



# ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

1001 Ravenscroft Road  
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### The Third Sunday of Advent

December 11th 2022



*God of hope, who brought joy into this world,  
 be the joy that dwells between us.  
 God of hope, the rock we stand upon,  
 be the centre, the focus of our lives  
 always, and particularly this Advent time.  
 — Amen*

PRAYER FROM [www.faithandworship.com](http://www.faithandworship.com)

**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 - THURSDAY 9:00 am  
 FRIDAY 7:00 pm  
 SATURDAY 9:00 am

#### SUNDAY MASS

SATURDAY 5:00 pm  
 SUNDAY 8:30 am | 10:15 am | 12:00 pm | 7:00 pm

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

FRIDAY 6:00 pm - 6:45 pm  
 SATURDAY 4:00 pm - 4:45 pm

#### OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:30 am - 3:30 pm  
 SATURDAY 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

### Parish Contacts

PASTOR	<b>FR. JOSEPH SINGH</b> sfdspastor@gmail.com	☎ ext 105
ASSOCIATE PASTOR	<b>FR. STEVEN KWON</b> associatesfds40@gmail.com	☎ ext 104
DEACON	<b>DEACON ALBAN SOARES</b> alban.soares@gmail.com	☎ ext 108
PARISH OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR	VANESSA LOWING stfrancisdesales@archtoronto.org	☎ ext 103
CONFIRMATION, & YOUTH MINISTRY	NOAH AQUINO naquino@archtoronto.org	☎ ext 100
FIRST COMMUNION, RECONCILIATION	DAWN SELDA dawn.selda@archtoronto.org	☎ ext 102

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## 3<sup>RD</sup> WEEK OF ADVENT

# Joyful Anticipation

Though Advent is a penitential season, we're surrounded by joy. As we journey through this season, we **EMPTY OURSELVES** of the extra and unneeded and find ourselves open to be **FILLED BY AND WITH JESUS** himself.

Joy ... becomes a destination and a commitment we make. As the Holy Spirit becomes a more comfortable companion to us, we find that joy is a place we share.

Joy does not equal happiness, but it takes time to realize that, to appreciate it for the gift it is. We have to learn **TO COOPERATE WITH GOD'S GRACE** in our lives to be able to touch the joy that is as part of us as the air we breathe.

Source: <https://www.catholicmom.com/articles/2013/12/15/the-third-week-of-advent-the-joy-cand>

## Advent Confession Night

Tuesday, December, 20: 7pm

## Be Ready to Encounter Christ

### Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before His birth

This Annual Advent Confession Night will be the last major opportunity to partake in this sacrament before the celebration of Christmas.



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## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### MASS INTENTIONS

**MONDAY, 12 DECEMBER** *Our Lady of Guadalupe*

9:00 AM S.I. REXON ABRAHAM  
+ JEROME VIECHWEG  
+ JEJI JOY

**TUESDAY, 13 DECEMBER** *St. Lucy*

9:00 AM + ANTONIO MASTRANGELO

**WEDNESDAY, 14 DECEMBER** *St John of the Cross*

9:00 AM S.I. PRAYERS TO ST ANTHONY  
+ ROSARIO RODRIGUES  
+ JOSEPH LOVERY

**THURSDAY, 15 DECEMBER**

9:00 AM + DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE  
SEMELHAGO, COUFO & LEE FAMILIES

**FRIDAY, 16 DECEMBER**

7:00 PM S.I. FR. JOSEPH SINGH, FR. STEVEN KWON  
& DEACON ALBAN SOARES  
+ SABINA & ROBERT RAJASINGHAM  
+ STEPHANIE GERMAIN

**SATURDAY, 17 DECEMBER –**

9:00 AM AVAILABLE

5:00 PM S.I. FR. MASSIMO BUTTIGIEG  
+ DOMINIC D'SOUZA  
+ HILTON JAMES & LINDA LONDON

**SUNDAY, 18 DECEMBER**

8:30 AM + THURASINGHAM THAMBU  
+ DOMINIC D'SOUZA  
+ ALFRED SINGH

10:15 AM + HERMIE SENORAN  
+ ALFRED SINGH

12:00 PM + CHRISTINE LUTTER  
+ OPHELIA KENDALL

7:00 PM + PEDRO G. MADAMBA  
FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH

### ADVENT CANDLES



Each candle of our Advent Wreath has a meaning. The 1<sup>st</sup> purple candle symbolizes Hope. The 2<sup>nd</sup> purple candle is for Faith. The 3<sup>rd</sup> candle, rose in colour, is for Joy. The 4<sup>th</sup> purple candle is for Peace.

### A CATHOLIC CACKLE

Need a little laughter to brighten your day?  
Try out this joke.

**Who was the greatest comedian in the bible?**

- *Samson. He brought the house down!*



**Visit our NEW website:**

[www.stfrancisdesales.archtoronto.org](http://www.stfrancisdesales.archtoronto.org)

### ADVENT CONFESSION NIGHT



St Francis de Sales will have it's annual Advent Confession Night Tuesday 20 December from 7-10 pm. There will be many priests available for confessions. Please take advantage of this time as it will be your last major opportunity before the celebration of Christmas. There will be **NO** confessions on Saturday 24 December.

### CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

**Christmas Eve: Saturday, December 24**

4 p.m., 6 p.m., 9 p.m. & 11:30 p.m.

**Christmas Day: Sunday, December 25**

10:00 a.m. & 12:00 Noon

**Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)**

Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at: 5 p.m.

Sunday January 1<sup>st</sup> at: 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.



Your CWL parish council would like to take this time to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who came out and supported the recent Christmas raffle and bake sale. Through ticket sales and donations of baked goods we were able to achieve our fundraising goal and we couldn't have done it without you and your support!

### LUNCH HOUR SUPERVISOR

Currently St. Andre Bessette Catholic School is in need of a "lunch time supervisor". They are looking for someone to supervise the students over the lunch period from 11:25am – 12:25pm from Monday to Friday. This is a paid position. Please contact the office at St. Andre Bessette (905-619-8021) if you are interested.



The Knights of Columbus have organized a **Baby Bottle Boomerang Drive** this weekend after all Masses (Please collect your bottles & return by Jan 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

Proceeds of this event raised will be given to: The Rose of Durham Oshawa (Young Parents Support Division).



*Let us pray! For the sick members of our parish and for those who love and minister to them.*

## REFLECTION

**At Advent and Christmas, we see a lot of angels in our creches and on Christmas cards. Do we still believe in angels?**

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* clearly affirms, “The existence of the spiritual, non-corporeal beings that sacred Scripture usually calls ‘angels’ is a truth of faith. The witness of Scripture is as clear as the unanimity of Tradition” (no. 328). Given that we do believe in angels, we define them as pure spirits and personal beings with intelligence and free will. They are immortal beings. As the Bible attests, they appear to humans as apparitions with a human form.

The next three choirs fulfill God’s providential plan for the universe: The dominations or dominions, whose name evokes authority, govern the lesser choirs of angels. The virtues, whose name originally suggested power or strength, implement the orders from the dominations and govern the heavenly bodies. Lastly, the powers confront and fight against any evil forces opposed to God’s providential plan.

The last three choirs are directly involved in human affairs: The principalities care for earthly principalities, such as nations or cities. The archangels deliver God’s most important messages to mankind, while each angel serves as a guardian for each of us. Although not official dogma, this schema became popular in the Middle Ages in the writings of St. Thomas Aquinas.

A key to understanding angels is by looking at what they do. First, angels see, praise and worship God in His divine presence. Jesus said, “*See that you never despise one of these little ones. I assure you, their angels in Heaven constantly behold my heavenly Father’s face*” (Mt 18:10), a passage which also indicates that each of us has a guardian angel. The Book of Revelation described how the angels surround the throne of God and sing praises (cf Rv 5:11ff, 7:11ff). Moreover, they rejoice over the saved soul of the repentant sinner (Lk 15:10).

Second, “angel” comes from the Greek “*angelos*” which means “messenger,” which describes their role in interacting with this world. St. Augustine stated that angels were “the mighty ones who do His word, hearkening to the voice of His word.” Throughout sacred Scripture, the angels served as messengers of God, whether delivering an actual message of God’s plan of salvation, rendering justice, or providing strength and comfort.

After the Fall of Adam and Eve and their expulsion, the cherubim guarded the entrance to the Garden of Eden (Gen 3:24). Angels protected Lot and his family in Sodom and Gomorrah (Gn. 19). The angel stopped Abraham as he was about to offer Isaac in sacrifice (Gn. 22).

## FINANCIAL UPDATE FOR N 2022

	<u>GOAL</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
SUNDAY OFFERTORY	\$60,000	\$45,162
MORTGAGE FUND	\$10,000	\$5,395
BUILDING FUND	\$5,000	\$5,258
DEBT OUTSTANDING		\$2,062,399
SHARELIFE	\$69,000	\$67,529

**Thank you for your continued support!**



## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We hope you and your children are enjoying this beautiful Advent Season and that you are finding wonderful ways to prepare for the birth of Jesus! Please remember if you are visiting another Parish during the Christmas Season, to pick up a bulletin so that we can add a stamp to your child’s passport the following week. Please also remember to add February 25<sup>th</sup> to your calendar for your child’s sacrament of First Reconciliation. Please see the back of the passport for the time for your child’s school. We are looking forward to seeing the children at Mass during this special time of the year.

God Bless!

## CONFIRMATION

The first passport review is now complete. If you did not submit your passport for review, kindly contact Noah to arrange a time to drop it off at the parish office. The email containing which class day is assigned to your child will be sent out in the coming weeks. The schedule for confirmation will be released shortly. Attending the Advent Confession is mandatory for all Confirmandi Candidates and is strongly encouraged for parents to also participate. Should you have any questions please contact Noah Aquino.

God Bless!

### *Continued...*

An angel guarded the people on the way to the Promised Land (Ex 23:20). In all, Hebrews 1:14 captured their role well: “*Are they not all ministering spirits, sent to serve those who are to inherit salvation?*”

Article by Rev. William Saunders from the *Arlington Catholic Herald*.



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