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The Solemnity of the Epiphany of our Lord

January 3rd, 2021



An Epiphany Prayer

*Lord Jesus, may your light shine our way,
 as once it guided the steps of the magi:
 that we too may be led into your presence
 and worship you, the Child of Mary,
 the Word of the Father, the King of nations,
 the Saviour of mankind;
 to whom be glory for ever. Amen*

— Frank Colquhoun

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 am

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00 am - 2:30 pm

SATURDAY 9:30 am - 12:30 pm | 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

SUNDAY 9:30 am - 1:00 pm

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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St. Francis de Sales Parish

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers.....



In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

Source of above quote: <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/epiphany-of-the-lord-sunday-connection/>

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EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, 4 JANUARY

+ JOSE ANTHONY MOURA & FAMILY
+ ROGELIO REJANO

TUESDAY, 5 JANUARY

S.I. IN THANKSGIVING FOR JAN PHILLIPS

WEDNESDAY, 6 JANUARY

+ LANIWATI HALIM

THURSDAY, 7 JANUARY

AVAILABLE

FRIDAY, 8 JANUARY

S.I. KRZYSZTOF KONCEREWICZ
+ CELINE ROCHE

SATURDAY, 9 JANUARY

+ BERYL MOOKING
+ DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE VAZ
FAMILY
+ CONSTANCE & GRACE VAZ

SUNDAY, 10 JANUARY

S.I. VINAY PALAYATHIL
S.I. JULIE OCLEA
+ THAMBY THURAISSINGAM
+ THIVIYAN MANOHARAN
+ K.P. JESUTHASM
+ JOHN CLEMENTS
FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH

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.

Please note that each day, when a private Mass is offered by Fr. Joe and Fr. David, the above intentions are mentioned at the celebration of the Eucharist.

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.

ONLINE MASSES

Mass is being celebrated and is available for live stream from St. Michael's Cathedral. It can be viewed online at www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/stmikescathto. If you cannot watch it live, you can view it later in the day at www.youtube.com/archtoronto



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.**

COMMUNION SERVICES & PRIVATE PRAYER AT THE PARISH

Effective Monday 4 January, St. Francis de Sales parish will be open for **private prayer from Monday to Thursday from 11am to 1pm**. We are only allowed to have **10 individuals at a time including clergy and staff/volunteers in the Church**. Please be mindful of the time you give to private prayer in the parish as there are other people who would like the opportunity to do the same.

Starting **9 January**, we will be having Communion Services. Only 8 people are allowed to attend each 10 minute Communion Service. Please note this is not the celebration of Mass. To attend this Communion Service, you will have to register on Eventbrite. To access Eventbrite, please visit our website at www.stfrancisdesales.ca This Communion Service is limited only to Saturday evening and Sunday at specific times. This does not extend to the other days of the week. For the times of the Communion Service, please see Eventbrite. If you are late for your Communion Service the entrance door to the parish will be locked and you will have to register for another date and time. Out of love for neighbour, we encourage you to register once every two weeks to allow other parishioners to attend.

The entrance to the Church has changed once again. You will now be required to enter through the front door.

The Sacrament of Confession will be offered on Saturdays from 4pm to 4:45pm in the North and/or South Rooms.

These times for Communion Service and Private Prayer are subject to change based on restrictions in Ontario and by the Archdiocese of Toronto. Please keep checking our parish website for continual updates.



Happy New Year everyone! I pray you all had a safe and joyous celebration and winter break.

Edge will be starting on **Friday, Jan 15** and **Life Teen** will begin on **Jan 23**

We are wrapping up the first semester, and in order to get an Edge t-shirt, **you must register for both semesters and pay a total of \$30.**

To register, please visit sfdsyouth.wixsite.com/sfdsyouth. For questions or concerns regarding Youth at the parish, please contact Noah Aquino.

We hope you can join us!

REFLECTION

What is this thing called an indulgence? Is this something left over from the Medieval period that the Church did not get rid of?

An indulgence is a remission of the temporal punishment due to sins already forgiven in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In other words, an indulgence is the application of God's divine mercy to remove the effects of past sins. An indulgence is not forgiveness itself nor is it absolution. The Church cannot get rid of indulgences because of the consequences of sin.

How is an indulgence related to sin?

Sin can have two consequences: eternal punishment in Hell or temporal punishment in purgatory. Unrepentant and unforgiven mortal sin results in eternal punishment. Forgiven sins are free from eternal punishment, but they retain a temporal punishment. It is God's mercy that forgives sin, but it is God's justice that rewards good and punishes evil.

Think of an indulgence in this manner. If you spilled wine on your friend's floor, you've made a mess. Upon apologizing to your friend, you've made amends with him or her. However, you still have the job of cleaning up the spilled mess. Sin is precisely like this example. An indulgence however, seeks to remove that mess without you doing the actual job.

There are two types of indulgences: plenary and partial. A plenary indulgence removes all temporal punishment due to sin. A partial indulgence removes some to the temporal punishment.

How does one get this plenary indulgence?

There are many novenas, prayers etc. by which one can get a plenary indulgence. However, there are 3 conditions which have to be fulfilled.

- (1) Perform the prescribed prayers or works of charity,
- (2) Go to Confession and Holy Communion 7 days before or after; and
- (3) To be free from all attachment to sin, even venial sin.

No one can buy a plenary or partial indulgence. To gain an indulgence, one has to be in the state of grace, that is free from any attachment of sin, even venial sins. If one had sorrow from his or her sins, confessed them, and had been absolved and then performed a charitable work, such as giving alms, then that person could be eligible for an indulgence.

This weekend as we celebrate the Epiphany of Our Lord, let us bring not gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, but our contrite hearts and lives. To be in God's grace, is one of the most wonderful things we can ever have.



Registration is now closed. All enquiries will be deferred until next September 2021.

FIRST CONFESSION / HOLY COMMUNION

Thank you to all the families that picked up the First Reconciliation/ First Communion registration packages, and attending the virtual registration meetings. The sacramental dates will be on our parish website and in the bulletin as soon as we are able to process all the registration forms. We are looking forward to getting to know all of the children, and preparing them for their very special sacraments.

CONFIRMATION

We thank everyone for their interest in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, and we look forward to celebrating the Sacrament in 2021.

Parents, thank you for coming out to the meeting this past week. It was great seeing you and discussing the preparation for this year. Please continue to **monitor the parish bulletin, website and emails** for any updates regarding the sacrament.

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 at this time:

- 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.

Visit our website: www.stfrancisdesales.ca

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