



St. Joan of Arc

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

1701 Bloor Street West
Toronto, ON M6P 1B1

<https://stjoanofarcto.archtoronto.org>

416.762.1026

email stjoanofarcto@archtoronto.org

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Anish Alex
Pastor (ext. 2)

Parish Office
(ext. 1)

email: stjoanofarcto@archtoronto.org

Ms. Anne Francis
Accounting Office (ext. 3)
email: afrancissja@archtoronto.org

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Servers
Call the office

Eucharistic Ministers
Catrina Bova

Lectors:
Luz Sucilan
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
and after First Friday mass 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 to Friday

10:00 AM 4:00 PM

Lunch 12:30 - 1:30 PM

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
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

Second Sunday of Lent

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 2nd

No Mass

Tuesday, March 3rd

5:30 pm Gregory & Family

Wednesday, March 4th

7:30 pm – Loretto Delmo

Thursday, March 5th

5:30 pm – Sylvester, Anna Maria Senese+

Friday, March 6th

5:30 pm - S.I of Michelle, John & Philip

Saturday March 7th

5:30 pm - Barbara +, Stephen Attard + (40th day of death)

Sunday, March 8th

10:00 am - For Parish Community, Fr. Bob Langone & Fr. Alex reed in thanksgiving

12:00 pm –Raphael Joseph (+)

-Masilamani Joseph +

-Maria Dacanay + (Death Anniversary)

-Deceased members of the Duque & Dacanay Family

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Maryann Chard, Anne Szuba, Ted Daniel, Cecilia Salazar, Ted Kowalczyk, Dianne, John Huges and Anna Maria Silva



“Lord, It Is Good for Us to Be Here”

Have you ever had a moment you wished you could freeze? A family gathered around the table in peace. A child laughing freely. A quiet prayer that suddenly felt full of light. And then, just as quickly, the moment passes, and we return to the ordinary laundry, bills, appointments, responsibilities. Today’s Gospel from Gospel of Matthew tells us about such a moment. On a high mountain, Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James, and John. His face shines like the sun. His clothes become dazzling white. And Peter blurts out what any of us might say: “Lord, it is good for us to be here.”

It is good for us to be here. We understand Peter. Life can feel heavy. Many in our parish carry quiet burdens - concerns about children, aging parents, health struggles, financial strain, loneliness that no one sees. Some of you are tired. Some are holding on to faith with trembling hands. Lent itself can feel like a climb up a steep mountain. And yet, in the midst of it all, God gives us glimpses of glory, small assurances that He is near. The Transfiguration is not an escape from reality; it is a revelation within it. Jesus does not take away the cross. Instead, He reveals the light that will shine through it.

In the first reading from Book of Genesis, Abram hears a call: “Go from your country... to the land that I will show you.” No map. No guarantees. Just a promise. Abram steps forward in trust. In the second reading, Saint Paul writes to Timothy words preserved in the Second Epistle to Timothy “Bear your share of suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God.” This is the pattern of faith: a call, a journey, and the grace to continue. The mountain of Transfiguration stands between the call of Abram and the suffering Paul speaks of. It reminds us that the One who calls us is faithful. As Saint John Paul II once said, “Do not be afraid.” The glory of Christ is not distant; it shines precisely where trust meets uncertainty.

Notice something tender in the Gospel. When the disciples fall to the ground in fear, Jesus comes and touches them. He does not shout from heaven. He touches them. Our God is not distant light; He is near enough to touch, near enough to whisper, “Rise, and do not be afraid.” How many of us need to hear that today? In the Eucharist, in Confession, in quiet prayer, Christ still touches His people. He does not promise a life without crosses, but He promises His presence. The mountain leads back down to the valley but we do not walk it alone.

Dear friends, Lent is our climb with Jesus. We may not see dazzling light, but we are being changed often in hidden ways. A little more patience. A deeper prayer. A softer heart. Like Peter, we might want to stay on the mountain. But Jesus leads us forward, strengthened by what we have seen and heard: “This is my Son, the Beloved... listen to him.” This week, let us listen. In the Scriptures. In the quiet movements of conscience. In the needs of someone who asks for our time. And when the road feels uncertain, remember Abram. Remember Paul. Remember the shining face of Christ. It is good for us to be here with Him. And with Him, we need not be afraid.

Jesus I trust in You.

2025 Parish Tax Receipts

2025 Parish Tax Receipts are being processed; you will receive them in the mail on or before Monday March 9th. If you have any questions, please contact the Finance Office by email: afrancissja@archtoronto.org or by phone at ext. 3.

Please note: No Mass on Monday

Lenten Retreat: You are warmly invited to our Lenten Retreat on Friday, March 6 (First Friday), led by Rev. Dr. Roy Palatty, Spiritual Director of Shalom TV. The program begins at 5:30 PM with Stations of the Cross, followed by Reconciliation, Holy Mass, Healing Adoration, and Anointing. Come and prepare your heart for Easter. God bless you.

Stations Of the Cross – March 6th - 5:30

We invite you to pray the Stations of the Cross this Friday at **5:30**, just before the 6:00 Mass and Retreat Evening. The Stations are a prayerful way to accompany Jesus on His journey of suffering, death and resurrection. This week, the Stations will be lead by the **Building Committee**.

Food Banks / Food Drive at Sja - March 15th

Next weekend, there will be a poster in the bulletin inviting you to explore **food insecurity** in Toronto and a parish response through a **Food Drive**. On **SUNDAY, MARCH 15th**, you are invited to learn and to act. Mark your calendar. Watch for the poster with more information. We pray: *Give us (all) this day our daily bread*

Catholic Social Teaching Video and Conversation Series

Next Sunday March 8th after the 10 AM mass, bring your coffee and join Creation Care Ministry in the Friars' Lounge for our third video and conversation in our Catholic Social Teaching series. We will end by noon. This third video highlights Pope Leo XIII, who in 1891 initiated modern Catholic Social Teaching with his encyclical, *Rerum Novarum* (Of New Things), which focused on worker conditions and rights during the Industrial Revolution. What might our current Pope's chosen name mean for the Church's social doctrine today? Please also visit Creation Care Ministry's bulletin board in the parish hall to learn more. "Still, when there is question of defending the rights of individuals, the poor and badly off have a claim to especial consideration." Pope Leo XIII, 1891, *Rerum Novarum* #37.

World Day of Prayer – 7th March 2026, Saturday

World Day of Prayer - St. Paul's Anglican Church - 404 Annette St. at Willard Ave. 10:00 a.m. Service and hymns celebrate Nigeria, Africa. The monetary collection supports Canadian and international women's social programmes. Envelopes will be available. Receipts issued upon information received. After the celebration, all are welcome to enjoy light refreshments.

Irish Luncheon

Get ready for a little Irish cheer! Join us on Thursday, 19 March at 12 noon for a joyful Merrymakers time beginning with Mass, followed by a festive two-course Irish lunch and bingo. Tickets: \$15 (cash only) can be purchased after all Masses NEXT weekend (and the weekend of 14 March). Tickets MUST be purchased in advance. Good food, great company, and a bit of luck o' the Irish — what more could you ask for? All are welcome – tell a friend and bring your best bingo voice!

Catholic Women League

All C.W.L Members, must pay their annual fees of \$32. Please bring the payment at Parish office with your name.

St. Joan of Arc's St. Vincent de Paul

Thank the parishioners of St. Joan Arc for their support for the Christmas Season. Our numbers have been tallied and we helped 63 households, consisting of 145 Adults, 35 children have food on the table. The Christmas collection brought in \$6,286.00. The total help given out of \$8,070.00. thank you for helping the less fortunate of our community.

Your Gifts to God

Envelopes	\$1,335.00
Loose	568.00
PAG	<u>1,361.59</u>
Total	<u><u>\$3,264.59</u></u>

Month at a Glance

March 6 – Stations of the Cross (5:30)

- **Lenten Retreat** (6:00 Mass + Retreat)

March 8 - Catholic Social Teaching (Coffee, Video & Conversation) - after 10 Mass - Lounge

March 9 - D&P Meeting (7pm-Meeting Room)

March 11 - CWL Executive Meeting (1:30 - Meeting Room)

- **Liturgical Leaders Meeting** (7:30 - Meeting Room)

March 15 – D&P Speaker (11:15-12:00- Lounge)

March 18 - Creation Care Meeting (7pm Zoom)

March 19 – Merry Makers Lunch (12:00 Mass + Lunch)

March 21/ 22 – Fair Trade Weekend

Q: What do we say to chocolate during Lent?

A: “Resist!”

The Parish Contact Information

Parish Website is:

<https://st.joanofarcto.archtoronto.org>

Our parish email is:

stjoanofarcto@archtoronto.org



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