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The Ascension of Our Lord

May 12th 2024



*He ascended into heaven and
 is seated at the right hand of the Father.*

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	FR. JOSEPH SINGH sfdspastor@gmail.com	☎ ext 105
ASSOCIATE PASTOR	FR. DEREK ALI fr.derek.ali@gmail.com	☎ ext 104
DEACON	DEACON ALBAN SOARES alban.soares@gmail.com	☎ ext 108
PARISH OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR	VANESSA LOWING sfrancisdesales@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

FEAST OF THE ASCENSION



It is through Christ we, God's adopted children, obtain hope
HE IS THE WAY, THE TRUTH and THE LIFE.

What does Christ's Ascension mean for us?

Left to its own natural powers humanity does not have access to the "Father's house," to God's life and happiness. Only Christ can open to man such access... (Catechism of the Catholic Church 661)

The Catechism further explains,

....Being seated at the Father's right hand signifies the inauguration of the Messiah's kingdom, the fulfillment of the prophet Daniel's vision concerning the Son of man: "To him was given dominion and glory and kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed." (cf. CCC 662-664)

Source: <https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/seasons-and-feast-days/ascension-20994>



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SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, 13 MAY

9:00 AM S.I. NATALIA MATHEW
+ DIANNE ARBOR
+ RAYAPPU RAJA ICUMARY & RYAN
SILOGINI

TUESDAY, 14 MAY

9:00 AM S.I. IN THANKSGIVING FOR BLESSINGS
RECEIVED
+ PAT MACDONALD
+ NICHOLAS & ASUNSION CANIZARES

WEDNESDAY, 15 MAY

9:00 AM S.I. DAVE RAMDEO
S.I. MARGARET FERREIRA
+ BERNARDO NATIVIDAD

THURSDAY, 16 MAY

9:00 AM + BRICE HELEN CUTINHO
+ JUANITO ESGUERRA

FRIDAY, 17 MAY

7:00 PM S.I. IAN LOWING
+ RUTH KELLY
+ ANTONIO M CARVALHO

SATURDAY, 18 MAY

9:00 AM + GERARDO DE MUZIO

5:00 PM + ALAN APPLETON
+ ELLIOT R LOPEZ
FR. MELITO DIAS

SUNDAY, 19 MAY

8:30 AM FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH
10:15 AM S.I. JULIA & KILE BLANCHARD AND FAMILY
+ PETRONILA GALAPIN
+ JOSELUIS & EMILIA SOUSA
12:00 PM + CHRISTIAN REVENTAR
+ ADELINO GOMES & CLOTILDE ABREU
+ BRICE CUTINHO
7:00 PM NO EVENING MASS



Please note. There will be no 7pm Mass on Sunday 19 May due to the Victoria Day Long Weekend. The Parish office will also be closed on Monday 20 May.

2024 OFFERTORY BOXES



Please be sure to pick up your 2024 Sunday Offertory envelopes before the end of May. If you do not see your name on a box of envelopes, please contact the parish office. **Please throw out all old offertory envelopes.** Thank you.



Thank you for all that you are doing for the ShareLife campaign. We are very grateful for your generosity and support. **To date, we have collected \$39,036 for the ShareLife appeal. This is 39% of our parish goal, which is \$99,000.** You may also choose to give to the ShareLife appeal by way of credit card. To donate online go to: www.sharelife.org

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Our housekeeper/cook, Dianne Bloise, will be retiring this year. We will miss her greatly. The position is 4 days per week. If you are interested in the position of housekeeper/cook, please email Father Joe directly at sfdspastor@gmail.com or drop off your resume at the parish office.



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults
If you know of a non-Catholic living in our neighbourhood, who would like to join the Catholic Church, please have him or her phone Fr. Joe at 905-683-1403 ext. 105 for an appointment. Our Classes will begin in **September 2024.**



Visit our NEW website:
www.stfrancisdesales.archtoronto.org



There will be NO Life Teen this Saturday May 18th due to the Victoria Day long weekend. The next Edge Night is on May 24th at 7:30 pm. Registration for Edge Camp for students in grades 5 to 8 & high school leadership camp is open until May 31st. To register, please visit edgencamp.campbrainregistration.com.

The youth would like to thank the parish for their endless generosity throughout the year, especially during last weekend's Samosa Sale! During the fundraising sale over \$1800 will go towards students going to camp. Thank you for your continued support. God Bless!



Jesus, I honor You on the feast of Your Ascension into heaven. I rejoice with all my heart at the glory into which You entered to reign as King of heaven and earth. When the struggle of this life is over, give me the grace to share Your joy and triumph in heaven for all eternity.

FINANCIAL UPDATE FOR APRIL 2024

	<u>GOAL</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
SUNDAY OFFERTORY	\$60,000	\$63,709
MORTGAGE FUND	\$10,000	\$5,759
BUILDING FUND	\$5,000	\$5,093
DEBT OUTSTANDING		\$1,779,941



Our Senior's Mass and Lunch will be held on Wednesday May 15th. We will begin with Mass at 11:30 a.m. followed by the luncheon. This event is open to all seniors of the parish, please join us for some faith and fellowship.

If you are planning to attend, please contact: Mary Ellen Stinson at 905-666-3752 or by email at mellen.stinson@gmail.com

CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to all of our Confirmandi candidates who received the Sacrament of Confirmation. You have now been sealed with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and we know you will continue to defend and practice our faith. A big thank you to our catechists for sharing their time, talent and wisdom with our Confirmandi throughout the preparation classes. To all ministries and volunteers involved to help make our Confirmation a beautiful celebration, your work and time is greatly appreciated! **To all the parents and families, we encourage you to continue to come to Mass every Sunday and thank you for your patience throughout this whole process.** May God bless each and every one of you!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We continue to prepare the children for the sacrament of First Communion through our class visits to our 6 Parish schools and our RCIC classes. Please see the schedule below for First Holy Communion rehearsals and dates. We are looking forward to the children receiving Jesus on their First Communion Day.

School	Rehearsal	First Communion
Public/Private/Other Catholic Schools	Thursday May 23 rd at 6:30pm	Saturday May 25 th at 10:00am
St. André Bessette	Thursday May 23 rd at 6:30pm	Saturday May 25 th at 10:00am
Virtual School	Thursday May 23 rd at 6:30pm	Saturday May 25 th at 10:00am
St Patrick	Thursday May 23 rd at 7:30pm	Saturday May 25 th at 1:00pm
St Francis de Sales	Wednesday May 29 th at 6:30pm	Saturday June 1 st at 10:00am
St. Josephine Bakhita	Wednesday May 29 th at 6:30pm	Saturday June 1 st at 10:00am
St. Jude	Wednesday May 29 th at 7:30pm	Saturday June 1 st at 1:00pm
St Catherine of Siena	Wednesday May 29 th at 7:30pm	Saturday June 1 st at 1:00pm



Message for Mother's Day 2024
His Grace Most Reverend Francis Leo
Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto
12 May 2024

My Dear Friends,

Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers here in the Archdiocese of Toronto. During the month of May we not only celebrate the Virgin Mother of God, Mary most Holy, our spiritual mother, we celebrate indeed all mothers and in them, the gift of maternity. While we certainly do not limit our acknowledgment and praise of mothers to merely a single day once a year, since we ought to do so in different and creative ways every day; nevertheless, it is important to set aside time to recognize all mothers in a special and prayerful way. I say "prayerful way" not as a pious platitude, but because the origin of Mother's Day is steeped in prayer, rejoicing and recognition.

In many parts of the world, Mother's Day was known as "Mothering Sunday" which took place on *Laetare Sunday* (the Fourth Sunday of Lent). On this day, it was customary for people to return to their "mother Church," that is, the parish Church where they were baptized or the mother Church of the Diocese (the Cathedral). As part of their "pilgrimage" home people would likewise visit and celebrate their own mothers. Overall, the tenor of the day was celebratory, marked with a sense of gratitude for the gift of motherhood and true maternal love - love for Holy Mother Church, for Mary the Mother of God, and for all Mothers, living or dead. Today things have changed somewhat, but it might be interesting to plan a trip to your baptismal Church or St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica here in the Archdiocese of Toronto as part of your Mother's Day festivities.

We must never downplay or overlook the importance of motherhood. While many reduce the importance of motherhood to the one act of giving birth, I would suggest there is more, much more for us to consider and for which to be grateful. One of the commandments given on Mount Sinai was to honour our father and mother (Deut. 5:16). The Decalogue can be split into two sections, the first looking at our relationship with God and the second looking at our relationship with others.¹ The second section, dealing with human relationships begins with the fourth commandment, pointing to the fundamental segment of all human interaction—the family. To honour one's mother and father is to recognize that we are not individuals merely co-existing with others, but rather we have a responsibility for others. We are in relationship with God and with others. We are members of a family, and families are the most basic unit of any and every society. The first three commandments recognize our primary relationship—our relationship with God; the remaining seven commandments focus on our secondary relationships—our relationship with others. Both our relationship with God and our neighbour are outward looking—a crucial remedy to an increasingly fragmented view of humanity that can be at times uncaring and anti-social. The fourth commandment to honour our

¹ The Ten Commandments state what is required in the love of God and love of neighbor. the first three concern love of God, and the other seven love of neighbor. As charity comprises the two commandments to which the Lord related the whole Law and the prophets . . . so the Ten Commandments were themselves given on two tablets. Three were written on one tablet and seven on the other. (CCC 2067).



mother and father colours and influences all other relationships and in many ways underpins our entire Catholic Social teaching.²

Within the context of our families we learn how to be “human,” how to live with others, care for others, and give of ourselves in a sacrificial way. The importance of the family cannot be overstated. The Second Vatican Council referred to the family as the “domestic Church,” (LG 11) the place where we first learn about God and His love for us. The interconnectedness of the family mirrors the divine life of the Holy Trinity, participating in the creative love of the Father, the sacrifice of the Son and love of the Holy Spirit.³ Pope Francis describes this divine dynamic referring to the family as a “living icon,” writing, “the triune God is a communion of love, and the family is its living reflection.”⁴ The image of the family as a “living icon” of the Trinity is profound because icons have traditionally been understood to have a transcendent quality, participating in the reality they depict. Thus, the family doesn’t just mirror or reflect the Trinity, but is called to participate in the very divine life of God. Further, the creator of an icon is not a painter, but a writer, with a specific theological goal—to draw people into the mystery being depicted, likewise the family is meant in similar fashion to draw people into the mystery of God (cf. Eph. 5:21-33).

In a General Audience on January 7th, 2015 Pope Francis said this of mothers:

Mothers are the strongest antidote to the spread of self-centred individualism. “Individual” means “what cannot be divided”. Mothers, instead, “divide” themselves, from the moment they bear a child... A society without mothers would be a dehumanized society, for mothers are always, even in the worst moments, witnesses of tenderness, dedication and moral strength. Mothers often pass on the deepest sense of religious practice: in a human being’s life, the value of faith is inscribed in the first prayers, the first acts of devotion that a child learns. It is a message that believing mothers are able to pass on without much explanation: these come later, but the seed of faith is those early precious moments.⁵

On this Mother’s Day I wish to extend my warmest best wishes and abundant blessing on all mothers. Thank you for everything you do for your families, the Church, this archdiocese and the world. My prayer for mothers today is that you continue to live in the grace of Our Lord, labouring in His vineyard, giving each day a piece of your heart to those around you, nurturing and protecting, and living the abundant life of authentic holiness, in imitation of the Mother of us all, Our Lady. Please know that you are deeply loved and greatly appreciated.

Sincerely Yours in Jesus with Mary,

Most Rev. Francis Leo
Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto

² CCC 2198.

³ CCC 2205.

⁴ Francis, *Amoris Laetitia*, n.11.

⁵ Francis, *General Audience*, 7 January 2015. See also *Amoris Laetitia*, n.174.



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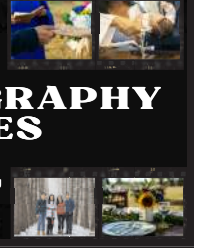


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