



# ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

1001 Ravenscroft Road  
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### *The Nativity of the Lord*

December 25th 2023



*Do not be afraid; for see, I am bringing you  
Good News of great joy for all the people;  
to you is **born** this day in the city of David  
a Savior, who is the Messiah, the **Lord**.*

*- Luke 2 : 10-11*

**Our mission :** We joyfully welcome you to our parish family of faith. 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

#### HOLY HOUR

FRIDAY 6:00 pm - 7:00pm

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

FRIDAY 6:00 pm - 6:45 pm  
SATURDAY 4:00 pm - 4:45 pm  
or by appointment

#### OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:30 am - 3:30 pm  
SATURDAY 9:30 am - 12:30 pm | 3:30 pm - 6:00 pm  
SUNDAY 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

### Parish Contacts

PASTOR	<b>FR. JOSEPH SINGH</b> sfdspastor@gmail.com ☎ ext 105
ASSOCIATE PASTOR	<b>FR. DEREK ALI</b> fr.derek.ali@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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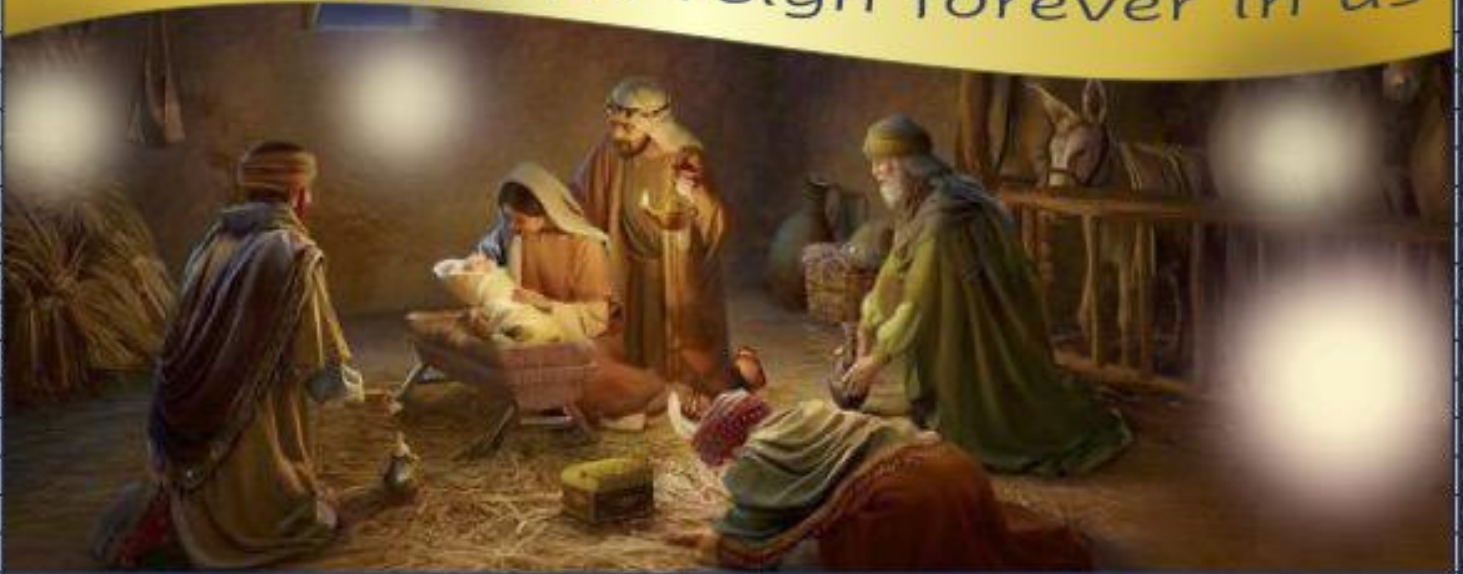


St. Francis de Sales Parish

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



Halleluiah our King is born  
may He reign forever in us



... Jesus, the Son of God, was born in a filthy, cold, and forgettable place. A stable, fit for the most lowly of animals....

*Why would God choose to reveal Himself to us in this way?*

Because He desires to be close to us! He desires to be close to us in our poverty. He desires to share in our hardships – so we can be transformed. God became like us on this day, so He could walk with us in the fullness of our lives. God is with us, here and now.

...This is the reality we celebrate today. God is born to us today to share in the totality of our humanity - especially to be close to the broken hearted and the suffering. God makes Himself poor, so as to share in our poverty. He does this so that we may be glorified with Him on the last day.

...Today's great solemnity is not a commemoration of an event that happened over 2000 years ago. It is making the birth of Christ present now. *God dwells with us and in us.* He desires us as we are: in our poverty. Today, God is reaching down from heaven to earth. He does so by becoming like us."

...He desires to enter our lives. The challenge for you and I this Christmas is: do we really want Him in ours?

By Ryan Browne

Source: <https://www.catholicnews.va/en/church/news/2021/12/gospel-reflection-christmas-day.html#:~:text=Jesus%20%26amp%20Son%20of%20God%20%26amp%20born%20in%20poverty>



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## CHRISTMAS DAY

### MASS INTENTIONS

**MONDAY, 25 DECEMBER** *Christmas Day*

**10:00 AM** S.I. MR & MRS MICHAEL  
S.I. MR & MRS SEBASTIAN PILLAI  
S.I. MR & MRS COOPER  
**12:00 PM** + NENETTE PASIGAN  
+ INNOCENCIO & JOSEPHINE PACHECO

**TUESDAY, 26 DECEMBER**

**9:00 AM** + VERNON FERNANDES  
+ FREDERICK & CARMEN OCULAM  
+ NORBERTO & VIRGILIA TEOFILO

**WEDNESDAY, 27 DECEMBER**

**9:00 AM** + SIXTO VERA CRUZ  
+ UNAT EDWARD MARCHEAU  
+ BASIL & THELMA MARECHEAU

**THURSDAY, 28 DECEMBER**

**9:00 AM** S.I. GABRIEL THOMAS  
+ ALBERTO MARTINS  
+ TOFILO YAMSON

**FRIDAY, 29 DECEMBER**

**9:00 AM** S.I. EMMA DABU  
S.I. SHAYARAJAH & PAVIYOLAH  
SHAYARAJAH  
+ CARMELINA FERNANDES

**SATURDAY, 30 DECEMBER**

**9:00 AM** + GRACE RODRIGUES  
+ MARGARITA CHEN  
+ JOAQUIM CORREIA  
**5:00 PM** FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH

**SUNDAY, 31 DECEMBER** *Feast of the Holy Family*

**8:30 AM** + HELEN & KARL FARUGA  
+ STAN KRUPICZ  
+ MARIA & MANUEL CHAVES & FAMILY  
**10:15 AM** + BENJAMIN STONE  
+ MARIA CLOTILDE BORROS ABREA  
+ SOLEDAD GETCHEY

**SUNDAY, 31 DECEMBER** *New Year's Eve*

**5:00 PM** S.I. DOREEN CLEMENTS  
+ DAVID HOGG

### CLARIFICATION OF MASS ATTENDANCE

**SATURDAY 30 DECEMBER**

- 9:00 a.m.
- 5:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY 31 DECEMBER: Feast of Holy Family**

- 8:30 a.m.
- 10:15 a.m.
- *There will be no 12 p.m. Mass on this day.*

**SUNDAY 31 DECEMBER: New Year's Eve Mass**

- 5:00 p.m.

**MONDAY 1 JANUARY: Holy Mary Mother of God - New Year's Day**

- 10:00 a.m.
- 11:30 a.m.
- 1:00 p.m.

Because the Feast of the Holy Family is the same day as New Year's Eve, parishioners will have to attend one of the Masses for the Feast of the Holy Family and to fulfill your New Year's obligation, will have to attend one of the Masses either on New Year's Eve or Day. 1 January, Mary Mother of God is a day of Mass obligation for all Catholics in Canada.

### THE CATHOLIC ORIGIN OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE

*"Oh, Christmas Tree! Oh, Christmas Tree..."*

It has been said that an evergreen tree sprang forth from the centre of an oak tree cut down by St. Boniface. The oak tree symbolized paganism, and its death brought an end to the old ways. The new tree was "the sign of endless life, for its leaves are evergreen". St. Boniface took this as a sign of the Christian faith. In our present day, the act of decorating a Christmas tree offers us an opportunity for family prayer.

**Prayer:**

*We praise you God for the beauty of this tree. May its evergreen branches remind us of your unending care for all people. May its lights illuminate the darkness of the winter nights. Any may its presence in our home bring cheer and hope for all people. Amen.*



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



### A CATHOLIC CACKLE

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

**Knock, knock! Who's there?**

**Mary! Mary, who?**

**Mary Christmas!**



**Visit our NEW website:**

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



## REFLECTION

Dear brothers and sisters,

This is the season of Christmas, a season where the child Jesus is born for us.

The love of God comes to us through a child born from a Virgin, simple of heart and saying, "Let it be done unto me according to your word."

A mother who wants to give her life for her child. The child becomes her gift, a gift of life and love. She gives the child comfort, shows affection, and protects him like any other mother.

The Church, like the Virgin Mary is your mother. As you enter its doors, may the gift of faith and the blessing of peace upon you.

It is Christmas, the child Jesus is born, the lamb that is unblemished is born, and the word became flesh. The Creator takes on the very flesh of man.

Love is shown through the child Jesus. It is time to celebrate and it is time to be in peace, it is time for joy but profound joy.

Many thanks to all our volunteers and to the many parishioners who offered us this Christmas season their prayers and gifts.

Merry Christmas! Joyeux Noel! Feliz Navidad! Buen Natale!

With our priestly blessings!

***Fr. Joe, Father Derek, Deacon Alban and Deacon Damian***



## MARRIAGE & COMMUNION

Due to the many misconceptions regarding the Catholic Church and marriage, please note that a Catholic may marry a non-Catholic in the Catholic Church, without his or her conversion to the faith. In some instances, a person, who has been previously married, can also be married in the Catholic Church after consultation with the priest.

If as a Catholic you're married outside of the Catholic Church without the permission of the Church, we respectfully ask that you refrain from receiving the Eucharist until your marriage has been validated ("sacramentalized") by a Catholic priest or deacon. To remedy this situation, please call one of the priests to make an appointment to have your marriage validated. We are only too happy to bring back to the couple, the graces necessary to live out their marriage, and to reconcile them with the graces of the Eucharist.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

Another Christmas season is upon us, and while it may bring its challenges, we hope that our parish may be place of comfort and refuge from the hustle and bustle of our busy world.

The church is your home. As you enter its doors, may the gift of faith and blessing of peace come upon you. As you bow your head to pray, may you find the hope and joy that the birth of our Saviour brings to us this day. When you mingle with those around you, may you go out into the world and be the example of God's love and light that he is calling us to be.

May God's blessings be with you and your families on Christmas and always!

Wishing you and your loved ones a happy and healthy new year!

## FIRST COMMUNION/CONFIRMATION

Merry Christmas! We wish all the children, their families and our sacramental team a beautiful Christmas with hope, peace, joy and so much love! We pray for great health and safe journeys as you enjoy all the special moments of this Christmas Season! We look forward to our grade 2 class visits in each of our Parish schools starting in January and continuing with our RCIC classes, as the children prepare for their special sacraments in the New Year! For those in confirmation, classes will begin January 14/15.

Christmas Blessings,  
Mrs. Selda & Noah Aquino





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