



# ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

December 25th 2024



*Good news and great joy to all  
the world: today is **born** our Saviour,  
Christ the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

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 | 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
SUNDAY 8:30 am - 1:30 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 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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[www.stfrancisdesales.archtoronto.org](http://www.stfrancisdesales.archtoronto.org)



*Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the World.*

John 1:29



May the Miracle of Christmas fill  
your hearts with joy and peace

*Merry Christmas and blessings  
to you and your loved ones.  
May the gift of Christmas live  
within you always.*

Warmest Wishes,

Fr. Joe, Fr. Derek, Deacon  
Alban and Parish Staff



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## THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

### MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, 23 DECEMBER

9:00 AM + SYLVIA, SIMON & SYDNEY D'SOUZA  
+ DAPHNE IRANI  
+ JASMIN ILUMBA

TUESDAY, 24 DECEMBER

9:00 AM NO MASS  
*Christmas Eve*

4:00 PM + BARBARA CANNATA  
+ CONNIE MCALEESE  
+ ANIA HEALY

6:00 PM S.I. FOR THE PHILLIP & PHILLIPS FAMILIES  
+ CHRISTIAN REVENTAR  
+ RICHARD, DORIS & MARILYN MCKEE

9:00 PM + CONSTANCE & GRACE VAZ  
+ SALEEM ELVENA KHAN  
+ PATRICIA ELLUL

11:30 PM S.I. WILLIAM GERMAINE  
S.I. JEWEL POLLOCK  
+ JAMES & SHEILA BAPTISTE

WEDNESDAY, 25 DECEMBER *Christmas Day*

10:00 AM + NATIVIDAD CARPIO  
+ JADE DE CASTRO  
+ SIMON D'CRUZ & BERNARD ROSARIO

12:00 PM + MR & MRS FIC  
+ MR & MRS TVRDON  
+ ANTONIA HAWKINS SHORT

THURSDAY, 26 DECEMBER

9:00 AM S.I. EMMA DABU  
+ FREDERICK & CARMEN OCULAM  
+ DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE CLEMENTS &  
BAROBA FAMILIES

FRIDAY, 27 DECEMBER

9:00 AM S.I. ELDA MARTINEZ  
S.I. FOR BENJIE & JENIE BURAGA  
+ SIXTO VERA CRUZ

SATURDAY, 28 DECEMBER

9:00 AM S.I. FOR THE CLERGY OF ST. FRANCIS  
+ TEOFILLO YAMSON II  
+ ALL SOULS IN PURGATORY

5:00 PM S.I. SHARON QUINTAL & JEWEL POLLOCK  
S.I. HILTON JAMES & LINDA LONDON  
+ SIMON D'CRUZ

SUNDAY, 29 DECEMBER

8:30 AM + CARMELINA FERNANDES  
+ THIRUNAMAM NAGAMANI  
+ THAMBU THURASINGHAM

10:15 AM + EMILIO LATOZA PASCUAL  
+ SIMEONA PEREZ  
+ MARILOU MACALALAD-RIVERA

12:00 PM + EDITH COUTINHO  
+ CONRADO BURAGA  
+ LITO BAUZA

7:00 PM FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH



### NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

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

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

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

The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God is also a Holy Day of Obligation for all Catholics in Canada. To fulfill this obligation, you must attend Mass on either New Years Eve or New Years Day.



Please note, Mass on Friday December 27<sup>th</sup> will be at 9am. The parish office will also be closed from December 23 to January 4 for the Christmas holidays. We will re-open on January 4. See you in the new year!



We celebrate the birth of our Lord into our world; however, many have not received the birth of our Lord into their hearts. If Christ lives in your heart and you would like to help others discover the Lord, you may be called to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon. **If God is calling you, call Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.**

Email [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)  
[www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)

### 2025 OFFERTORY BOXES



Please be sure to pick up your 2025 Sunday Offertory envelopes. If you do not see your name on a box of envelopes, please contact the parish office. **Please do not use the 2025 envelopes for 2024 donations. Use these envelopes from January 1, 2025.** Thank you for your generosity! If you have requested envelopes over the past couple of weeks, the envelopes will not be ready until the second or third weekend in January. Please continue to use the visitor's envelopes located in the pew pockets. Print your full name and address clearly on the line so we can attach it to your parish registration. This will ensure you receive a tax receipt at year end.

Visit our NEW website:

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



## REFLECTION

A new liturgical year, Year 'C', is well under way, but the calendar year of 2024 is still drawing to a close.

We are soon to celebrate Christmas, the birth of Jesus, our Saviour, in Bethlehem. Through baptism we are sons and daughters of God and brothers and sisters to one another. Jesus came to offer everyone an opportunity to share in God's Divine Life, beginning in Baptism and strengthened through the other Sacraments. 1 John 4:16 tells us "God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them".

With the many conflicts happening in our world, the suffering of the poor and homeless, and many facing numerous life challenges, it might be easy to begin to doubt the love of God.

However, God empowers us with His Divine Life and Love through the sacraments that we might be moved through faith to share that love with others, thus helping in His plan to change and save the world.

Love-willing the good of another for their own sake and not for anything in return. This is how God wants us to build a world of peace, hope, joy, and love. God wants us to put faith into concrete action through the fruit of prayer and compassionate service to others (see Galatians 5:6).

Do not lose hope. Do not give up on the power of love when supernaturally charged through faith and God's grace. Look at the global transformation that was begun through a handful of Apostles.

We lack faith, and so we lack prayer. We lack prayer and so we lack love. We lack love and so we lack peace.

The spirit of giving at Christmas is inescapably linked to faith in Jesus Christ and being open to the grace of God in our lives through the power of the Holy Spirit (see Luke 11:13). The love which flows from faith is powerful.

Do not wait for change to come from the world. Start with yourself and your family. As an individual and as a family pray daily the Rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. Go to Mass at least once a week. Use the Sacrament of Reconciliation frequently. Read your Bible. Pray for the grace to live faithfully the Commandments and the Beatitudes. Get active in the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. If the majority of Catholics put great effort into this spiritual program what wonders might be seen as we pray for God's blessing upon us? If the majority of Christians lived with such spiritual faith what great accomplishment can be achieved.

It might seem that we do not have the faith of the centurion (see Luke 7:1-10), nor the perseverance of the persistent widow (see Luke 18:1-8).

But we can and need to trust God and pray. The prayer of faithful Israelites helped to fulfill the promise of the coming of the Messiah. The prayer of faithful Christians can help to fulfill Christ's desire to overcome sin and the divisions which stem from sin (see Romans 6:12-14).

As Catholic Christians we are about to celebrate and welcome baby Jesus in the manger at Bethlehem. Do not be fooled; in that small baby is the immensity of the power of God. Be filled with joy as you realize that you are not helpless against the darkness of our present age. The call of the angel's trumpet sounds and it calls to you. Strengthen your prayer life, your conversation and fellowship with God through Jesus Christ.

This is how the true spirit of Christmas, the spirit of Christ, can be reborn in your life.

On behalf of the clergy and staff of St. Francis De Sales Parish, may God's love be poured into your hearts and grant to everyone a very Blessed and Merry Christmas!

**\* All Bible references are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition.**

**Prayer:** Most Holy Savior of the World, You are the Light that scattered the darkness. You chose to be born in the most humble conditions, elevating humility as a means of great holiness. As we celebrate Your birth, I pray that You will also be born in my life, and through me, into the world. May this Christmas be a time in which I come to know You more fully and intimately, joining the shepherds in their adoration of You, so that I can share in the abundant new life You came to bestow. Holy Savior, have mercy on me. Jesus, I trust in You. <https://mycatholic.life/saints/saints-of-the-liturgical-year/25-december-nativity-of-the-lord-solemnity/>



## FIRST COMMUNION/CONFIRMATION

Merry Christmas! We wish all the children, their families and our sacramental team a beautiful Christmas full of hope, peace, joy and lots of love. We pray for great health and safe journeys as you enjoy each special moment of this Christmas season. We are looking forward to seeing all of the children in January when we begin our grade 2 class visits at our 6 Parish schools. The Confirmation preparation classes will also begin in January at the Parish. We are looking forward to getting to know your children, as they prepare for their special sacraments.

**Christmas Blessings, Dawn Selda and Noah Aquino**







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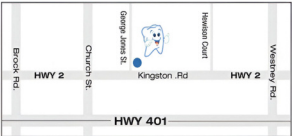
# VOLUNTEER

## Where Are You Being Called to be a Steward?

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| <input type="checkbox"/> ALTAR SERVER (adult – weekday)                 | <input type="checkbox"/> CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MINISTER OF HOSPITALITY (usher)                | <input type="checkbox"/> KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS                             |
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