

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
3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year B

Meeting Christ in the Desert

“I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, ‘make straight the way of the Lord,’” as Isaiah the prophet said.” John 1:23

In the passage above, Saint John the Baptist quotes Isaiah 40:3: “A voice proclaims: In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!” This was a prophecy of Isaiah who was speaking about the return of the Jewish exiles from Babylon back to Jerusalem. Normally, people would travel along the well-watered routes from Mesopotamia to Israel. Those routes were safer than the desert and provided the necessary food and water for the journey. But Isaiah prophesied that the Jewish exiles would travel the shortest route—straight across the desert—and that God would provide for their needs during that journey. Such a journey required much trust in the providence of God.

John the Baptist, in quoting Isaiah, applies this prophecy to himself. He was called to cry out in the desert and point people directly to the Messiah. It was in the desert that they would discover their Savior.

First of all, John cries out in the “desert.” His message is for those who experience dryness, destitution, need and loss in life due to sin. His message of repentance is first for those who are without the spiritual nourishment God wants to bestow upon them through grace. The message of John is pointed to those who humbly see the difficult situation they are facing in life and acknowledge their need for the Living Water of the Savior of the World.

Second, this new “straight” way implies that many are not walking the direct path to Christ. Instead, they are taking unnecessary detours in life. John’s message is one that calls everyone to the straight and direct way of repenting of their sins so that they can come to faith in Christ Jesus.

Third, walking through the desert to find Christ requires trust in God’s providence. It takes courage to make such a journey. Trust in the ongoing providence of God, Who promises to meet all of our needs, is key. One would not walk straight through the desert if they did not trust their guide.

Advent is a time to reexamine the road you are on. Are you trying to find your own way to happiness? Are you trusting in your own abilities, your own intelligence and your own plan for the future? If so, then listen to the “voice of one crying out in the wilderness.” Listen to Saint John speak to you, calling you to the simplicity of the desert, to a greater detachment from all things, to an abandonment of all that is not of God, and to a more willing trust in the providence of God to lead you.

Reflect, today, upon this calling from the desert and listen to the message God is speaking to you, personally. Abandon all worldly concerns, repent of sin, trust in Him and go out to meet Him so that you can more quickly and more easily come to a deeper faith in our Lord during this Advent season.

“mycatholic.life”

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



*Prepare the way
 of the Lord!*

ON THIS THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT,
 LET’S START A HABIT OF LIVING IN A WAY
 THAT ALLOWS GOD TO GIVE US HIS PEACE

SOURCE: WWW.CCCB.CA

1. **Do not worry**
2. **Pray with gratitude**
3. *Be gentle*
4. **Be satisfied**
with what you have
5. **Do not take from others**

(Taken from the readings on the Third Sunday of Advent)



When we live simply,
 we can simply live
 and invite others
 to do the same.



We do not need to be
 victims of busyness,
 judgment or anger.



Wake, pray, prepare,
 serve, give thanks
 and rest.

St. Andrew’s Parish Stewardship
Collection for Dec 10th, 2023

Sunday Offertory \$ 7,979.65



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

MONDAY DEC. 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY

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

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



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is looking for new members who will commit to the Mission of the Society and its Values, and are interested in developing their spiritual life. Vincentians attend meetings, pray with and for each other, visit the poor and serve in any way they can. Our Mission is to live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice and joy. The Society serves those in need regardless of creed, ethnic or social background, health, age, gender or political opinions.

Feel free to reach out to me with your questions or if you would like to attend our next meeting in the New Year. Email alonzid@gmail.com Dina Alonzi, President, SSVP at St. Andrew's Church.

The Social and Hospitality Committee wishes to thank all the people that participated in the raffle of the knitted blanket. Your support is much appreciated. The lucky winner is Nora Seyler. The event raised \$561 for the Building Fund.

WEEKLY LITURGY ~ MASS INTENTIONS

† = For the soul of ♥ = Special Intention

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

5:30 am - Simbang Gabi - Mass
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)

Monday, Dec 18

5:30 am - Simbang Gabi - Mass
8 am - † In memory of Tony, by Yollie and family
10:30 am - Mass - Revera Westside
7 pm - † William Smith (1yr death anniv.) & Petronillah Nandwa Barasa (10yrs death annv.), by Rodill family

Tuesday, Dec 19

5:30 am - Simbang Gabi - Mass
8 am - † Rosa Lagane and Joe Cuda, by Maria Persampieri
7 pm - † Cesare, Carolina and Roberto Lisi, by family

Wednesday, Dec 20

5:30 am - Simbang Gabi - Mass
8 am - † Antonio Concepcion, by Consolacion Concepcion
7 pm - † Nicola and Maria Sgotto, by Maria Persampieri

Thursday, Dec 21 - St. Peter Canisius

5:30 am - Simbang Gabi - Mass
8 am - † Alfred, Mary Theresa, Arulammah and Albert, by Sebastian family
7 pm - † Vincenzo Persampieri, Maria Persampieri

Friday, Dec 22

5:30 am - Simbang Gabi - Mass
8 am - Thanksgiving for Jaxton Grant, by Alma
7 pm - Thanksgiving for Michael Thundil Champion, by Champion family

Saturday, Dec 23 - St. John of Kanty

5:30 am - Simbang Gabi - Mass
8:30 am - Thanksgiving for Christine Morgan, by Alma & family
5:30 pm - For blessing of the wedding of br. Bede and Cinwe, by Legion of Mary

Sunday, Dec 24 – 4th Sunday of Advent

5:30 am - Simbang Gabi - Mass
8 am - † Gertrude Morgan (12yrs death anniv.), by Alma & family
9:30 am - (Ita. Mass) † Rosa Lagane & Joe Cuda, by Maria Persampieri
11 am - For the people of the Parish
12:30pm - (No Mass)
2 pm - (Twi Ghana) (No Mass)
5:30 pm - (Christmas Children Mass) † Harry and Anne McAvoy, by Carol Anne McAvoy
9 pm - **Christmas Vigil Mass**

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