

# 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

Phone

416.762.1026

email parish@joanofarc.ca

#### PARISH STAFF

Fr. Anish Alex Pastor (ext. 1006) aalex@joanofarc.ca

Mrs. Joanna Harshman Parish Manager (ext. 1005) joanna@joanofarc.ca

Ms. Anne Francis Accounting Office (ext 1004) finance@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 4:00 PM



#### Mass Intentions

#### Monday, November 10 5:30pm All Souls Novena †

# <u>Tuesday, November 11</u> 5:30pm John Hruskoci †

#### Wednesday, November 12 5:30pm Martin Rodrigues †

#### Thursday, November 13 5:30pm Mary D'Souza †

#### Friday, November 14 5:30pm For the Sick of our Parish

#### <u>Saturday, November 15</u> 5:30pm Religious Education Program

#### Sunday, November 16 10am Parish Community

12pm Intention Available

#### SANCTUARY LAMP

(November 9 - 15)

This week's Sanctuary Lamp burns for the Xaviere Sisters. Please keep their community in your prayer.

#### **WE PRAY FOR:**

#### The Sick

Maryann Chard
Mark Szuba
Anne Szuba
Sister Edith Prendergast
Laura Gill
Cecilia Salazar
Ted Daniel
Ted Kowalczyk
Joe Biden

#### The Deceased

Mary Kelly Martin Rodrigues Francesco Leo



### The Pastor's Corner

As we journey through the month of November, the Church invites us into a profound act of love to remember and pray for all the faithful departed. This month is not a season of sorrow, but of hope. It reminds us that love transcends even death, and that through prayer, our bonds with those who have gone before us remain alive in Christ.

#### Why We Pray for the Departed

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches: "From the beginning, the Church has honoured the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them, above all the Eucharistic sacrifice, so that, thus purified, they may attain the beatific vision of God." (CCC 1032) Our prayers for the souls in Purgatory are acts of mercy. These souls, though assured of heaven, undergo purification a final cleansing of love before entering the fullness of God's presence. When we pray for them, we join in Christ's redeeming love, helping them on their journey toward eternal peace.

#### The Holy Mass: The Most Powerful Prayer for the Departed

No prayer surpasses the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. In every Mass, heaven touches earth; Christ's sacrifice on Calvary is made present once more. Offering Mass for the departed is the greatest gift we can give them, because it applies the infinite merits of Christ's redemption to their souls.

Saint Padre Pio once said: "More souls of the dead from purgatory than of the living ascend to heaven during Holy Mass." Each Mass offered for the departed lessens their suffering, hastens their purification, and draws them closer to eternal joy.

#### The Tradition and Power of Gregorian Masses

The beautiful practice of Gregorian Masses traces back to Pope Saint Gregory the Great in the 6th century. When one of his monks, named Justus, died with an attachment to worldly possessions, St. Gregory ordered that thirty consecutive Masses be offered for his soul.

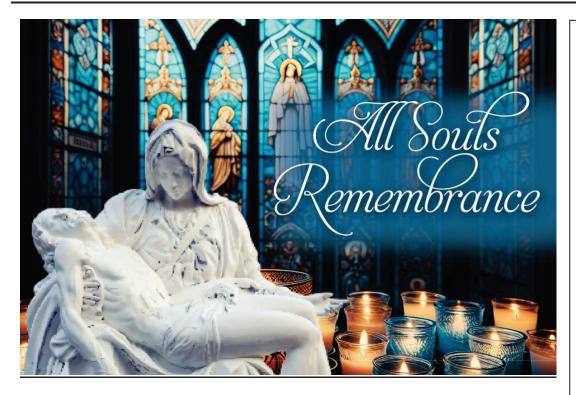
On the thirtieth day, the monk appeared in glory, thanking Gregory for his deliverance from purification. Since then, the Church has cherished this devotion: thirty consecutive Masses offered for one departed soul without interruption.

The Church continues to uphold the belief in their extraordinary efficacy, rooted in the mercy and justice of God.

Next week, we'll take a deeper look and understand why we must never stop praying for the departed, the blessings we receive in praying for souls, how hope is rooted in the Word of God and then I'll challenge us to seek the intercession of St. Gertrude.

Jesus I trust in you,

Fr. Anish Alex



#### A Message of Thanks

Beginning with All Saints Day on November 1<sup>st</sup> and followed by All Souls' Day on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Church invites the faithful to remember and intercede for those who have died. As a community, we were able to do that with a Mass of Remembrance and Rose Ceremony last Saturday. A special thank you to our Parishioner Support and Merrymakers Ministries for their role in organizing the distribution of roses and reception which followed in our Hall. May the souls of our dearly departed rest in God's great peace.

#### Stewardship Renewal

Over the last several weeks, and through prayer, testimony and invitation, we have been invited to discern our involvement here within St. Joan of Arc Parish. Being called to stewardship means recognizing that everything we have – our time, talent and treasure – are gifts from God entrusted to us for the good of others and for the building up of His kingdom. Please continue to discern and think about where you feel called to serve.

#### Society of St. Vincent de Paul (Nov. 16)

Did you know? November 16<sup>th</sup> is the World Day of the Poor in the Catholic Church. In his message for the 2025 World Day of the Poor, Pope Francis said: "We are called in every circumstance to be friends of the poor, following in the footsteps of Jesus who always began by showing solidarity when dealing with the least among us." Living as friends of the poor is what our parish conference of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is trying to do for our most vulnerable neighbours. You can be part of our mission, by giving to the poor box before or after Mass and by using our blue envelopes financially supporting our work. Thank you to all those who are supporting us already with the blue envelopes for St. Vincent de Paul. Your generosity is helping us change lives.

#### Why Are We Here: A Summons for Us as Canadians (Nov. 20)

St. Joan of Arc *Development and Peace* invites you to a special evening at 7pm with Dr. Mary Jo Leddy, a well-known human rights activist and founder of <u>Romero House</u>, a centre for refugees in Toronto. Mary Jo is a professor at the University of Toronto (Regis-St. Michael's) and, as a theologian and writer, has been a prophetic voice for human rights for many years. Through scripture, history and spirituality, she invites us to reflect on '*Why Are we Here? A Meditation on Canada*.' There are posters around the church and hall with more info. Come for an evening of faith and shared call. Light refreshments will be served.

#### Your Gifts to God (\$)

for November 1/2	
*Expenses	\$7288
Envelopes	N/A
Loose	N/A
PAG (wk)	N/A
Online	N/A
TipTap	N/A
Received	N/A
(Short)	N/A

\* We pray for \$7288 a week (\$31,500 a month) to cover our parish's daily expenses.

We invite you to consider a sacrificial donation and/or gift to your Parish this fall. Our weekly collections make up a very significant part of our annual budget, helping us compensate our staff, while offering great care through our many programs. Thank you.

#### CATHOLIC CACKLE

One day, a man arrives at the Pearly Gates and finds St. Peter checking the guest list. He looks up and says, "Welcome! Before I let you in, tell me one good thing you did in your life?"

The man proudly says,
"Well, once I saw a group of
bikers bothering an old
lady. So, I marched right up
to the biggest, meanest one
with tattoos, a leather jacket
and a chain and I told him
to leave her alone!"

St. Peter raises an eyebrow. "Impressive! When did this happen?" The man replies, "About 3 minutes Ago."







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