



# St. Joan of Arc

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

1701 Bloor Street West

[www.joanofarc.ca](http://www.joanofarc.ca)

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*email* [parish@joanofarc.ca](mailto:parish@joanofarc.ca)

## PARISH STAFF

Fr. Anish Alex  
Pastor (ext. 1006)  
[aalex@joanofarc.ca](mailto:aalex@joanofarc.ca)

Parish Office  
Ext 1007

Ms. Anne Francis  
Accounting Office (ext 1004)  
[finance@joanofarc.ca](mailto: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.devpo.org](http://www.devpo.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, December 1**

5:30 pm Agripina & Pedro Rejante +

**Tuesday, December 2**

5:30 pm Cesar Rejante +

**Wednesday, December 3**

5:30 pm Carmen Silardo +  
& Kaitun Gab

**Thursday, December 4**

5:30 pm William & Remy Rejante +

**Friday, December 5**

5:30 pm Ely Tan Scholten +

**Saturday, December 6**

5:30 pm Gladys & Stanley  
Jurkowski +

**Sunday, December 7**

10:00 am The Poarish Commuity  
12:00 pm Jack MacDonald &  
Job & Emmanuela

**Please for the Sick**

Maryann Chard, Mark Szuba, Anne  
Szuba, Ted Daniel, Cecilia Salazar  
and Ted Kowalczyk and Anna Mari  
Silva



**First Sunday of Advent**

**“STAY AWAKE... THE PRINCE OF PEACE IS NEAR”**

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, today we joyfully enter the sacred season of Advent a time of holy longing, expectant waiting, and renewed hope. The very word Advent comes from the Latin Ad-ventus, meaning “to arrive”, and Ad-venire, meaning “to come.” For us as Christians, this season is the heart’s preparation to welcome Jesus, the Prince of Peace, who comes to renew our world, heal our relationships, and illuminate our hearts with His gentle light.

In today’s readings, the Church invites us to lift our eyes beyond the noise and anxieties of daily life and to fix them on the approaching horizon of God’s peace. Isaiah gives us one of the most powerful and comforting visions in all of Scripture. He speaks of a future where nations “beat their swords into plowshares” and where hearts once at war finally find rest. This is not a distant fantasy it is the promise Advent places in our hands. The Messiah comes not to overwhelm us with power, but to transform us with peace.

St. Paul echoes this urgency when he reminds us, “Our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.” He speaks not of human time (chronos), but of God’s appointed moment (kairos), when grace breaks into the ordinary and heaven touches earth. Advent is God’s time an invitation to wake up, to cast off anything that weighs us down, and to clothe ourselves anew in Christ.

And so, Jesus calls out to us in the Gospel: “Stay awake!” Not in fear, but in hope. Not in anxiety, but in love. Advent is a gentle alarm clock ringing through our souls, reminding us that God comes quietly, humbly, and often unexpectedly. As St. Augustine once wrote, “God is always trying to give us good things, but our hands are too full to receive them.” This season invites us to empty our hands and open our hearts.

How, then, do we prepare for the Lord’s coming?

Here are some beautiful and practical ways to enter deeply into Advent:

1. Make Space for Silence: - St. Mother Teresa said, “In the silence of the heart God speaks.” Begin or end each day with a few quiet moments, allowing Christ to whisper peace into your soul.
2. Practice a Small Daily Sacrifice: - Give up a small comfort or distraction. As St. John Paul II said, “Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought.”
3. Embrace Acts of Charity: - Look around for someone who needs care, time, or kindness. St. Francis of Assisi reminds us, “For it is in giving that we receive.”
4. Pray With the Scriptures: - Spend time with the daily Advent readings. Let the Word light your path like the first dawn after a long night.
5. Bless Your Home with Peace: - As we light the Advent wreath each week, let its flame remind you that Christ desires to bring peace into your home, your work, and your heart.

My dear friends, Advent is a precious gift. It is the Church’s gentle invitation to slow down, breathe, hope again, and rediscover the God who comes so close to us. As we begin this holy journey, let us echo the psalmist’s prayer: “Peace be within your walls, peace to your homes, and peace to every heart that longs for the Lord.”

May the Prince of Peace find in us a place of welcome, and may this Advent be for each of us a pathway to deeper joy, renewed faith, and lasting peace.

**Wishing you all a Blessed Advent Season**

**Please note the parish contact information has changed**

Parish Website is: <https://st.joanofarcto.archtoronto.org>

Our parish email - [stjoanofarcto@archtoronto.org](mailto:stjoanofarcto@archtoronto.org)

**Parish Advent confession will on December 18, 7pm - 8:30pm**

**2026 CWL Memberships**

We are now collecting memberships for 2026. Payment is due in early in January and we want to get our memberships paid up in time. You can put your fee of \$32.00 in an envelope with your information and mark it "CWL" and drop it in the collection basket.

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

Next week we will have our Christmas collection, envelopes were included in last week's bulletin. Please **make cheques payable to St. Vincent de Paul Society**. We issue our own tax receipts. Any support we receive is appreciated. We have helped between 75 to 110 families over the years at Christmas. Thank you for your continued support.

**St Joan of Arc Development and Peace**

Next weekend, December 6 and 7<sup>th</sup>, you will receive more information on the **Jubilee Theme** of "**From Debt to Hope**" in very informative pamphlet that will be inserted in the parish bulletin. Pope Leo and Bishops from around the world invite us to learn more about this global campaign. Be sure to pick up a bulletin to read more about this very important issue. **Thank you** to all who signed the petition to be sent to our government about debt cancellation. If you haven't had a chance to sign the petition you may do so when you visit the **Parish Christmas Winter Fair** in the hall at the **Fair-Trade Table** on the **weekend of Dec. 13/14<sup>th</sup>**.

**Christmas Winter Fair December 13 & 14th, 2025**

See our flyer for all the details. Come enjoy the day, with fellow parishioners and do some Christmas Shopping and have fun. Santa will be visiting St. Joan of Arc to see our wonderful children. For more information and vendor tables, contact parish office or Fabian D'Souza at – 437-299-1826

**Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services**

Today we welcome Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services to our parish. Catholic Cemeteries are a vital part of the Catholic Church. Operated under the auspices of the Archdiocese of Toronto, each Catholic cemetery and funeral home reflects our Catholic beliefs. To learn more, focus your



smartphone's camera on the symbol  or visit catholic-cemeteries.com

**2026 Sunday Offering Envelopes & PAG Option**

The 2026 Sunday Offering Envelopes are now available in the parish hall. Please note that if your previous box number was above 220, you have been assigned a new lower number, as we have reduced the total number of boxes ordered. If you cannot find your envelope box or number, kindly contact the parish office.

We also encourage parishioners to consider Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG). PAG allows your monthly donation to be made automatically from your bank account or credit card, making giving simple and worry-free for both you and the parish. Forms are available at the parish office, and our ushers will gladly assist you. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of our parish.

**Your gifts to God  
Monthly comparison**

Offertory	2025	2024
Envelopes	\$7,468	\$4,860
Loose	\$2,888	\$3,417
PAG	\$5,999	\$6,157
Total	\$16,355	\$14,434

**Activities this Week**

**Tuesday, December 2**

1:30 pm Euchre

**Thursday, December 4**

Knights of Columbus

**December 6 / 7**

St. Vincent de Paul Christmas collection

**Future Dates to Remember**

**December 13 /14**

Saturday 11:00 am Christmas Fair

Sunday 11 am Christmas Fair

See posters.

2:00 pm SVDP Meeting Lounge

**Thursday, December 18**

2:00 pm Merrymakers Team

Meeting

7:00 pm Parish Reconciliation Service



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social media  
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