



ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

1001 Ravenscroft Road
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The Second Sunday of Lent

February 28th, 2021



A TIME TO
FAST

Our mission at St. Francis de Sales is to joyfully welcome you to our parish family of faith, trusting that: if you are seeking Christ, you will find Him here. If grieving, you will receive comfort. If troubled in spirit, you will receive the blessing of peace without being judged. If discouraged, you will rejoice in hope. If alone, you will find companionship and Christian love. May our parish be a sanctuary of peace for you as we journey together to the Father's house.

Parish Hours

DAILY MASS

MONDAY - SATURDAY 9:00 am

SUNDAY MASS

SATURDAY 5:00 pm

SUNDAY 8:30 am | 9:45 am | 11:00 am | 12:15 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

FRIDAY 9:30 am - 10:00 a

OFFICE HOURS

The office is currently closed to the public.
For enquiries and support please contact staff by phone or by email. Appointments can be booked if required.

Parish Contacts

PASTOR	FR. JOSEPH SINGH sfdspastor@gmail.com	☎ ext 105
ASSOCIATE PASTOR	FR. DAVID TWADDLE fr.twaddle@gmail.com	☎ ext 104
DEACON	DEACON ALBAN SOARES alban.soares@gmail.com	☎ ext 108
PARISH OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR	DENISE FORD denise.ford@archtoronto.org	☎ ext 103
CONFIRMATION, & YOUTH MINISTRY	NOAH AQUINO noah.aquino@outlook.com	☎ ext 100
FIRST COMMUNION, RECONCILIATION	DAWN SELDA dawn.selda@archtoronto.org	☎ ext 102

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www.stfrancisdesales.ca

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St. Francis de Sales Parish

Transfiguration – Transubstantiation - Transformation

“At the shortage of wine during the wedding of Cana, Jesus changed water into wine: one substance became another substance. In each Holy Mass our offering of bread and wine becomes the Body and Blood of Jesus under the appearances of bread and wine.”



“Hence, just as Jesus’ Transfiguration strengthened the Apostles in their time of trial, each Holy Mass should be our source of Heavenly strength against our own temptations and our source for the renewal of our lives during Lent. “



“In addition, communion with Jesus in prayer and in the Eucharist, should be a source of daily transformation for both our minds and hearts. “



“We must also be transformed by becoming humbler and more selfless, sharing love, compassion and forgiveness with others. But in our everyday lives, we often fail to recognize Jesus when he appears to us “transfigured,” hidden in someone who is in some kind of need. Jesus will be happy when we attend to the needs of that person. With the eyes of Faith, we must see Jesus in every one of our brothers and sisters, the children of God we come across each day and, by His grace, respond to Him with love and service.”



Source for Quotes: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2020-03/sunday-reflection-vatican-news.html>

LENTEN REFLECTIONS

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February 24, 2021



My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Lent is a penitential season in which, each year, we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Easter by following the call of Jesus to engage in prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This past year of pandemic has itself been a kind of penitential season, forcing us to consider our human fragility, and the stark fact of sickness and death. Many people have experienced great privation, which has come uninvited, and not as a penitential choice. And yet, just as the voluntary penances of Lent can lead us to a deeper appreciation of our human frailty – the fact that we are dust and to dust we shall return - and of our need for God, so too we pray that these involuntary privations may be experienced in a way that will lead not to fruitless anger, but to a deeper self awareness, and to compassion for our neighbours who are suffering.

Especially in a time of crisis, our sacramental life is essential. Here is an update on the operation of churches in the Archdiocese of Toronto. As of this writing, the following restrictions remain in effect for places of worship in the archdiocese:

- **Durham Region, Simcoe County, Orangeville and York Region churches** – these areas have returned to the “Red” (Control) designation, as determined by the Province of Ontario. This permits churches in these regions to operate sacramental celebrations at 30% capacity.
- **Toronto and Peel Region churches** – the province, in consultation with local medical officers of health, has extended the stay-at-home order in these regions until at least March 8, 2021, restricting places of worship to no more than 10 people (including the celebrant) in the church at any given time.

I am heartened that public Masses have returned to more than 35% of our parishes. Where this is not yet possible, I have asked all parishes to remain open each day for a period of private prayer. Permission has also been granted to parishes in these regions to continue to offer Holy Communion services on the weekend. Please check with your local parish regarding their current schedule.

I am grateful for the many sacrifices that you have made over the past 11 months. Throughout the pandemic, out of love for neighbour, in an effort to minimize the transmission of Covid-19, we have followed the health authorities’ direction on significant restrictions, limiting the ability of the faithful to gather. This has resulted in great spiritual sacrifice and pain for all of us, and especially for those who are isolated and vulnerable.

Despite temporary restrictions, we need to worship together, and to return to our full sacramental life as soon as is possible. We continue to urge that places of worship be treated equitably by the province; for example, it is only fair that there be a consistent approach to restrictions as they relate to retail businesses and to places of worship. Recently, a coalition of faith leaders has written to Premier Ford, highlighting the essential nature of in-person communal worship and spiritual support. If the government does not address these issues sufficiently, we will be asking for your assistance in contacting our elected officials to amplify our voices.

Once again, thank you for the sacrifices you have made. We pray for those who have died and for those who are sick, as we pray that this pandemic may soon come to an end. May God continue to bless you.

Sincerely in Christ,

+ Thomas Card. Collins

Thomas Cardinal Collins
Archbishop of Toronto

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT LINE



Image by Dean Moriarty
<https://pixabay.com>

ATTENTION STUDENTS

CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES OF TORONTO IS OFFERING MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

For students (18 - 35 years old) experiencing stress, isolation, or struggling with school-life or work-life balance. All callers accessing the line during non-operational hours will be directed to our main CFS Toronto line which is monitored during our regular office hours 9-5 pm (Mon, Wed, and Fri) and 9-9 pm (Tues and Thurs).

Phone number(s): Local: (647) 249-9059 | Toll free: (877) 794-8373

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SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, 1 MARCH

9:00 AM AVAILABLE

TUESDAY, 2 MARCH

9:00 AM + SISTER ANNE SCHENCK
+ CESAR LIWANAG

WEDNESDAY, 3 MARCH

9:00 AM + ALEJANDRO RUIZ CRUZ

THURSDAY, 4 MARCH

9:00 AM + ALEX ESPINHEIRO
+ FRANCO & LIBERATA TUZI

FRIDAY, 5 MARCH

9:00 AM + JENNIFER JACOB

SATURDAY, 6 MARCH

9:00 AM + REV. AMEDEO NARDONE
5:00 PM FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, 7 MARCH

8:30 AM AVAILABLE

9:45 AM + MANUEL VICENCIO

11:00 AM + CONCETTA MANSERRA

12:15 AM AVAILABLE

DAILY INTENTIONS

The Cardinal has granted dispensation to the lay faithful for missing Mass on Sunday. In lieu of receiving an Eucharistic Communion, the lay faithful can pray for a Spiritual Communion.

If you would like to book a Mass Intention please email the parish office at denise.ford@archtoronto.org. Please include the full name for the Mass intention, and include your name and phone number.

2020 TAX RECEIPTS

Please note, the Archdiocese of Toronto will be mailing out all 2020 Tax Receipts for St. Francis de Sales parishioners.



Please remember to pick up your box of 2021 offertory envelopes. If you require a box, please contact the parish office. **PLEASE DISCARD ALL OLD ENVELOPES.**

YOUTH MINISTRY

Calling all students Gr 6-8! You are invited to our Edge night, every second and fourth Friday's of the month. Our Edge nights will remain virtual for the remainder of the school year. **Our next Edge night will be March 12 at 7:30pm.** Please contact Noah Aquino for more information at (905) 683-1403 X100 or noah.aquino@outlook.com

MASS AT ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

Weekday Masses are 9:00 a.m. **These days will be on a first come, first serve basis.**

Our Sunday Mass Schedule is:

Saturday 5pm, Sunday 8:30am; 9:45am; 11:00am; 12:15pm. This will be on a first come first serve basis.

You are **required under the Durham Region By-law** and Cardinal Collins to wear a facemask inside the church building. **If you are ill, we ask that you stay home.**

Please arrive early, as there will be designated pews for you and/or families to be seated by an Usher. As you leave, there will be an offertory donation box by the Baptismal Font into which you may place your donations.

FRIDAYS DURING LENT



The parish will have Stations of the Cross at 8:30 am, followed by 9am Mass, and 9:30am to 10 a.m. confessions.



We have resumed our virtual Children's Liturgy every **Sunday at 10:30 a.m.** to help keep the Catholic faith alive among kids during the lockdown. The format is suitable for kids in Kindergarten to Grade 2 but older kids are welcome to join. To register, please contact **Christine Santos** at santoschristine@hotmail.com or (416) 877-5767.

The children's weekly bulletin is available online. Please go to the parish website at www.stfrancisdesales.ca, click on the bulletin tab and then scroll down to open and download the weekly bulletin from the Archive List.

LENTEN CONFESSIONS



St. Francis de Sales Parish will have its annual Lenten Confessions on **Tuesday 16 March from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and on Wednesday 17 March from 7 to 8 p.m.** In addition, we will have confessions every Friday 9:30 to 10 a.m.



WE WOULD LOVE FOR YOU TO JOIN US ON INSTAGRAM @sfdjax FOLLOW OUR YOUTH MINISTRY INSTAGRAM @sfdyouth

Visit our website: www.stfrancisdesales.ca

REFLECTION

As we are currently in the year dedicated to St. Joseph (8 Dec - 8 Dec 2021), here are the seven sorrows of St. Joseph, **based on various events in the Bible**, as recorded in the 19th-century devotional book *The Glories of the Catholic Church*.

1. “**First**, at finding that his honored Lady and amiable spouse had conceived, and at the idea of being obliged by the law to forsake her. (St. Matt. i. 18, 19.)”
2. “**Second**, at not being able to find lodging in the city of Bethlehem for the King and Queen of heaven, and at seeing Jesus lying shivering on a little straw in a manger, between two animals— His only shelter from the cold, there being no room for Him in the inn. (St. Luke ii. 7.)”
3. “**Third**, at seeing the divine infant suffer and shed so much of His precious blood in the painful ceremony of His circumcision, when he was but eight days old. (St. Luke ii. 21.)”
4. “**Fourth**, at hearing, on the day of the purification, the prophecy of holy Simeon, that the child should be an object of contradiction and persecution, and that a sword of sorrow should pierce Mary’s heart. (St. Luke ii. 34, 35.)”
5. “**Fifth**, his flight into Egypt with the child and His Mother, in the darkness of the night, and in the depth of winter, to escape the persecution raised by Herod against the adorable infant. (St. Matt. ii. 13.)”
6. “**Sixth**, on his return from Egypt, hearing that Archelaus, more cruel still, reigned in Judea in the room of Herod his father, he was afraid to go thither, and being warned in sleep retired into Galilee. (St. Matt. ii. 22.)”
7. “**Seventh**, in the celebrated pilgrimage to Jerusalem, not finding the child Jesus, his only solace, among his acquaintance, he sought Him three days, sorrowing for His loss. (St. Luke i. 45, 46, 48.)”



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to all the children who received the beautiful sacrament of First Reconciliation!

We want to thank all the parents so much for all you do each day to continue to help prepare the children for their sacraments at home, especially during these unique and challenging times. We pray that we will be able to celebrate the sacrament of First Communion in May/June. We will send out these dates as well as the First Communion rehearsal dates in the coming weeks. Please have your child begin to work on the First Communion preparation books at home. Father and I will send out the First Communion preparation videos to complement what the children are learning at home. We encourage you to pray daily as a family by using the prayer pamphlet that was given at registration. We are working on the Nicene Creed for First Communion. It would be great for the children to begin to become more familiar with this prayer by reading along. We look forward to seeing all of you at Mass each week as the children prepare for their very special sacrament of First Communion.

CONFIRMATION

The Confirmation Schedule has been released. Parents, please check your emails and the Confirmation page on the parish website for more information. Classes have resumed and will continue all the way through March, until March 21/22. Please check your email for the updated schedule, if you have not already done so. We strongly encourage families, if they are healthy and able to do so, to resume attending Mass in person. Find your Confirmation Spotify playlist on the parish website

ONLINE DONATIONS

Dear parishioners,

If you are not able to attend, but still wish to donate, here are the ways in which you can continue to support our parish:

- Mail your regular weekly offertory contribution to the parish or drop off to the parish locked mailbox by the office door, or drop off in the donations box at Mass.
- Online donations can be made at www.archtoronto.org. Simply click on the donate now icon, select St. Francis de Sales parish from the drop down menu and the fund you wish to donate to. This can be done as a onetime donation or as an ongoing monthly donation. It will give you a place to choose that option.
- Contribute through pre-authorized giving. You can obtain a form from the parish website. Mail the completed form and a voided cheque to the parish office. Or e-mail the form and a scanned copy or photo of a voided cheque to development@archtoronto.org for processing. Contributions are withdrawn from your bank account on the 20th of each month.

Thank you for your many contributions to our parish community.

**2020 – 2021
Confirmation Schedule**

School Group	Groups 1 and 2 are organized based on the maximum numbers the Church can safely accommodate	Confirmation Mass Date
St. Catherine of Siena		Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 7pm
St. Francis de Sales		Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 7pm
Virtual		Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 7pm
St. Jude		Thursday, April 29, 2021 at 7pm
Other Catholic Schools		Thursday, April 29, 2021 at 7pm
St. Josephine Bakhita	Group 1 – Last Names: A – L	Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 7pm
	Group 2 – Last Names: M – X	Wednesday, May 5 at 7pm
St. André Bessette	Group 1 – Last Names: C – M	Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 7pm
	Group 2: Last Names: N – W	Wednesday May 5, 2021 at 7pm
St. Patrick		Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 7pm
Public/Private Schools		Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 7pm



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