

# St Francis Xavier Parish

5650 Mavis Road Mississauga ON L5V 2N6 ♦ 905-890 5290

website: <https://stfrancisxaviermi.archtoronto.org> ♦ email: [stfrancisxaviermi@archtoronto.org](mailto:stfrancisxaviermi@archtoronto.org)

Pastor: Fr. James Cherickal ♦ Associate: Fr. Eduardo Lopez ♦ Deacons: Mr. Anthony Wong, Mr. Ryan Fernandes  
Parish Secretary: Joanita Miranda ♦ Office Assistant: Katherine Gomez

**Parish Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9am to 8pm ♦ closed 1pm to 2pm ♦ closed during all Masses**

## Daily Masses

Monday to Friday 8:00am and 7:00pm  
Saturday 7:30am

## Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil 5:00pm  
Sunday 7:30am ♦ 9am ♦ 10:30am ♦ 12pm ♦ 1:30pm

## Sacrament of Confession

Morning: Monday to Saturday 30 min before Mass  
Evening: Monday to Thursday 6:30pm - 6:50pm  
Evening: Friday 6:15pm - 6:45pm  
Evening: Saturday 4:00pm - 4:50pm

## Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction

Fridays 6:00pm-7:00pm

## Devotions

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Wednesdays after Masses  
Our Lady of Velankanni Saturdays after 7:30am Mass  
Precious Blood Thursdays at 9:00pm  
St. Anthony of Padua Tuesdays after 7:00pm Mass

## Baptism

- ❖ Celebrated on the first and last Saturday of the month
- ❖ Information in the parish office or on website

## Marriage

- ❖ Contact Parish Office at least one year in advance
- ❖ Information in Parish office or on website

## Pastoral Care of the Sick & Homebound

- ❖ For Sacrament of the sick contact Parish Office
- ❖ For Holy communion contact: [sfxlaypastoral@gmail.com](mailto:sfxlaypastoral@gmail.com)

## Rite of Initiation of Adults into the Catholic Faith

Interested in becoming Catholic?

Please contact: [rciaministrysfx@gmail.com](mailto:rciaministrysfx@gmail.com)

## Funerals

Death of a family member can be a very traumatic experience; pre-planning can ease the burden on the family. When death happens, please contact the parish and the funeral home.

**The SFX Bereavement Team will walk with you as you grieve**

## Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers [sfxaltarservers1@gmail.com](mailto:sfxaltarservers1@gmail.com)  
Extra. Min. H. Com [emocsfx@bell.net](mailto:emocsfx@bell.net)  
Lectors [lectorsfx@gmail.com](mailto:lectorsfx@gmail.com)  
Music Ministry [sfxchoirs@gmail.com](mailto:sfxchoirs@gmail.com)  
Sacristans [sfxsacristans@gmail.com](mailto:sfxsacristans@gmail.com)  
Ushers & Greeters [SFXushering@gmail.com](mailto:SFXushering@gmail.com)

## Parish Ministries

Bereavement [sfxbereave@gmail.com](mailto:sfxbereave@gmail.com)  
Catech. Good Shepherd [sfxcatechesis@gmail.com](mailto:sfxcatechesis@gmail.com)  
Children's Liturgy [sfxchildrenlit@gmail.com](mailto:sfxchildrenlit@gmail.com)  
Lay Pastoral Ministry [sfxlaypastoral@gmail.com](mailto:sfxlaypastoral@gmail.com)  
M.S.M. Bible Study [sfx.bibleformation@gmail.com](mailto:sfx.bibleformation@gmail.com)  
RCIA [rciaministrysfx@gmail.com](mailto:rciaministrysfx@gmail.com)  
Sacramental Prep [sfxsacramentalprep@gmail.com](mailto:sfxsacramentalprep@gmail.com)  
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SFX Library [sfx.churchlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:sfx.churchlibrary@gmail.com)  
SFX Youth Group [sfxyouth1@gmail.com](mailto:sfxyouth1@gmail.com)

## Advisory Committees

Building Committee  
Finance Council  
Parish Council  
Stewardship Committee

## Organizations

BLD  
Catholic Women's League  
Knights of Columbus  
Rosary Apostolate  
St. Vincent de Paul  
Legion of Mary

## Parish Schools

San Lorenzo Ruiz 905-501-0400  
St. Hilary 905-568-0056  
St. Jude 905-568-3720  
St. Valentine 905-890-0909  
St. Veronica 905-696-6980  
St. Francis Xavier S.S. 905-507-6666  
St. Marcellinus S.S. 905-564-6614

*Welcome New Parishioners*

To register please contact the Parish Office

**The Story Behind the Pink Advent Candle**

As the commercial world is already saturated with red and green, it's easy to lose sight of the true colors of the season—the Advent season. This week the color pink represents joy. It turns out, the Church has a good reason for putting one pink candle in the Advent wreath.

To discover the story of the pink candle, we first have to look at the origins of the season and the wreath. Until Advent was instituted toward the end of the fifth century, the only season Christians observed was Lent. As preparation for Christmas, the Church established Advent in the spirit of Lent—as a season of reflection and penance.

**A Wreath of Hope**

The custom of the Advent wreath originated with pre-Christian Germanic peoples whose evergreen wreaths and fires signified hope in the darkness of December. Christians maintained the tradition and by the 16th century German Catholics and Protestants used the wreath to symbolize hope for Christ's coming. The practice spread through the Christian world.

Commonly, the candles in the wreath have specific names which we can reflect on as we light them and pray: the first is hope, the second peace, the third joy and the fourth love.

**The Color for Joy**

A pink candle that signifies joy makes sense since it is lit on Gaudete Sunday—named for the entrance antiphon for that Sunday's Mass: "Rejoice (gaudete) in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice." The joy is subdued, however, as the penitential violet of the other weeks lessens to rose as we move closer to Christmas.

As Advent is patterned in part after Lent, Gaudete Sunday is similar to the Lenten Laetare Sunday, which also represents joy and falls at the midpoint of Lent.

And that finally leads to the explanation for the pink candle. In the ancient Church on Laetare Sunday in Lent, the Pope gave a citizen a pink rose. The tradition has continued, as popes bestowed golden roses on Catholic rulers and now more commonly, on places of devotion.

Following the papal rose custom, bishops and priests began wearing rose-colored vestments on Laetare Sunday. The Church then brought the Lenten practice of rose vestments to Advent on Gaudete Sunday. As a result, the pink candle gained a place in the Advent wreath.

Although the culture tells us it's already Christmas, the Church reminds us through the pink candle of Advent that there is an appointed time for everything (Eccl. 3:1). The time now is for rejoicing—because the Lord is coming soon!

Source: [www.thecatholicspirit.com](http://www.thecatholicspirit.com)

**Christmas Mass Schedule**



**December 24<sup>th</sup>  
(Sunday Masses)**

6am ♦ 730am ♦ 9am  
1030am ♦ 12pm

**Christmas Eve Masses: December 24<sup>th</sup>**

4pm ♦ 6pm ♦ 8pm ♦ 10pm ♦ 12am  
Note: Christmas Pageant will take place during 6pm Mass

**Christmas Day Masses: December 25<sup>th</sup>**

9am ♦ 1030am ♦ 12pm ♦ 130pm

**Notes of Gratitude**

**Louie & Geraldin Intini**

Created the **Beautiful** display of **Nativity Scenes** from round the world that is in the main hallway!

*thank you*

We raised \$8000.00 for **Altar Server Gowns**  
To all sponsors: **Your generosity is a blessing!**

**New Year's Mass Schedule**

**December 31<sup>st</sup>  
(Sunday Masses)**

730am ♦ 9am  
1030am ♦ 12pm



**New Year's Eve Masses: December 31<sup>st</sup>**

5pm ♦ 1030pm (Praise & Worship) ♦ 12am

**New Year's Day Masses: January 1<sup>st</sup>**

9am ♦ 1030am ♦ 12pm ♦ 130pm

**The Catechism Corner** ✠

**Q:** *What is the root of human dignity?*

**A:** The dignity of the human person is rooted in his or her creation in the image and likeness of God. Endowed with a spiritual and immortal soul, intelligence and free will, the human person is ordered to God and called in soul and in body to eternal beatitude CCCB 1699-1715

**Silver Jubilee Logo Design Contest**

**Parish Celebration of SILVER JUBILEE YEAR in 2024**

**To Inaugurate the Upcoming Celebrations:**  
there will be a contest to find a logo that will symbolize the uniqueness of the parish!



- ★ Theme: A Place of Joy – A People of Hope
- ★ Logo may be used online, print, social media, merchandise
- ★ No age requirement
- ★ Design can be in colour, using the church logo
- ★ incorporate one of the following:  
25 years ♦ 1999-2024 ♦ Silver Jubilee Celebration

**Submission Deadline: December 30, 2023**

More contest details: [www.stfrancisxaviermi.archtoronto.org](http://www.stfrancisxaviermi.archtoronto.org)  
Prize: \$250.00 Gift Card

**A Note from the Parish Office**

**2024 Offertory Envelopes Available in Parish Lobby for Pickup**

Please note the following:

1. Verify your correct name and address
2. Discard previous unused envelopes
3. For accurate posting of your donations, please write your name & address for the first few weeks
4. Can't find your envelope?  
Leave contact details at the Parish Office



**Thank You!**

**A Christmas Gift to the Parish**

Want to donate flowers for this  
**CHRISTMAS SEASON?**

Contact the Parish Office



**Advent: A Time of Preparation**

**Simbang Gabi**

Christmas Novena Masses



December 16<sup>th</sup> & onwards  
morning Mass at 6am

**Sponsors/Donations needed:**  
contact the parish office

**Advent Wreath**

Interested in lighting the  
**Christmas Wreath?**

Signup in the Sacristy



**HOLY MASS INTENTIONS**

**Monday December 18, 2023**

6am Thanksgiving Marth Oyewo  
7pm †Juanito D. Fiesta

**Tuesday December 19, 2023**

6am †Ana Maria Francisca & Francisco Fernandes  
7pm †Daisy Pimentel

**Wednesday December 20, 2023**

6am Thanksgiving Catherine Noronha  
7pm Thanksgiving Rose Figliano  
Thanksgiving Leonardo Family  
Thanksgiving Bittu David Babu  
Thanksgiving Brenda Leachay  
†Marie Fernandez  
†Antonio Fortunato & Paolo Figliano Family  
†Daisy Pimentel  
†Cyril Veigas  
†Philomena D'Cruz  
†Rodolfo Diaz Medina  
†Shaloke Kaunds  
†Nenita David

**Thursday December 21, 2023**

6am †Elinor Allison  
7pm †Victor Thorado

**Friday December 22, 2023**

6am †Merlyn & Gonzago Fernandes  
7pm Thanksgiving Encenales family  
Thanksgiving Mirla Pascual  
Thanksgiving Josephine Pathyal  
†Alfonso Joseph D'Souza  
†Vincent Machado  
†Daisy Pimentel  
†Eusibio Paes  
†Necitas Gagatiga  
†Gelacto Bancoro  
†Cajetan Fernandes  
†Maria Nhi  
†Juan A. Natividad Jr.  
†Antonio Serrano

**Saturday December 23, 2023**

6am Thanksgiving Peter Zawadowsky  
5pm †Maxim Joseph Sequeira

**Sunday December 24, 2023**

6am †All deceased priests and religious  
730am †Loretta Rocha  
9am Thanksgiving Oliveros family  
1030am Thanksgiving D'Sa family  
12pm Pro Populo

**Christmas Eve Masses: December 24, 2023**

4pm Thanksgiving  
6pm Thanksgiving (Christmas Pageant)  
8pm Thanksgiving  
10pm Thanksgiving  
12am Thanksgiving

Let's approach Christmas  
with an expectant hush,  
rather than a last-minute rush



-Anonymous

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