

St Francis Xavier Parish

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Pastor: Fr. James Cherickal ♦ Associate: Fr. Eduardo Lopez

Deacons: Mr. Anthony Wong, Mr. Ryan Fernandes

Parish Secretary: Joanita Miranda ♦ Office Assistant: Katherine Gomez



*Father, You revealed Your Son to the nations
by the guidance of a star. Lead us to
Your Glory in Heaven by the Light of Faith.*

Pastoral Letter from the Most Rev. Francis Leo (January 1, 2024)
“Seek The Kingdome of God Above and Beyond All Other Things”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May Jesus through Mary reign in your hearts

At the beginning of this New Year, I thought it opportune to write to the entire Church of God in Toronto, to you all, members of our beloved archdiocese, in an effort to share a few thoughts as we embark upon yet another year of intense and grace-filled pastoral, spiritual, sacramental, educational, social and administrative activities - all intent, naturally, on building the Kingdom of God. In the pages that follow, **I wish to offer you a theological, spiritual and pastoral meditation on this very important tenet of our Catholic Christian faith, in the hope that my reflections on the Kingdom of God in our midst will accompany and perhaps inspire you throughout the year.** The spiritual and social renewal of our lives and communities requires that we deepen our understanding of and appreciation for the Church’s perennial teachings of our faith and let ourselves be challenged and formed by the Words of Christ which are eternal and forever life-giving.¹

It is now over nine months since I began my ministry as archbishop of this extraordinary portion of the People of God and it has been a time of discovery, community outreach, personal encounters and of palpable fraternity. The Mass of Installation of 25 March last, Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, was the beginning of a new phase in my ministerial life as well as in the life of our particular Church - to which I am committed wholeheartedly.

These months have provided for me very numerous occasions to visit and to celebrate, to listen and to learn so as to “discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect”² for our local Church. I continue to make myself available as much as I can to the entire archdiocese, naturally within the limitations of time and commitments.

As disciples of Christ, we experience and live out our Catholic faith, in our Toronto archdiocese, within the framework of a very extensive, diverse and complex ecclesial and societal reality, but one which offers us many opportunities to be mutually enriched and to witness with Gospel boldness to the truth that sets us free,³ namely Christ himself.⁴ I have been extremely busy traveling around the large archdiocesan landscape, committed to meet the array of different communities, listen to their needs and get to know people personally, namely the priests and deacons, parish teams of lay staff and volunteers, administrative personnel at the pastoral centre, men and women religious, seminaries, homes for the elderly and the infirm, academic institutions, health care and social services, cultural and ethnic communities, youth, families and many others. Numerous liturgical celebrations and several informal get togethers have made for enjoyable and inspiring months and have deepened my understanding of the episcopal ministry needed in the GTA at the present moment.

I give thanks and praise to the Lord and to each of you for the warm welcoming I received and the enthusiastic gatherings we shared, be it at the regional Masses, different parish visits and all the other celebratory events at distinct venues and pastoral and fraternal settings. I intend to continue visiting, meeting, speaking with and listening to the People of God - clergy, consecrated and laity - so as to better grasp the intricate and yet graced reality we know and love across this vast archdiocese; prayer, consultation, dialogue and authentic encounters will allow me to appreciate even more the beauty as well as take note of the areas of growth of our archdiocese so as to be a more effective spiritual guide and father and dedicated shepherd, striving to serve with the heart of Jesus, the “shepherd and guardian of our souls.”⁵ Our gaze is always fixed on Christ the Saviour who alone can bring to fruition the spiritual and social transformation so much needed in our archdiocese and indeed the world.

The full Pastoral Letter can be accessed by visiting the archdiocesan website at:
WWW.archtoronto.org



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Temporary Mass Schedule Changes

Due to Church Floor Tiling in January & February
Starting January 7th (All Holy Masses in the Main Hall)

TEMPORARY HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

<u>Saturday Vigil Masses:</u>	<u>Sunday Holy Masses:</u>
5pm	6am 7am 8am
6pm	9am 10am 11am
	12pm 1pm 2pm

Weekday Holy Mass times remain the same

Thank you for your continued cooperation

Pastoral Letter from the Most Rev. Francis Leo

**"Seeking The Kingdom of God
Above and Beyond All Other Things"**

This significant reflection from our spiritual shepherd is intended to offer a theological, spiritual, & pastoral meditation as we embark upon a New Year and our collective efforts to build and strengthen the Kingdom of God throughout our archdiocese.

The Pastoral Letter can be accessed by visiting the archdiocesan website at: www.archtoronto.org.



Pilgrimage September 2024

Pilgrimage to:

Croatia, Medjugorje, Austria, Hungary, Poland & Czech Republic



Under the spiritual leadership of
Fr. James Cherickal
September 14th to 28th
\$4890.00



For More Information:

Flyer with details available by the parish office
Stan (647) 463 9057 or stan@ihtours.com

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

Monday January 8, 2024

8am †Francisco Fernandes
7pm Special int. Nicole, Joseph & Theresa Pampena

Tuesday January 9, 2024

8am †Florence Aduwari
7pm Special intention Margo Kennedy

Wednesday January 10, 2024

8am Thanksgiving Mohan Joseph
7pm †Percy Pereira
†Souls of San Gabriel & Leonardo Families
†Titus Pinto
†Reis Clovis D'Souza
†Helena Maria D'Souza
†Lucila Rimbon
†Benedict Yoga
†Emiliana & Paterno Carlos
†Celestine Dias

Thursday January 11, 2024

8am Special intention Reid family
7pm Thanksgiving Elvira Fernandes

Friday January 12, 2024

8am †Orvald Nicholson
7pm Thanksgiving Ian and Theresa Possanha
†Gabriel Simoes
†Necitas Gagatiga

Saturday January 13, 2024

730am Thanksgiving Oliveros family
5pm †All deceased priests and religious
6pm Thanksgiving

Sunday January 14, 2024

6am Thanksgiving
7am Thanksgiving
8am †Michele & Rosalia Grisafi
9am †Philomeena Alphonso
10am †Benny Castelino
11am Thanksgiving
12pm †Farid Danial
1pm Pro Populo
2pm Thanksgiving

Sacramental Prep. Resuming ONLINE

**Due to Floor Tiling in the Church
Holy Communion & Confirmation**
classes will resume **ONLINE**

check your email & all spam folders for details
Thank you!

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 7, 2024

Wise Men
STILL Seek
Jesus



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