

THE PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

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www.immaculateheartofmarysc.archtoronto.org

Rev. Fr. Charles Collins, Administrator

Rev. Fr. Peter Gitendran, In Residence



MASS SCHEDULE

Monday to Friday at 12.05 pm

Saturday at 9 am & 5 pm (Vigil)

Sunday at 9 am & 11 am

CONFESSIONS

Monday to Friday at 11.30 am

Saturday at 4.30 pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday 10 am to 4 pm

Susan Lee, Parish Secretary

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

**(Baptism, First Communion,
Confirmation, RCIA)**

Alice Warford, Sacramental Coordinator

ihmsacraments@gmail.com

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Please call 647.428.2880

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

GK Jude Aloysius 416.569.5833

LEGION OF MARY

Letty Denovan 416.755.9569

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Alice Warford

OUR LADY OF GOOD HEALTH

Rev Fr Charles Collins, Pastor 416.264.6544

Sunday Masses at 12.30 & 4.30 pm (in Tamil)

Saint John of the Cross Priest and Doctor of the Church

(June 24, 1542 – December 14, 1591)

Patron Saint of: Mystics

Memorial: December 14th



Saint John of the Cross' Story

John is a saint because his life was a heroic effort to live up to his name: “of the Cross.” The folly of the cross came to full realization in time. “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me” (Mark 8:34b) is the story of John’s life. The Paschal Mystery—through death to life—strongly marks John as

reformer, mystic-poet, and theologian-priest.

Ordained a Carmelite priest in 1567 at age 25, John met Teresa of Avila and like her, vowed himself to the primitive Rule of the Carmelites. As partner with Teresa and in his own right, John engaged in the work of reform, and came to experience the price of reform: increasing opposition, misunderstanding, persecution, imprisonment. He came to know the cross acutely—to experience the dying of Jesus—as he sat month after month in his dark, damp, narrow cell with only his God.

Yet, the paradox! In this dying of imprisonment John came to life, uttering poetry. In the darkness of the dungeon, John’s spirit came into the Light. There are many mystics, many poets; John is unique as mystic-poet, expressing in his prison-cross the ecstasy of mystical union with God in the *Spiritual Canticle*.

But as agony leads to ecstasy, so John had his *Ascent to Mt. Carmel*, as he named it in his prose masterpiece. As man-Christian-Carmelite, he experienced in himself this purifying ascent; as spiritual director, he sensed it in others; as psychologist-theologian, he described and analyzed it in his prose writings. His prose works are outstanding in underscoring the cost of discipleship, the path of union with God: rigorous discipline, abandonment, purification. Uniquely and strongly John underlines the gospel paradox: The cross leads to resurrection, agony to ecstasy, darkness to light, abandonment to possession, denial to self to union with God. If you want to save your life, you must lose it. John is truly “of the Cross.” He died at 49—a life short, but full.

Reflection

In his life and writings, John of the Cross has a crucial word for us today. We tend to be rich, soft, comfortable. We shrink even from words like *self-denial*, *mortification*, *purification*, *asceticism*, *discipline*. We run from the cross. John’s message—like the gospel—is loud and clear: Don’t—if you really want to live!

~ taken from the Franciscan Media ~

Ways to support your parish

- **Drop off or mail** your regular weekly offertory contribution to the **PARISH OFFICE** [*kindly do not leave it the mail box*].
- Visit our **Donate Now** page by visiting <https://community.archtoronto.org/page.aspx?pid=413> and select the region for our parish from the map. You will be taken to a page that allows you to choose your parish, amount of your gift – one-time or recurring and payment method – credit card or chequing account.
- You can contribute to the offertory **via on-line banking** – similar to how you may be paying your utility bills. To do this, we need to send you your unique account number. Please e-mail us at campaign@archtoronto.org. In the body of the email provide us with your name, address, parish name and municipality. We will email you your account information which you can use to set up the Archdiocese of Toronto as a payee in your on-line banking. Your gift will be forwarded to your parish. You can make a one-time or recurring gift to your offertory. This is the most cost effective way to donate electronically.

If you have any questions, please contact the Development Office at the Archdiocese of Toronto, [416-934-3400, ext. 540](tel:416-934-3400) or development@archtoronto.org.

Thank you for your many contributions to our parish community!



The parish office is presently closed until further notice. Please feel free to contact us via email at

immaculaechurch@rogers.com or leave a voice message at 416-691-6968. We will respond at our earliest convenience.





OFFICE OF VOCATIONS ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO Serra's 'Vocation Seeds'

There was a man named John, sent by God, who came as a witness to testify to the Light, so that through this person all people might believe. Is it possible God could be calling your name to witness to the Light of Christ in our day? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, call Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email: vocations@archtoronto.org




**This week
the Sanctuary Lamp is
dedicated:
For the intentions of
Robert Kanary**


MASS Intentions

Mon. Dec. 14	12:05 pm	
Tue. Dec. 15	12:05 pm	
Wed. Dec. 16	12:05 pm	†Serapia Espar Tero, <i>requested by Lara Nang family</i>
Thu. Dec. 17	12:05 pm	In thanksgiving & for the intentions of Virgie & Leo on their 37th wedding anniversary, <i>requested by Virgie & Leo Luzano</i>
Fri. Dec. 18	12:05 pm	
Sat. Dec. 19	9:00 am	For the health of Anita Fernandes & complete recovery from her accident, <i>requested by the Pereira family</i>
	5:00 pm	
Sun. Dec. 20	9:00 am	† Emily Nephin, <i>requested by Brian & Alice Warford</i>
	11:00 am	† Teodulo Hipolito, <i>requested by Laurie & Serg Llarenas</i>

Note:
*All Mass intentions, which already been booked,
will be offered during the private daily Mass
celebrated by Fr. Charles.*

What is Gaudete Sunday? 3 Things to Know about the 3rd Sunday of Advent



The third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday. Here are a few things to know about this important day during the Advent season:

1) What does Gaudete mean?

“Gaudete” is a Latin word meaning “rejoice.” It comes from the opening word of the introit (entrance song) of the third Sunday of Advent liturgy, which is derived from Philippians 4:4-5:

*“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.”*

2) Why pink (rose)?

The priests wear rose-colored vestments on this day. The third candle on the Advent wreath is rose (pink) as well. While purple/violet is a color to signify prayer, penance, and preparation, the color change to rose signifies the joy we can experience now that Christmas is almost here.

3) Why the third Sunday?

By week three, we have passed the halfway point of Advent. Jesus is near. Christmas is almost here. So many people are tempted by the stresses of the holiday season. This third Sunday of Advent is a reminder to seek and spread joy in the coming of Christ. So, here is your challenge during the third week of Advent: spread joy not stress! Be a source of joyful appreciation for all that God has given to you and share that joy with others. The shift from purple/violet to pink/rose is similar to the Laetare Sunday during Lent, which similarly marks the half-way point of the penitential season leading up to Easter. Laetare is another word in Latin meaning “rejoice.”

DUE TO LOCKDOWN EMERGENCY RESTRICTIONS



CHURCH IS OPENED:

Monday – Friday from 11 am to 1 pm

- For private prayer **only** & Confession is available
- 10 people in attendance only

Sunday from noon to 2 pm

- For private prayer **only** & Confession is available
- 10 people in attendance only

MASS LIVESTREAMED:

Sundays at 9 am in **ENGLISH** and can be viewed online at anytime throughout the day at www.olghtamilparish.com

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