:00 pm: † Luz Barral Binoya

Req. Family

Saturday, March 15:

5:00 pm: St. Joseph Parish Community

Legion of Mary's Corner



St. Joseph Parish is pleased to host the Legion of Mary's annual Acies on Saturday, March 22, 2025 from 1:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m. Reception to follow in the

Parish Hall.

Active and Auxiliary members of the praesidium directly attached to the Toronto Senatus are all invited to join and

renew their promises to Mary, Queen of the Legion. Please email Lourdes @lourdeselliott61@gmail.com for details.

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