

# St. Joseph The Worker Parish

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## Parish Office Team

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*Let us give thanks to the Lord*

We thank thee, Lord,

For fields of grain

Gold and ripe from summer's rain,

For hillsides bright

With scarlet trees

That rustle in the autumn breeze,

For friends so dear,

For those we love,

For all things sent

From heaven above...

We thank thee, Lord

## GOSPEL REFLECTION: RECEIVING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

*The kingdom of God will be . . . given to a people that will produce its fruit. (Matthew 21:43)*

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells a parable to some Jewish leaders about vinedressers who killed the servants sent by a landowner to collect the fruit of the harvest (Matthew 21:34-39). What is Jesus trying to say?

It would be easy to conclude that Jesus is rebuking these chief priests and elders for rejecting John the Baptist and himself. But he's doing more than foreshadowing his death by identifying himself with the murdered son of the vineyard owner (Matthew 21:37-42). He's not addressing only the Jewish leaders; he is speaking to us as well.

Jesus is telling us that the kingdom of God will be given to people who bear fruit. Throughout Matthew's Gospel, we hear the same message. John the Baptist exhorted Israel's religious leaders to "produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance" (Matthew 3:8). Jesus warned his disciples that "every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down" (7:19). And what's the good fruit he is looking for? Faith in him and love for his people.

Jesus told this parable the day after entering Jerusalem to shouts of "Hosanna" (Matthew 21:9). He cured all the sick who flocked to him there, and everyone was amazed—except these leaders. Instead of accepting him and rejoicing that God's people were healed, they questioned his authority (21:23-24). And in doing so, they bore no fruit.

But that doesn't have to be our story. We can be a fruitful vineyard for the Lord! He has already planted the seed of faith within us. Each day he pours out grace to make us "rich soil" that produces fruit, even a hundredfold (Matthew 13:8). So let's nurture our seed with faith-filled prayer and prune our vines with repentance and works of mercy. Let's bear the fruit of faith, hope, and love. Let's receive the kingdom!

*"Jesus, help me to bear fruit for you today."*

## MASS READINGS

**First Reading:** Isaiah 5.1-7

**Second Reading:** Philippians 4.6-9

**Gospel:** Matthew 21.33-43

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Sunday 8 October, 9:00 AM (Italian)**

+ Vincenzino Zanella

**Sunday 8 October, 10:30 AM**

For all Parishioners

**Sunday 8 October, 12:00 PM**

+ Edison Ruiz

**Tuesday 10 October, 9:00 AM**

+ Norberto , Maxima ,Amanda  
& Dionisio Delara

**Wednesday 11 October, 7:00 PM**

+ Fiorella & Enzo Quattrini

**Thursday 12 October, 9:00 AM**

+ Virgina de la Cruz & Loved Ones

**Friday 13 October, 7:00 PM**

+ Gregorio Malfara, + Chiara Francavilla  
+ Michael Mills, + Lynette Robinson  
+ Doug Thompson, + Richard Bilkszto  
+ Amanda Manarin + Shane & Ian Fonseka

**Saturday 14 October, 9:00 AM**

+ Domenico Di Sciuillo

**Saturday 15 October, 5:00 PM**

+ Restitutta Baldasarra



# WINTER COAT DRIVE

The Society of St. Vincent De Paul will be holding a Coat Drive. We kindly request your support by donating coats that are no longer needed by you or your family. We are in need of coats in good condition for individuals of all sizes.

Put the coats in bags and bring them to the designated drop-off box in the Church Foyer by October 11, 2023. Together we can continue to help our neighbours in need.

Help us spread the word: Coats collected from across York Region will be available for people in need at the Salvation Army (588 Edward Street, Unit 29) on October 20 from 9 AM - 4 PM and October 21 from 9 AM - 12 PM

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY CLASSES

Come and join us in learning more about the women of the Bible. Have you often wondered who are some of the women in the Bible that really had an impact? Can we as women in our modern world relate to any of these stories or experiences in our lives? Join us on October 11 after the Wednesday Mass at 7:45 pm and October 24 at 7:00 PM. There will be fellowship, Bible reading, sharing of ideas and light refreshments. If you are 18+ we look forward to seeing you there. Please bring a notebook and a bible.

## LIVING ROSARY

There will be a Living Rosary by Our Lady Ark of the Covenant Praesidium on Friday, October 13, 2023. The Living Rosary is a prayer service in which each person represents one of the beads of the rosary and leads the corresponding prayer while reflecting on the mysteries of Jesus' life. It will be held inside the Church after the 7 pm Mass. All are welcome to attend!

## ALL SAINTS DAY PARTY

There will be a All Saints Day Party on Sunday, October 29, 2023 at 1:30 pm. All children must come dressed as their favourite bible character or saint. Each parent is asked to bring a peanut free snack per child, as it will be used to prepare their loot bags. Sign up is in the office.



*Happy Thanksgiving*

*For each new morning with its light,  
For rest and shelter of the night,  
For health and food, for love and friends,  
For everything Thy goodness sends,  
O, Lord our God, we give you thanks!*

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION

Please note that the Information necessary for registration of candidates for both Confirmation and First Holy Communion are now up on our website. Kindly visit our website page for this information and the necessary procedures and the requirements to register at <https://stjosephtheworkerth.archtoronto.org>

### FAITH FORMATION STUDY: IS SCIENCE OPPOSED TO FAITH?

This is an evergreen question that always comes up in our practice of faith as we navigate our livelihood. It is a question that cannot be swept aside by any Catholic. This fall, we shall be making a deep study of this topic for 5 weeks, every Wednesday beginning from October 25, between 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. It will be preceded by Mass at 7 PM. As we delve deeper into this subject, we hope to foster meaningful discussions and deepen our understanding of how it shapes our lives and our connection with our faith. All are welcome to attend!

### OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE FEAST DAY PLAY

To celebrate the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe in December, the parish is organizing a play and need volunteers for various roles, including arts & crafts, setting up, helping with the costumes, potluck preparation and more. There are also still opening for roles in the play, specifically we are looking for more young children to play angels. Join our next meeting on Tuesday October 10, at 7 PM in the parish hall for more details, we are eager to make this day special. Your help is greatly appreciated!

### PARISH HEADCOUNT OCTOBER 14/15 AND OCTOBER 21/22

The Archdiocese is requesting your participation in its annual parishioner attendance survey for all parish and mission communities. Our parish will be conducting the headcounts on the weekends of October 14/15 and October 21/22. Although the parish headcount numbers may still be affected because of the pandemic, it is still important and necessary to obtain an accurate account of the number of people attending Weekend Masses. We thank you for your participation!

### 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY DONOR TREE

We are grateful for the many families and individuals who have contributed to the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Parish by buying a leaf or a branch on the Donor Tree. There are still spaces available on the tree to be filled even in the future to feature the names of our loved ones, living and dead. It will be great to have all families represented. Please contact the parish office for more information as and when the need arises. God bless you!

### SHARELIFE: COMBATING HUNGER THROUGH YOUR COMPASSION

Many of our brothers and sisters grapples with the daily challenge of putting food on the table. In response to their urgent need, ShareLife has launched the Food Security Grants – dedicating over half a million dollars to combat hunger. Your compassionate support of our parish's ShareLife Campaign will make possible this bold action. Please support our fight against hunger at [sharelife.org/donate/](https://sharelife.org/donate/). Thank you for heeding the Lord's call to feed the hungry in our community and beyond.

### RENEW TORONTO YOUNG ADULT CONFERENCE

Renew Toronto is a conference for all young adults ages 19-39 taking place on Saturday, November 4, 2023, at Canada Christian College. The day includes keynotes by Jackie & Bobby Angel, worship lead by Steadfast Worship, various workshop speakers, Confessions, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and fellowship. This conference offers unique opportunities for students, young adult professions, and young couples to grow, and is an opportunity to grown in faith with like-minded people in a similar stage of life. Renew your heart. Renew your call. Renew our community. Registrations ends October 13, 2023. For more information and to register, visit: [www.renewtoronto.org](https://www.renewtoronto.org).

### ALL SOUL'S DAY MASS – SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4, 2023

Catholic Cemeteries and Funeral Services – Archdiocese of Toronto wishes to invite all families to participate in the All Soul's Day Mass on Saturday November 4, at 2 p.m. All Masses will be held indoors at the following locations:

- Assumption Cemetery, Mississauga – Our Lady of Fatima Mausoleum
- Christ the King Cemetery, Markham – Reception Centre
- Holy Cross Cemetery, Thornhill – Holy Family Mausoleum
- Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Woodbridge – St. Anthon's Mausoleum (Liturgy in Italian and English)
- Resurrection Cemetery, Whitby – Our Lady of Assumption Mausoleum

All are welcome to attend!



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