

SAINT JOHN XXIII PARISH

Pastor: (Rev) Simon deGale; Secretary: Hayde Ayala

To Donate Online to St JXXIII go to: <https://community.archtoronto.org/page.aspx?pid=415>

Office: 416-429-4000; Hours: Monday-Friday 9AM-3PM

Email: saintjohnxx_iiiparish@outlook.com. Website: <http://saintjohnxxiiiparish.ca/>**Sunday Mass**

Sat Vigil Mass 5:15PM / Sun Mass 9AM,
12:15PM & 5:30PM. (Wkds: Mon, Wed, Fri 7PM;
Tues, Thurs, Sat 9AM)

Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated on the second
Saturday of the month at 11AM and third
Sunday of the month at 1:30PM. Preparation
session is required.

Reconciliation (confession)

Before all Sun Masses/Sat Vigil Mass and the
Wed Mass or by appointment. Confessional is
in Adoration Chapel.

Anointing of the Sick

At any time by appointment. In case of
emergency, please ask hospital for Catholic
priest. Or see Fr Simon.

Marriage

See Fr Simon before setting a date.

RCIA

If you know someone who wishes to become
Catholic speak to priest.

Catholic Cemeteries

Head Office: 416-733-8544

ST VINCENT
D'PAUL
COLLECTION
TODAY *Sunday,*
December 9

We take up our
annual collection
for the families
in need in
Flemington
Park.

All monies go to
the those in
need.

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Part One—The Profession of Faith

I Believe in God the Father—The Symbols of Faith

40. Why is the revelation of God's name important?

In revealing his name, God makes known the riches contained in the ineffable mystery of his being. He alone is from everlasting to everlasting. He is the One who transcends the world and history. It is he who made heaven and earth. He is the faithful God, always close to his people, in order to save them. He is the highest holiness, "rich in mercy" (Ephesians 2:4), always ready to forgive. He is the One who is spiritual, transcendent, omnipotent, eternal, personal, and perfect. He is truth and love.

"God is the infinitely perfect being who is the most Holy Trinity." (St Turibius of Montenegro)

41. In what way is God the truth?

God is Truth itself and as such he can neither deceive nor be deceived. He is "light, and in him there is no darkness" (1 John 1:5). The eternal Son of God, the incarnation of wisdom, was sent into the world "to bear witness to the Truth" (John 18:37).

42. In what way does God reveal that he is love?

God revealed himself to Israel as the One who has a stronger love than that of parents for their children or of husbands and wives for their spouses. God in himself "is love" (1 John 4: 8.16), who gives himself completely and gratuitously, who "so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that the world might be saved through him" (Jn 3:16-17). By sending his Son and the Holy Spirit, God reveals that he himself is an eternal exchange of love.

43. What does it mean to believe in only one God?

To believe in the one and only God involves coming to know his greatness and majesty. It involves living in thanksgiving and trusting always in him, even in adversity. It involves knowing the unity and true dignity of all human beings, created in his image. It involves making good use of the things which he has created.

44. What is the central mystery of Christian faith and life?

The central mystery of Christian faith and life is the mystery of the Most Blessed Trinity. Christians are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

45. Can the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity be known by the light of human reason alone?

God has left some traces of his trinitarian being in creation and in the Old Testament but his inmost being as the Holy Trinity is a mystery which is inaccessible to reason alone or even to Israel's faith before the Incarnation of the Son of God and the sending of the Holy Spirit. This mystery was revealed by Jesus Christ and it is the source of all the other mysteries.

46. What did Jesus Christ reveal to us about the mystery of the Father?

Jesus Christ revealed to us that God is "Father", not only insofar as he created the universe and the mankind, but above all because he eternally generated in his bosom the Son who is his Word, " the radiance of the glory of God and the very stamp of his nature" (Hebrews 1:3).

47. Who is the Holy Spirit revealed to us by Jesus Christ?

The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Most Blessed Trinity. He is God, one and equal with the Father and the Son. He

"proceeds from the Father" (Jn15:26) who is the principle without a principle and the origin of all trinitarian life. He proceeds also from the Son (Filioque) by the eternal Gift which the Father makes of him to the Son. Sent by the Father and the Incarnate Son, the Holy Spirit guides the Church "to know all truth" (Jn 16:13).

48. How does the Church express her trinitarian faith?

The Church expresses her trinitarian faith by professing a belief in the oneness of God in whom there are three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The three divine Persons are only one God because each of them equally possesses the fullness of the one and indivisible divine nature. They are really distinct from each other by reason of the relations which place them in correspondence to each other. The Father generates the Son; the Son is generated by the Father; the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son.

49. How do the three divine Persons work?

Inseparable in their one substance, the three divine Persons are also inseparable in their activity. The Trinity has one operation, sole and the same. In this one divine action, however, each Person is present according to the mode which is proper to him in the Trinity.

"O my God, Trinity whom I adore...grant my soul peace; make it your heaven, your beloved dwelling, and the place of your rest. May I never abandon you there, but may I be there, whole and entire, completely vigilant in my faith, entirely adoring, and wholly given over to your creative action." (Blessed Elizabeth of the Trinity)

SUNDAYS OF ADVENT
Holy Hour—4 to 5PM

Coming and be with your Lord and
 Saviour for an hour in adoration.



PRAY FOR THE DECEMBER MISSION INTENTION
"For The Elderly"

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

COMMUNION FOR THE SICK & SHUT-INS
 Call parish office and let us know—416-429-4000

**MASS
INTENTIONS**

Mon, Dec 11, **7PM:**
Thanksgiving for Sharon Quilop

Tues, Dec 12, **9AM:**
Thanksgiving for Corazon Martinez

Wed, Dec 13, **7PM:**
+Leonora Cortez

Thurs, Dec 14, **9AM**
+Erlinda Buenaobra

Fri, Dec 15, **7PM:**
+Marina Mariathas

Sat, Dec 16, **9AM:**
Thanksgiving by Stella

Saturday, December 16
5:15PM: *Thnksvg: Elisa Manera-Schmidf*

Sunday, December 17
9AM: *Thanksgiving for the Birthd of Gerry*
12:15PM: *+Bartolome e3 + Virginia Matias*
5:30PM: *The Parishioners*

VIGIL CANDLES

Saturday, Dec 16—Friday, Dec 22
Sanctuary Tabernacle: **+Joseph Nkwenti**
Chapel Tabernacle: **Nelia Alzate Birthday**

WONDERFULLY GREAT THINGS

Children's Choir: Grade 1 Grade 8.
Sing 1st & 4th Sun @ 5:30PM Mass
Youth Choir—Defunct!!!!
Grade 9 & Up: Sing 2nd & 3rd Sun @ 5:30PM
Mass
Chalice Children's Collection
Sunday, Oct 29—Goal: \$2,220. Total to Date: \$0

COFFEE SUNDAY:

Last Sun of the Month
9AM Mass: Coffee Sunday Group; 12:15PM Mass:
Thank you Volunteers for your generosity.

CONFIRMATION—UPCOMING

Advent Confessions
Wed, Dec 20: 7:30PM—12 Priests available.
Attendance required

Movie
Go online to "formed.org"; input our parish access code: MRFx27; fill out your profile and password. Click on "Watch", click on "Movies", scroll down to the movie "Maria Goretti" and watch movie.

Session 4
Wed Jan 31, 2018, at 7:30PM

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION—UPCOMING

Movie
Mum/Dad: Get your son or daughter hungry for Jesus in the Eucharist—show them the video "The Bread of Life". Watch it on a smart phone, pad, or internet tv. —FREE—
Go online to "formed.org"; input our parish access code: MRFx27; fill out your profile and password. Click on "Watch", click on "Movies", scroll down to "Youth" click on "The Bread of Life".

2nd Test
Section 2—Reconciliation
This is preparation for the young people's first Confession. Make appointment for last week of January or anytime in Feb. First Confession will be on Saturday, March 17 @ 11AM in the Church.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP

Need Prayer Help?
Call Beth at 416-467-6492. Your intention will be emailed out to this prayer community. Only first name and intention will be shared.

FORMED

The Catholic Faith On Demand—Free To You
Movies, documentaries, apologetics, youth, faith formation, Bible studies, current topics, youth; talks, audio dramas, audio books. Spanish too. Go to "formed.org"; input our parish access code: MRFx27; fill out your profile and password.

VOCATIONS

John the Baptist is sent by God to prepare the way for His Son.

In our present time God sends priests, religious and deacons to prepare the people to receive His Son. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto 416-968-0997
vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca

ADORATION OF OUR LORD IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Takes place in the Adoration Chapel

Every Friday: 9AM to 6PM, concludes with evening prayer and 5:40PM. Come for an hour and keep Lord. Pray for Church, your



Benediction at a few minutes or watch with the others, the family, yourself.

WIN GREAT PRIZES

The Friar's Student Writing award.

Ages 14—18 are invited to write a 500 word essay on the theme for the Week of prayer for Christian Unity, celebrated Jan 18-25, 2018. The theme is

"Your right hand, O Lord, Glorious In Power" (Exd5:6).

Read the scripture passage Exodus 15:1-21 and respond to the following question: *Just as the Israelites sought deliverance from enslavement, in contemporary society the dignity of all people is treated by new enslavements to poverty, violence, injustice and addictions. In what ways can Christian of all denominations work together to stave off these assaults to human dignity? Explain.*

1st prize: iPad Pro(128GB); 2nd prize: Kobo Aura H₂O Edition; 3rd prize to 6th prizes: 1 year subscription to the Catholic Register and other prizes. Essays will be edited and published in The Catholic Register. Deadline for entries: **Jan 8, 2018**. E-mail your essay to editor@catholicregister.org or Fax it to 416-934-3409 (full name,email address,tel#,name of school on front page of essay). 416-934-3410,ext 403

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Last Sunday's Offering—\$3,542.00
 To break even weekly—\$3,000 need.

SCHEDULE OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

DATE & FEAST	CHOIR	DATE	TIME
Advent Confessions 12 Priests Available		Wed Dec 20	7:30PM-9PM
4 th Sunday of Advent Vigil Mass	Hayde	Sat, Dec 23	5:15PM
4 th Sun of Advent Masses	Gina Editha	Sun, Dec 24	9AM & 12:15PM
Advent Holy Hour		Sun, Dec 24	4PM
Christmas Carols	Children	Sun, Dec 24	11:15PM
Christmas Midnight Mass	Hayde	Sun, Dec 24	Midnight
Christmas Day Masses	Tony Editha	Mon, Dec 25	9AM & 12:15PM
St Stephen's Mass		Tues, Dec 26	10AM
Holy Family Vigil Mass	Hayde	Sat, Dec 30	5:15PM
Holy Family Masses	Tony Editha	Sun, Dec 31	9AM & 12:15PM
Holy Hour Vigil Exposition & Benediction		Sun, Dec 31	6PM
Mary, Mother of God Vigil Mass	Hayde	Sun, Dec 31	7PM
Mary, Mother of God Masses	Gina Editha	Mon, Jan 1	9AM & 12:15PM

NEXT CATHOLIC MOM'S GROUP

Next Meeting is Saturday, Jan 27, 1—3PM

BLACK NAZARENE NOVENA

Sun, Dec 31—1:15PM / Mon, Jan 1—1:15PM / Tues, Jan 2—8:45AM / Wed, Jan 3—6:45PM / Thurs, Jan 4—8:45AM / Fri, Jan 5—6:45PM / Sat, Jan 6—8:45AM / Sun, Jan 7—1:15PM / Mon, Jan 8—6:45PM / Tues, Jan 9—FEAST DAY

FEAST OF THE WEEK

Feast—OUR LADY OF GADALUPE, PATRON OF THE AMERICAS—Date: Tues, Dec 12: The feast in honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe goes back to the 16th century. Chronicles of that period tell us the story.

A poor Indian named Cuauhtlatohuac was baptized and given the name Juan Diego. He was a 57-year-old widower, and lived in a small village near Mexico City. On Saturday morning December 9, 1531, he was on his way to a nearby barrio to attend Mass in honour of Our Lady.

Juan was walking by a hill called Tepeyac when he heard beautiful music like the warbling of birds. A radiant cloud appeared, and within it stood an Indian maiden dressed like an Aztec princess. The lady spoke to him in his own language and sent him to the bishop of Mexico, a Franciscan named Juan de Zumarraga. The bishop was to build a chapel in the place where the lady appeared.

Eventually the bishop told Juan to have the lady give him a sign. About this same time Juan’s uncle became seriously ill. This led poor Juan to try to avoid the lady. Nevertheless the lady found Juan, assured him that his uncle would recover, and provided roses for Juan to carry to the bishop in his cape or tilma.

On December 12, when Juan Diego opened his tilma in the bishop’s presence, the roses fell to the ground, and the bishop sank to his knees. On the tilma where the roses had been appeared an image of Mary exactly as she had appeared at the hill of Tepeyac.

Reflection: Mary’s appearance to Juan Diego as one of his people is a powerful reminder that Mary—and the God who sent her—accept all peoples. In the context of the sometimes rude and cruel treatment of the Indians by the Spaniards, the apparition was a rebuke to the Spaniards and an event of vast significance for the indigenous population. While a number of them had converted before this incident, they now came in droves. According to a contemporary chronicler, nine million Indians became Catholic in a very short time. In these days when we hear so much about God’s preferential option for the poor, Our Lady of Guadalupe cries out to us that God’s love for and identification with the poor is an age-old truth that stems from the Gospel itself.



SMILE

Headlines

“Now hiring,” read the classified ad. “Cemetery superintendent. The ideal candidate must be able to supervise in a fast-paced environment.”

File These Headlines Under: “We Don’t Even Want to Know.”

- Firefighters Use Jaws of Life to Free High School Girl from Locker.
- FDA Approves Third Silicone-Gel Breast Implant.
- Missing Woman Unwittingly Joins Search Party Looking for Herself.
- Woman’s “Stomach Bug” Actually Baby.

•City Unsure Why the Sewer Smells The Herald-Palladium (St. Joseph, Michigan)

•Federal Agents Raid Gun Shop, Find Weapons (Tulsa World, Oklahoma)

FERTILITYCARE TORONTO

Catholic Women’s Fertility Health

Are you planning to space your children and feel unsure of the family planning system you’re using?

FertilityCare Toronto can help.

Is your family complete and are wondering what comes next for family planning? **FertilityCare** Toronto can help.

Would you like to follow your faith but don’t know a reliable, scientific family planning method?

FertilityCare Toronto can help.

Do you have health concerns and want to learn more about your body and gynecologic health?

FertilityCare Toronto can help.

Are you suffering from infertility or recurrent miscarriage and don’t know where to turn for effective help? **FertilityCare** Toronto can help.

Contact/Info 416-465-2868 www.fertilitycare.ca/

PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, December 16: 6:30PM—9:30PM

Book this date in your calendars—come on out for a fine meal, entertainment, carolling, etc. *6:15PM—Nativity Play in the Church; *7PM—Dinner in Hall; *8:15PM—Entertainment/Carolling.

—POT-LUCK—

Families call to arrange what to bring. Contact Ahme: (647) 878-2534 Benji: (416) 696-6133

"...He Will Baptize You With The Holy Spirit"

John



This Sunday's Readings: *Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Psalm 85:9-14; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8*

Our God is coming. The time of exile – the long separation of humankind from God due to sin – is about to end. This is the good news proclaimed in today's liturgy.

Isaiah in today's First Reading promises Israel's future release and return from captivity and exile. But as today's Gospel shows, Israel's historic deliverance was meant to herald an even greater saving act by God – the coming of Jesus to set Israel and all nations free from bondage to sin, to gather them up and carry them back to God.

God sent an angel before Israel to lead them in their exodus towards the promised land (see Exodus 23:20). And He promised to send a messenger of the covenant, Elijah, to purify the people and turn their hearts to the Father before the day of the Lord (see Malachi 3:1, 23-24).

John the Baptist quotes these, as well as Isaiah's prophecy, to show that all of Israel's history looks

forward to the revelation of Jesus. In Jesus, God has filled in the valley that divided sinful humanity from himself. He has reached down from heaven and made His glory to dwell on earth, as we sing in today's Psalm.

He has done all this, not for humanity in the abstract, but for each of us. The long history of salvation has led us to this Eucharist, in which our God again comes and our salvation is near. And each of us must hear in today's readings a personal call. Here is your God, Isaiah says. He has been patient with you, Peter says in today's Epistle.

Like Jerusalem's inhabitants in the Gospel, we have to go out to Him, repenting our sins, all the laziness and self-indulgence that make our lives a spiritual wasteland. We have to straighten out our lives, so that everything we do leads us to Him.

Today, let us hear the beginning of the gospel and again commit ourselves to lives of holiness and devotion.

DR. SCOTT HAHN

CATHOLIC ANSWERS

www.catholic.com

WHY HUMANS ARE NOT PARASITES

Question

I was told people are just parasites on the Earth, including babies in the womb. How should I respond to this?

Answer

A parasite is generally considered to be an organism that lives off another organism of a different type (the host) to the detriment of the host.

A baby in the womb is not a parasite because:

- The baby is of the same species as the host (the mother). It is to the advantage of the human species that this relationship exist. Therefore, the relationship is not a detriment.
- Human mothers have a placenta that shares nutrients with the baby. This is natural and normal and shows that the relationship between a mother and baby is symbiotic rather than parasitic.
- The placenta is produced by the mother's body for the purpose of nurturing a baby. The human body does not produce anything to purposely feed parasites.
- It is a rare condition in which a mother's immune system attacks the baby as if it were a parasite. If the baby were a parasite, this condition would be the norm rather than the exception.
- A host-parasite relationship is to the benefit of one and the detriment of the other, but the body of the mother cooperates with the body of the baby during pregnancy.
- Parasites come from the outside the host; a baby comes from inside the mother.

As to whether humans are parasites of the Earth, that too is a mischaracterization of the definition of a parasite. Human beings are not inherently dangerous to the Earth. Human beings can live without being detrimental to their environment. If we consider any living thing that takes anything to survive from some other living thing, then every living thing would be a parasite. Animals eat grass, animals eat other animals; if the balance of nature gets out of wack in a certain environment, then one species could overwhelm the others.

The fact that human beings can live in harmony with the environment and can actually help the environment means that we are not parasites in the true sense of the word. Obviously, we could refuse to do so and harm the environment, but that would be a sinful choice and not a necessity of survival for the human race.

YOUTH GROUPS

Next God Squad: Lesson Night

Friday, December 15, 2017 from 6:00 - 8:00pm in the Parish hall.

Youth Ministry Social Night: Christmas Party

Friday, December 8, 2017 from 6:00 - 8:00pm in the Parish hall.

Join us as we celebrate Christmas making a meal together and having time to spend in prayer and fellowship with each other. Youth are welcome to bring siblings and friends.

[For Teens]**XLT: RESOLVE****How will you welcome in 2018?**

Join Joel Stepanek, Joe Zambon, Jenn Reitzel, Andrew Santos and Msgr. Vid Vlastic (St.JustinMartyr) for an evening of Prayer, Praise & Worship, Witness and Eucharistic Adoration. This ministry team will help teens and adults alike discern what they need to "Resolve" so that 2018 can be a new, transformative and faith-filled year. All done in a fun, unique and spiritually engaging way. Don't miss out on this perfect opportunity to grow in your relationship with Jesus and the universal Church. This night promises to change your life. Be sure to usher in 2018 like you've never done before – at the Flato Markham Theatre. 171 Town Centre Blvd., Markham
Tuesday, January 2, 2018 – 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
CONTACT: St. Justin Martyr Parish PHONE: 905-479-2463 EMAIL/TICKETS: youth@stjustin.com
WEB: www.stjustin.com

**THEOLOGY ON TAP EAST –
CATHOLIC DATING 2.0: PRACTICAL
LANGUAGE**

**Mon, Dec 11 – 7-9PM. Boston Pizza
400 Progress Ave., Scarborough**


Faith Connections, the Office of Catholic Youth, and the local parishes invite young adults (19-39) to join us for an evening of thought-provoking theological discussion in a comfortable and relaxed setting, with special guests: Llorene & Renard Romero, Leanna Cappiello, and Leslie Gyulay. Munchies provided, cash bar, come and bring a friend!

TEL: 416-599-7676 / TICKETS: youth@ocytoronto.org

Bamboo Travel & Tours
 Call Marivic
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MORE GOOD NEWS

***Catholic Women's League (CWL)
& K of C of St JXXIII***

The Catholic Women's League of JXXIII & the Knights of Columbus are donating a new floor for our Hall this summer.

Also, CWL have kindly accepted to research the possibility of federal financing for a wheel-chair lift that can be installed on the staircase leading down to the hall. This is a program offered to charitable institutions for disability access to buildings.

