

St. John Fisher Parish

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Instagram & Twitter address: StJohnFisherBrampton

PASTOR: Fr. Regulo Imperial



ADVENT



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, December 19th

9 a.m. – ☩Phan Hong Lien requested by Nguyen

Tuesday, December 20th

9 a.m. – ☩Idoardo Martins requested by his son, daughter & wife

Wednesday, December 21st

9 a.m. – ☩Paul Nguyen Thanh Liem requested by Nguyen

Thursday, December 22nd

9 a.m. – ☩Dominico Nguyen requested by Tran

Friday, December 23rd

9 a.m. – ☩Renato Arceo req by Nelia Arceo

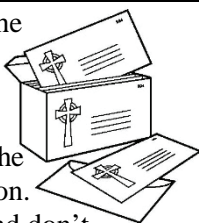
Saturday, December 24th

Sunday, December 25th



The Archdiocese of Toronto has established a **Pre-Authorized Giving Plan (PAG)** to assist you in your support of the work of the Parish through your regular parish offerings. For information on how to enrol, please contact the parish office or email at development@archtoronto.org.

2023 ENVELOPES are ready for pick-up at the main entrance. They are in alphabetical order. Please take your box only. Please do not use these new envelopes until January and complete the outside of the envelope for the first 3 weeks so we can verify the information. If you would like to start using envelopes and don't yet have them, please contact the church office. Thank you.



SHARELIFE GOAL UPDATE



NEW: Your year-end gift will double in value! From now until the end of 2022, your contribution to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be matched by an anonymous donor up to a total of \$1 million.

"Our goal can be met, but only with your help. I invite you to join today's generation of heroes by making a sacrificial gift to ShareLife. As you contemplate the blessings God has entrusted to you, please join me in giving to ShareLife to the best of your ability." – Cardinal Thomas Collins

Our goal this year is **\$18,000**. To date we have achieved **\$12,432**, that's 69% of our goal! If you have not yet donated, you can do so using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate. Please give generously. Thank you for supporting ShareLife!



Sign Up to receive the Weekly Bulletin and other special alerts emailed directly to your inbox.

<https://stjohnfisherbr.archtoronto.org/en/contact-us/sign-up/>

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners:

I am so glad to hear today's Gospel on this **Fourth Sunday of Advent**. It's about the role of Joseph. Why has St Joseph gotten so little attention in the history of Christianity? While devotion to Mary has been widespread and long-lasting, Joseph seems largely neglected.

It was only in 1962, for example, that his name was included in the Eucharistic Prayer as a result of a decision by Pope John XXIII. Only in 2013 was he added to Eucharistic Prayer II, III, and IV by Pope Francis. Of course, there are two feasts of St Joseph in the calendar (March 19th and May 1st), but it is hard to deny that Joseph has been shortchanged in our history. We might wonder how much that imbalance has influenced our culture's view of religion as more of a feminine interest, with the resulting scarcity of men in most parish ministries and even as members of our assemblies.

Joseph played a big role in the mystery of the Incarnation. The Angel said to him in a dream: "...Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her."

Immediately after revealing the miraculous maternity of Mary to him, the Angel addressed Joseph as the true head of the family, charged with the task of naming the child, in recognition of his participation in the great event of the Incarnation.

St Joseph is our model on accepting the will of God no matter how hard this might be.

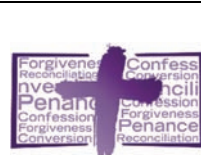
Yours in Christ, Fr. Regulo Imperial, Pastor



"Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him.

Are you willing to respond as Joseph did?

If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Matthew McCarthy, Vocations Director, ArchToronto 416-968-0997 / vocations@archtoronto.org / www.vocationstoronto.ca



The Best Gift for Jesus this Christmas is... **ADVENT RECONCILIATION** (aka Confession)

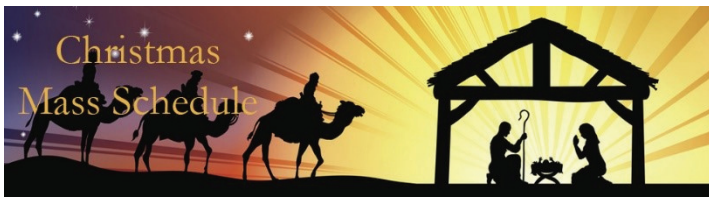
Wednesday, December 21st
9:30-10 am after mass
6:30 pm (3 priests available)



Confession is also available every Saturday at 4:30 pm.

www.stjohnfisherbr.archtoronto.org

StJohnFisherBrampton



Christmas Eve Saturday, December 24 th 5 pm – 7 pm – 9 pm	Christmas Day Sunday, December 25 th 9 am – 10:30 am – 12 pm
New Year's Eve Saturday, December 31 st 7 pm Exposition & Holy Hour 8 pm Mass	New Year's Day Sunday, January 1 st 10:30 am – 12 pm

✠ As part of **Marriage Sunday 2023 Celebrations**, Bishop Vincent Nguyen will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples celebrating milestone anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+) in 2023.

Sunday, February 12th at 2:30 pm at St Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto).

All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their vows and milestone anniversary celebrants will be honoured with a special blessing.

The Mass is open to all, but due to space restrictions those wishing to attend are asked to register online. Milestone anniversary celebrants will be assured of reserved seating. All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration is now open at www.archtoronto.org/marriage. Register early as space is limited.

The mass will be livestreamed starting at 2:15 pm for those who are not able to attend.



DID YOU KNOW? St Joseph is sometimes called the “silent man” because none of his words are recorded in Scripture. **There are 2 feast days celebrating St Joseph.** March 19 celebrates Joseph personally and his role in raising Jesus. May 1 celebrates St Joseph the Worker, patron of workers throughout the world. **Where does the tradition of St Joseph's Table**

come from? According to legend, centuries ago a famine struck Sicily. The residents of Sicily prayed to St Joseph, foster-father of Jesus, and asked for his intercession. Their prayers were answered. When the famine ended, a special feast of thanksgiving was held in commemoration of St Joseph. This celebration became tradition. Wealthy families made preparations and invited the less fortunate over to share in a meal. **St Joseph is the patron saint of Canada.**



FIRST COMMUNION CORNER

Parents of Grade 2 students who wish their child to receive the First Holy Communion must celebrate Mass here at St John Fisher

regularly. If you live within the boundaries of the parish and are not registered, please do so by completing the yellow Registration forms in the wall pocket at the back of the church.

Two important events coming:

① ~~Sun Dec 11th~~ → **Registration event.**

② **Mon Jan 16th at 7 pm:** All parents (only) are invited to attend an Information Meeting in the parish hall.

Please remember to ***always*** bring home a copy of the Bulletin to stay up to date with all communications about First Communion for your child.



CONFIRMATION UPDATES for Grade 7

students who wish to celebrate Confirmation with St John Fisher Church. Families of the candidates must attend Sunday Eucharist regularly. Parents should be registered members of St John Fisher Parish. If you live within the boundaries of the parish and are not registered, please do so by completing the yellow Registration forms in the wall pocket at the back of the church. Those students who go to another church must celebrate their Confirmation at their own parish church.

Important events:

• **December 17th/18th:** Return completed registration form and present it to our catechists at the back of the church.

• **January 14th/15th:** Enrolment Ceremony. The family attends their usual mass and will receive the copy of the rite at the entrance. The Confirmation candidate will prepare a hand-written (or typed) letter on a proper piece of paper, addressed to the Pastor, indicating why they want to be Confirmed. During Mass, the priest will call on the candidates to present their letter to him and receive the Blessed Wooden Cross to wear every day.

• **Tues Jan 24th at 7 pm:** Mandatory meeting for Parents and Teens in the parish hall.

FRIARS' STUDENT WRITING CONTEST 2023

Theme: “Do good; seek justice” (Isaiah 1:17)

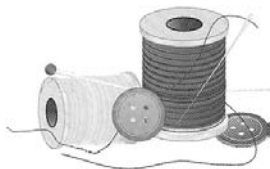
Write an essay and win great prizes! Deadline to enter is January 16th. High school students (ages 13-19 years) are invited to participate in this annual event that commemorates the global Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Write a 500-word essay that explores the 2023 theme.

Students are encouraged to consult the resources at <https://bit.ly/3AgBy5J> to understand the meaning and purpose of the theme and address the focus question found on the poster at <https://bit.ly/3KXgu8m>.

More details at: <https://www.catholicregister.org/writingaward>

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