

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH BULLETIN

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**THE CONSOLATA MISSIONARIES HAVE BEEN SERVING
THE ST. ANDREW'S COMMUNITY SINCE 2003**

We are a parish that strives to experience God's grace and faithfully embody His love for one another by intertwining our cultures with His teachings! Our mission as followers of Christ is to synthesize the energies, talents and abilities of everyone of every age to fulfill our vision for a Christ-centered world. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit and our patron St. Andrew, may we beautify the mystery of faith by humbly denying ourselves to follow Christ. Amen

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday 9:30am – 1:30pm
2:30pm – 5:30pm

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil 5:30pm
Sunday
8:00am (English) 2:00pm (Twi)
9:30 am (Italian) 5:30pm (Spanish)
11:00am (English)
12:30pm (English)

Children's Sunday Liturgy 11:00am & 12:30pm

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Monday to Friday 8:00am & 7:00pm
Wednesday Iraqi – Rosary and Mass at 5pm
Saturday 8:30am & 5:30pm
Public Holidays 8:00am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 8:00am & 4:00pm
Wednesday 7:30am
Anytime by Appointment

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday & Thursday 8:30am to 6:30pm
1st Saturday Devotions 9:30am to 10:00am

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Home visits: Please call the Parish Office

PARISH TEAM

Fr. George Kibura Njuguna, IMC – Pastor
StAndrewsET@archtoronto.org

Fr. Timothy Kinyua Gatitu, IMC – Associate Pastor
Rev. Mr. Joseph Owusu-Afriyie – Permanent Deacon
Fr. Alex Osei CSSp – Ghanaian Community
Mr. Martins Igbino – Parish Council
Mr. Joseph Fragomeni – Finance Council

Ms. Carolina Chavez – Parish Office
standrewparish.office@gmail.com

Ms. Sharanka Prince Yogarajah – Youth Coordinator
sprince@archtoronto.org

BAPTISM (CHILDREN UNDER 7 YEARS OLD)

Baptisms are celebrated on the 2nd Saturday of every month at 10:00am. Please contact the Parish Office at least 1 month in advance.

MARRIAGE

Couples planning to get married must contact the Pastor, at least one year in advance, to set the wedding date.

RCIA

Rite of Initiation of Adults into the Christian Faith. Interested in becoming a Catholic? Please contact the Pastor.

NEW PARISHIONER? BE MOST WELCOME!

Welcome to St. Andrew! We'd like you to know that we are here to support you and together come closer to Christ. Please introduce yourself to the Priests or any of the Ministers. Pick up a membership form at the entrance of the Church, complete it and submit it to the Parish Office.

OUR LADY CONSOLATA. PRAY FOR US

Welcome home to St. Andrew
2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year B

Called to the Desert

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." Mark 1:1-3

These, the opening lines from the Gospel of Saint Mark, present us with Saint John the Baptist. John was the one that Isaiah prophesied would come before the Messiah. John was given the responsibility and privilege of being the one who would be the most immediate preparer for the Savior of the World.

Perhaps if most people were given the task of instructing John on how best to prepare the way for the Lord, they would tell him he must go to the leaders of the people, the civil authorities, the influential and those of status in society to win them over first. Many would conclude that the Messiah needed to have the full support of the leaders at that time. But that's obviously not what John did.

John the Baptist, at the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, was driven not into the homes of the most prestigious and wealthy, not into the halls of the civil governors, and not into the synagogues or Temple. Instead, John was driven into the desert. And in the desert, that dry and deserted place, he drew many people to himself and to his message of repentance.

God continues to call many today to follow in the footsteps of John the Baptist. Though John was a real person sent on a real mission at one particular moment in time, the mission he fulfilled is one that still needs fulfilling in various ways today. The "way of the Lord" still needs to be prepared. The Lord still desires to come to many, and He needs prophets to prepare the way for His continual coming by grace. Are you one of those people?

Truth be told, every one of us, rich or poor, learned or unlearned, young or old, etc., is called by God to prepare the way for His coming by grace every day. We are called to prepare the way by calling others to sincere repentance and conversion of life. This is done by the witness of our actions, by our words and by numerous other ways that God calls. How is God calling you to do His work? He is certainly calling you. You simply need to be open to that calling and generously respond.

Reflect, today, upon that "desert" to which you have been called, so as to prepare yourself and others for the coming of Christ. That desert is any place where there is need and every place where our Lord is not. It might be your family, work environment, community, among friends, or any place that lacks the superabundance of God's grace. Seek to enter those deserts and to be open to be a channel of our Lord's grace to those in need.

"mycatholic.life"

Advent Symbols

AND WHAT THEY MEAN



The evergreen circle and four candles of the **ADVENT WREATH** reflect the passage of the Advent season. It is often blessed at the beginning of Mass on the first Sunday of Advent.

Advent is a time of **LONGING AND WAITING** for the Lord to come. Premature decoration of the church building and early use of Christmas songs at liturgy compromise the spirit of expectation.

Although not a season of penance, **RECONCILIATION** finds a special place in Advent as we prepare for Christmas and seek to approach Jesus' coming with hearts free of sin and filled with praise.

"If you have something dark in your soul, ask the Lord for forgiveness. Christmas is a great opportunity to cleanse the soul!"
POPE FRANCIS

VIOLET VESTMENTS reflect longing and anticipation, not penance. **Rose vestments** may be used on the third (Gaudete) Sunday to signal the mid-point of the season.

The **GLORY TO GOD** is not sung and the organ and other musical instruments are used in moderation to allow us to anticipate the full joy of December 25th, when they are taken up again. Flowers may be used, but in moderation so as to leave a sense of abundance for the Nativity.



Archdiocese of Toronto | www.archtoronto.org
#AdventTO

ALLELUIA continues to be sung in the Gospel Acclamation and in other songs. This is the clearest indication that Advent is a season of expectation, not penance.

**COME AND CELEBRATE WITH US THE
 9-DAY NOVENA MASSES
 MASS AT DAWN – SIMBANG GABI – MISA DE GALLO**





**St. Andrew's Catholic Church, 2547 Kipling Avenue,
 Toronto, Ontario**

**Saturday, December 16 to
 Sunday, December 24, 2023, 5:30 a.m.**

It is a spiritual preparation for Christmas and commemorates the birth of the Child Jesus – to welcome and receive Him in our midst, which is the fulfillment of the true essence of Christmas.

Organized and sponsored by: St. Andrew's Church
 8:00 am Sunday Mass - Choir

St Andrew's Parish would like to congratulate **Akere and Harry Akhelumele** and their 3 children, **Antar, Ambrose and Favor** on being the **Family of the Month** for the month of December. Akere is a member of the Knights of Columbus and Harry is a Lector and their children are members of the youth group and altar servers. Thank you for your involvement in the parish community.

WEEKLY LITURGY ~ MASS INTENTIONS

† = For the soul of ♥ = Special Intention

Saturday, Dec 9 - St. Juan Diego Cuahtlatotzin

8:30 am - †Jane Sweeney (1yr death anniv.), by Misquitta family
 10 am - Infants Baptism
 5:30 pm - † Donatta and Giuseppe Diamante, by Rosa

Sunday, Dec 10 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

8 am - Thanksgiving for Alexandra & Alexander on their birthday, by Mary Ann Tolentino
 9:30 am - *(Italian Mass)* † Giuseppe Galati, by Anna Galati
 11 am - For the people of the Parish
 12:30pm - Thanksgiving for Cherylann Remnarine on her birthday, by family
 2 pm - *(Twi Ghana)*
 5:30 pm - *(Span. Mass)* † Fabio de Jesus, Ma. Elizabeth & Mary Añeza Marulanda, by Marulanda family

Monday, Dec 11 - St. Damasus

8 am - † Jane Sweeney (1 yr death anniversary), by friends
 10:30 am - Mass - Humber Valley Terrace
 7 pm - † Nicola Sardella (1 yr death anniv.), by wife and family

Tuesday, Dec 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

8 am - Thanksgiving for Lorreta Anochie on her birthday, by family
 7 pm - † Arlene Duzon (3 yrs death anniv.), by Duzon family

Wednesday, Dec 13 - St. Lucy

8 am - † Pina Damico, by Rosa
 7 pm - *(No Intention)*

Thursday, Dec 14 - St. John of the Cross

8 am - †Jane Sweeney (1 yr death anniv.), by Mary-Anne & Paul
 7 pm - † Nicola and Maria Sgotto, by Maria Persampieri

Friday, Dec 15

8 am - † Utilio Dela Rosa Sr., by family
 7 pm - † John Tak Shun, by family

Saturday, Dec 16

5:30 am - Simbang Gabi - Mass
 8:30 am - † Jane Sweeney, by Rose and Manny Rabino
 5:30 pm - *(No Intention)*

Sunday, Dec 17 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

8 am - Thanksgiving to St. Francis Xavier, by Anthony & family
 9:30 am - *(Italian Mass)* † Angelo Sergnese, by family
 11 am - For the people of the Parish
 12:30pm - † Rosa Maria Peña, Oswaldo Ruiz & Ernesto Rafael Ruiz, by Maria Ruiz
 2 pm - *(Twi Ghana)*
 5:30 pm - *(Spanish Mass)*



The Knights of Columbus Mother Teresa Council are hosting their annual **Christmas Caroling** event on **Saturday December 16th at 7pm** in the church. Everyone is invited as we celebrate the *Christmas* Season.



From December 10-23, 2023, each parish in the Archdiocese of Toronto will be holding a Day of Confessions. At St. Andrew's, Priests will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation on **December 20th and 21st, from 5 pm to 7 pm.**

There will be no Confessions at St. Andrew's after these dates until Christmas Octave which is on Wednesday, Jan. 3rd, 2024.

Christmas Schedule

CHRISTMAS NOVENA

• SIMBANG GABI - MASS AT DAWN FROM DECEMBER 16 - 24 AT 5:30AM

SUNDAY DEC. 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

- 8:00 AM (ENGLISH)
- 9:30 AM (ITALIAN)
- 11:00AM (ENGLISH)
- 5:30 PM - CHRISTMAS FAMILY MASS
- 9:00 PM - CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS

MONDAY DEC. 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY

- 8:00 AM (ENGLISH)
- 9:30 AM (ITALIAN)
- 11:00AM (ENGLISH)
- 12:30PM (ENGLISH)
- 2:00PM (TWI)
- 5:30PM (SPANISH)

ON TUES. DECEMBER 26 - MASS AT 8AM ONLY - NO EVENING MASS



QUEEN OF APOSTLES RENEWAL CENTRE

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Saturday December 16, 2023

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