



St. Joan of Arc

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

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PARISH STAFF

Fr. Anish Alex
Pastor (Ext. 1008)
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Mrs. Joanna Harshman
Parish Manager (ext. 1005)
joanna@joanofarc.ca

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

Mr. Arturo Gonzalez
Religious Education
Contact (Ext 1003)
religioused@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 contact Fr. Anish 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
10:00am to 3:30pm
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

Monday, August 25

5:30pm For the Sick of our Parish
Community

Tuesday, August 26

5:30pm For the Deceased of our
Parish Community

Wednesday, August 27

5:30pm For the Marriages of our
Parish Community

Thursday, August 28

5:30pm Int. of Vivan Prus

Friday, August 29

5:30pm Parish Community

Saturday, August 30

5:30pm Ed Benson †

Sunday, August 31

10am Int. of Tom & Laurie Walton on
50th Wedding Anniversary

12pm Sr. Agatha Resy

SANCTUARY LAMP

(August 24-30)

This week's Sanctuary Lamp
burns for Maria Urbancic †
Please keep her in your prayer.

WE PRAY FOR:

The Sick

Maryann Chard, Mary Kelly
Mark Szuba, Anne Szuba
Ted Daniel, Laura Gill
Sylvia Casper
Cecilia Salazar

The Deceased

Beverly Johnson
Genoveffa Farenga
Aldo Canino
Rose Di Tommaso



The Pastor's Nook

The Prayer: "O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine"

The prayer "O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, all praise, and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine" is one of the simplest yet most profound Eucharistic prayers in the Catholic Church. In just a few words, it expresses love, thanksgiving, and adoration to Jesus truly present in the Eucharist.

This prayer has its roots in the Eucharistic devotion of the Church that blossomed especially after the Council of Trent (1545–1563), when the Church reaffirmed the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist against the doubts of the Reformation. While the exact authorship is not attributed with certainty to one saint, tradition connects its spread to St. Alphonsus Liguori (1696–1787), the great Doctor of the Church and founder of the Redemptorists, who had a deep love for Eucharistic Adoration. His writings and hymns often echoed this prayer of thanksgiving and praise before the Blessed Sacrament. Over time, it became a standard act of devotion in Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and other Eucharistic devotions. The Church encouraged this form of prayer as a way to cultivate an abiding spirit of gratitude and adoration toward the Eucharist.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that "the Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life" (CCC 1324). In Holy Communion, Christ is not only sacramentally present on the altar but comes personally into our hearts. This prayer helps us pause to adore Him, to thank Him, and to unite ourselves more closely with Him.

St. Augustine reminds us: "No one eats that flesh without first adoring it; we should sin were we not to adore" (Enarr. in Ps. 98). The prayer "O Sacrament Most Holy" gives us the words to do just that — adore with humility and gratitude.

St. Thomas Aquinas, the "Doctor of the Eucharist," also said: "In this sacrament we are united with Christ, and through Him with one another." By reciting this prayer, we as a parish community recognize this unity in Christ, while personally offering Him our praise.

Traditionally, this prayer has been sung or recited during Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction, often repeated three times as an act of devotion. In some places, it was also used after Holy Communion within the Mass as a way of uniting the congregation in praise.

In our parish, this beautiful prayer has been recently introduced to be prayed together after Holy Communion, so that as a community we may adore Jesus who has come into our hearts and is truly present on the altar.

Ordinary Time Sunday

At the same time, the Church emphasizes the importance of personal prayer after receiving Holy Communion. Pope Benedict XVI reminded us: "Silent adoration of the Lord present in the Eucharist should find expression in various forms of Eucharistic devotion, particularly in personal prayer" (Sacramentum Caritatis, 66).

For this reason, beginning the first weekend of September, after the distribution of Holy Communion, we will stop singing and observe a period of silence for personal prayer and thanksgiving. The prayer "O Sacrament Most Holy" can be recited silently in your heart, making it part of your intimate dialogue with Jesus.

You will find the text of this prayer at the end of the Red Hymnal in our parish. You may use it as a personal act of adoration, allowing the words to deepen your love and reverence for the Lord truly present in the Blessed Sacrament.

Let us together, with hearts full of gratitude, whisper this prayer and live its spirit:

"O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine,
all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine."

"Jesus, I trust in you"

Message of Clarification and Gratitude

Dear Parishioners,

In my very first message in the bulletin, I mentioned that I am working alongside you to rejuvenate our parish. Some may have misunderstood that statement, and if it caused any hurt, I am sorry. My true intention was — and is — to help us grow more deeply in our spiritual life, especially by celebrating the Holy Mass with greater reverence and by encountering the Lord more closely in the sacraments. As the Church teaches, "The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life" (CCC1324).

As your priest, called to stand in persona Christi, it is my joy and duty to lead you closer to Christ through the Eucharist and the sacraments, which give life to all our parish ministries. We are richly blessed with many dedicated volunteers, and I am deeply grateful for all they do to strengthen our community. Let us remember the words of St. John Paul II: "The Church draws her life from the Eucharist." May everything, we do as a parish flow from and lead us back to this central mystery of our faith.

Fr. Anish Alex

Parish celebration of the Season of Creation during September 6-7 masses

We will celebrate the Season of Creation as part of the weekend masses on September 6 - 7. The Season of Creation runs from September 1st to October 4th and invites Christians around the world to pray and care for creation. The 2025 theme "Peace with Creation" and symbol "Garden of Peace", are inspired by Isaiah 32:14-18 and the hope that creation will find peace when justice is restored.

"The prophet Isaiah tells us that the Spirit of God can make an arid and parched desert into a garden, a place of rest and serenity... These words of the prophet will accompany the "Season of Creation"... They remind us that, together with prayer, determination and concrete actions are necessary if this "caress of God" is to become visible to our world (Laudato Si' #84)." Pope Leo, message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation 2025.

Parish Office Update (August 25-29)

Our parish manager, Joanna, will be on vacation from Monday, August 25 to Friday, August 29. Please be sure to leave a voicemail if you call or consider emailing us instead.

Your Gifts to God (\$)

....for August 16/17	
Expenses	7,288
Envelopes	1,310
Loose	609
PAG (wk)	1,770
Online	53
TipTap	160
**Received	3,902
Short	3,386

** We require \$7288 a week (\$31,500 a month) to cover our basic parish expenses.

Your generosity helps us to make our community alive through various liturgies and many outreach initiatives.

Thank you for your support.

NEXT WEEKS AT A GLANCE

September 6-7 – Season of Creation Weekend

September 10 – CWL Executive Meeting (1pm)

September 14 – Father Anish's Installation Mass with Bishop Robert Kasun (12pm)

September 21 – Prayer Walk in High Park – Creation Care

More info at joanofarc.ca.

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