

# St. Joseph Parish

*Established in 1878*

*Served by the Holy Cross Fathers*



## 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

**Tel:** 416-466-7815 or 416-518-0276

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

**Website:** www.stjosephTO@archtoronto.org



**On the First Sunday of Lent,  
the Church leads us into  
the desert with Jesus.**

The Gospel recounts how, after His baptism, Christ is led by the Spirit into the wilderness where He fasts for forty days and is tempted by the devil. Lent

begins not in comfort, but in the stark silence of the desert—a place of testing, purification, and encounter with God.

The first temptation strikes at a basic human need: hunger. "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." Jesus has fasted for forty days; He is truly hungry. Yet He answers, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." The temptation is not merely about food; it is about self-sufficiency. It is the urge to meet our needs apart from God. In a world that tells us to satisfy every desire immediately, Lent invites us to rediscover dependence. Fasting teaches us that while food sustains the body, God sustains the soul. We are more than our appetites.

The second temptation moves to the pinnacle of the Temple. The devil urges Jesus to throw Himself down, quoting Scripture to suggest that angels will protect Him. Here the temptation is to test God—to demand proof of His care. Jesus replies, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test." How often do we seek dramatic signs or make our trust conditional? We may say, "If God answers this prayer, then I will believe." Lent calls us to deeper trust. True faith does not manipulate God or demand guarantees; it rests confidently in His love, even when no sign is given.

The third temptation reveals all the kingdoms of the world. The devil promises power and glory in exchange for worship. It is the lure of success without sacrifice, kingship without the cross. Jesus responds firmly: "The Lord, your God, shall you worship and Him alone shall you serve." This temptation is timeless. We may not be offered political kingdoms, but we are tempted by status, control, comfort, and recognition. We are tempted to compromise our values for advancement or approval. Jesus shows that true greatness lies in fidelity to God alone.

These temptations echo the story of humanity's first fall. Where Adam gave in to desire, doubt, and pride, Christ remains faithful. He is the new Adam, undoing the disobedience that brought sin into the world. Lent, therefore, is not simply about self-discipline; it is about sharing in Christ's victory. Through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we unite ourselves to His obedience. The desert is not meant to defeat us but to transform us. It reveals our weaknesses, yet it also reveals God's strength. Temptation itself is not sin; even Jesus was tempted. What matters is our response. By grounding Himself in Scripture and trust in the Father, Christ shows us how to stand firm. And as we walk these forty days with Christ, we trust that beyond the trials of Lent lies the joy and victory of Easter.

***Wishing You a Blessed Season Of LENT: Fr. Roshan Loy D'Souza.***



**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 office : 416 466 7815 / 416 518 0276.**



## Archdiocese of Toronto



**OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSELL  
ANNUAL LENTEN RETREAT**

"Lord You are the Saviour of the World,  
Give me living water" (John 4:42, 15)  
Come and join us at our Annual Parish Lenten  
Retreat on Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Theme: "Reconnect, Reflect and Grow Together" This year, we are privileged to have our own Sister Carla Thomas, OP, PhD to lead our Lenten Retreat. This promises to be a very rich exercise and so we encourage everyone to come out and experience God's love. **REGISTER: 416-534-1145**

**WOMEN SILENT RETREAT  
AN IGNATIAN EXPERIENCE OF SACRED EARTH**



This SILENT retreat begins on Friday evening and runs to Sunday with lunch. The suggested offering is \$280 per person which includes two nights' accommodation, meals, spiritual direction and retreat program. Facilitated by: Sr. Mary Rowell, CSJ.

REGISTER: Via email at [manresaregistration@outlook.com](mailto:manresaregistration@outlook.com), online at <https://manresa-canada.ca> or call 905-839-2864.

# FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT : FEBRUARY 22, 2026



## The Pope's Monthly Intentions for: February 2026: For Children with Incurable Diseases

Let us pray that that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.



### Children's Liturgy of the Word

"Let the little children come to me..." (Matthew 19:14) The goal of the Children's Liturgy is to help young children celebrate the Liturgy of the Word in a way that is meaningful and appropriate for their age.

We warmly invite parents to bring their children to the Sunday 10:00 am Mass at St. Joseph's Church and encourage them to take part in this special liturgical experience.

### Calling All Children! Join Our Altar Servers and Children's Choir!

We warmly invite all children to become part of two very special ministries in our church community:



**Altar Servers:** Would you like to help at Mass in a special way? Altar serving is a wonderful opportunity for children to grow in faith, learn more about the Mass, and serve God and the parish. Training will be provided.



**Children's Choir:** Do you love to sing? Join our joyful Children's Choir and help lead the parish in worship through music! Choir members learn new songs, develop their musical gifts, and make new friends.



**Office Of Catholic Youth: Our Vision & Mission:** Our vision is to guide youth and young adults, to Encounter, Love, and Serve, Jesus Christ. Please Join the St. Joseph Youth Group.



### Confirmation Sessions: *For March 1,8,29 & April 5, 12, 2026.*

All candidates preparing for Confirmation are required to attend the classes after the Sunday 10:00 a.m. mass and we request everyone to be present without fail.



**First Communion:** All children who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist are required to attend Sunday Mass regularly.



### WEEKEND COLLECTION:

February 14-15, 2026: \$ 1,192.75

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, February 22 :

10:00 am : † **Loreto Ciervo**

Req. Jocelyn Salvador

### Thanksgiving for Gift of Life

Req. Jaybee Bufete

### Adriann, Veronica Stephanie Birthday Family Intentions

Reg. Maria Carmo Oliveira

### Monday, February 23 : NO MASS

### Tuesday, February 24 :

9:00 am : †

Req.

### Wednesday, February 25 :

7:00 pm : † **Tessie Co Pangga**

Req. Emma Carraagan

### Thursday, February 26 :

9:00 am : † **Brenda Malone**

Req. Family

### Friday, February 27 :

7:00 pm:

Req.

### Saturday, February 28:

5:00 pm: **St. Joseph Parish Community**



Saint Joseph,  
pray for us.

St. Joseph, faithful guardian of Jesus and spouse of Mary, guide and protect us. Teach us humility, patience, and trust in God's will. Watch over our families and work, provide for our needs, and strengthen us in trials. Pray for us now and always. Amen.



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