

Saint Dunstan's Parish

3150 DANFORTH AVE., SCARBOROUGH, ON M1L 1B6

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www.stdunstanssc.archtoronto.org

Administrator: Fr. Victor Amole

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Philip Allard

Secretary: Mrs. Jean Walsh

Office Hours: (during pandemic) by appointment
Tues., Thurs, Fri.: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Sunday Masses:

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:30 pm

Weekday Masses:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:15 am
Wednesday/Solemnities 7:00 pm
Saturday/Civic Holidays 10:00 am
First Friday 12:10 noon 7:00 pm

Confessions:

Saturday 9:15-9:45 am, 4:15-4:45 pm

Eucharistic Adoration:

First Fridays 12:30 - 7:00 pm

Perpetual Help Novena:

Saturday Mass 10:00 am

Communion for the Sick:

Holy Communion will gladly be brought to your home upon request. Please call the parish office.

School:

St. Dunstan's Catholic Elementary School
Telephone: 416-393-5241

St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Helpline: 416-698-0044

Legion of Mary

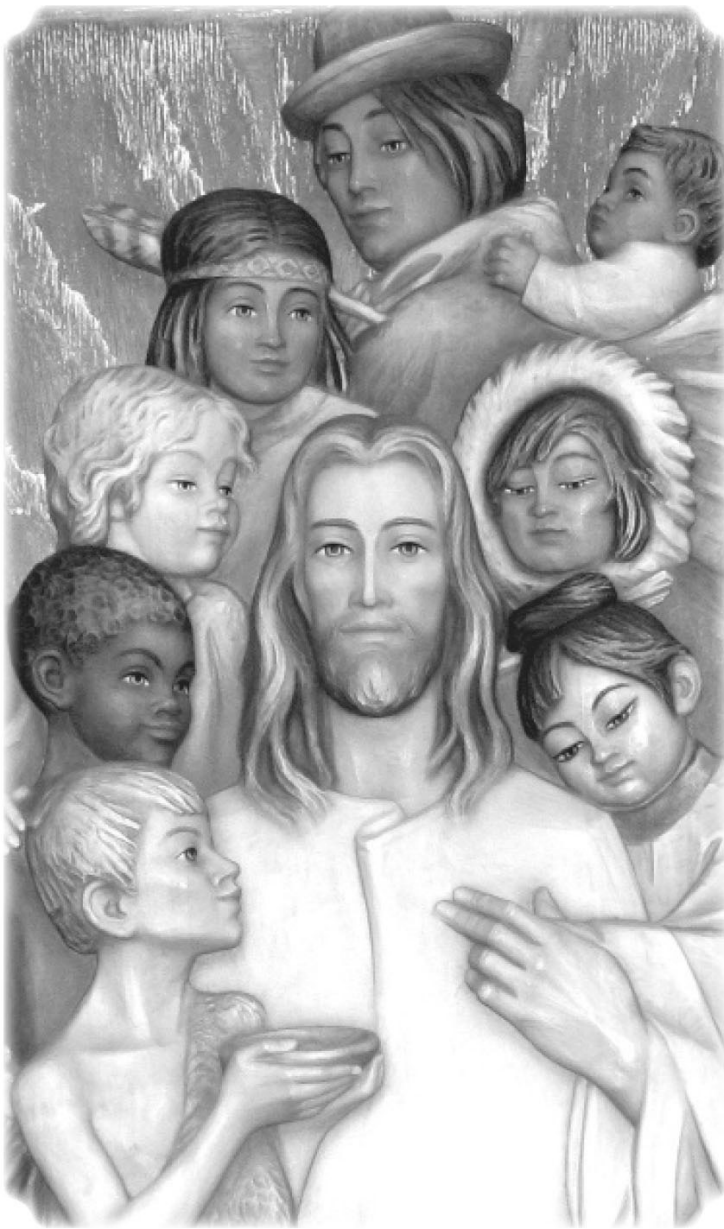
Catholic Women's League

Baptism:

Second and Fourth Sunday of the Month by appointment only, after completion of a Baptismal Preparation Class. Please pick-up a Baptismal Package from the parish office, read, complete and return same before registering to attend a Baptismal Preparation Class. Upon class completion a date will be set for the Baptism.

Marriage:

The Church asks all couples, whether they are to be married here or overseas, to contact the parish 1 year in advance of their planned date of marriage. Couples are also expected to attend and complete a Marriage Preparation Course. If either party has previously gone through any form of marriage, civil or religious, the priest is not to set a date for the wedding until the Archbishop's office has been consulted.



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Today's feast of the Baptism of the Lord continues the Epiphany theme of manifestation. At the beginning of His public ministry, Jesus is manifested as the Son of God and Saviour by signs and wonders at the Jordan. As the heavens open, the Spirit is seen in the form of a dove descending upon Him and the Father's voice is heard "You are my Son, the beloved; with you I am well pleased" (Mark 1:11).



Psychologists agree it's important to hear words that affirm us. Not empty compliments, but heart-felt words of love and appreciation. Such words can help us know that the person speaking to us respects and honours us. Affirmations like these can improve our relationships and solidify our commitments. It's interesting, then, that one of the few times we hear the voice of God in the Scripture directly, not through a prophet comes in today's Gospel. God the Father tells Jesus,

"You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased" (Mark 1:11) God was pleased that Jesus was taking this first step in his ministry, and he said so. Right there in front of John and his disciples, he revealed Jesus' identity and his fatherly love for his Son. We all need affirmation like that too, every day. And it's available to you when you pray and worship God. As we acknowledge who he is, you also acknowledge who we are in relation to him. We open our ears to hear what he thinks about us. We begin to understand that we are his beloved child. The people in our lives need it as well, it's not about saying something just to make them feel good, and it's about pointing out something you appreciate about them. Their patient response, their generosity and kindness. Tell them you are glad they are your brother or sister in Christ. Every time you do, you shine a light on the bigger picture of their lives. Let God tell you how he loves you, how he is pleased with you. Then you can go do the same to your neighbour. Although Jesus who is sinless has no need of sacramental baptism, He leads the way for His people through the waters of life made holy by the One who is baptized. The immersion in water and coming up again is a sign of the Paschal Mystery of the dying and rising again of Christ by which we are saved. Baptism is, therefore, symbolic of our dying and rising with Christ. The Feast of the Lord's Baptism brings the Christmas season to a close and Ordinary Time begins on Monday.

The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins next Monday, January 18 and continues to the following Monday, January 25, the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul. It is an opportunity for all Christians to pray for the restoration of unity among all Christ's followers according to His desire expressed at the Last Supper, "that they may all be one" (John 20:21). The Catholic Church is committed to ecumenical dialogue and this observance reminds Catholics of their responsibility to pray and work for Christian unity.

The Mass for Christian Unity will be celebrated (*Live-streamed*) here at St. Dunstan's on Monday, 18 January at 9:00 a.m.



ORDINARY TIME

In our liturgical calendar, we now enter the weeks called Ordinary Time. During Ordinary Time, rather than commemorating particular events in the life of Christ, the Church celebrates the fullness of the mystery of the Lord Jesus. The people of God offer praise by celebrating the Paschal Mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus. The period of Ordinary Time between Christmas and Lent has sometimes been understood to represent the “hidden life” of Christ in Nazareth before beginning His public ministry.

On the first day of the week, the Lord’s Day, God assembles His beloved people to hear the Word, to reflect upon it, to offer the living sacrifice of praise, and to eat and drink the banquet of the Lord. Then God sends them forth to proclaim this love by their words and actions. Sunday is the original Christian feast day, following the tradition handed down from the apostles’ time, for this was the day of the Lord’s resurrection. Today’s Christian communities continue this tradition by celebrating every Sunday as the day of the risen Lord.

Sunday is the Christian Sabbath which, following its Jewish antecedent, is observed as a day of worship and rest from work. In his 1998 Apostolic Letter *Dies Domini*, Saint John Paul II described Sunday as the Day of the Lord, celebrating the Creator’s work; as the Day of Christ, day of Jesus’ resurrection and the Gift of the Holy Spirit; as the Day of the Church, day of the Eucharistic Assembly which is the heart of Sunday; as the Day of man, day of joy, rest and solidarity; and finally as the Day of Days, the primordial feast revealing the meaning of time. The observance of Sunday is crucial for the life and identity of the Church. In recent years, the Pope, bishops and priests have called upon Catholics to rediscover the centrality of Sunday and the Sunday Eucharist. Sunday can never be, for us, just another day of the week. Even on the natural level, a common day of rest has important social value. The introduction of Sunday shopping has, unfortunately but predictably, had a detrimental effect on families’ ability to spend the day together, and compromised the special character of Sunday in our society. On Sundays, Catholics should avoid shopping, non-essential work and any activity incompatible with the nature of the Lord’s Day.

COMMUNION SERVICES

As you heard Fr. Victor say at the Mass last weekend, Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto, has given special permission for parishes to continue to offer Communion Services during this period of lockdown. That being said we must follow Worship Safe Protocols and ensure this can be done safely, with no more than 10 people inside the church at a given time, including the priest and usher.

Communion Services will be offered Saturdays from 4:00-6:00p.m. and Sundays 11:00-1:00p.m.

Like the services over Christmas you must register your time for the communion service with the parish office (416-694-2811). Jean, will give you your time slot and we ask that you are on time as we want things to run smoothly and efficiently. Please note we are not able to bulk book you for every week at the same time, so as to give everyone the chance to receive communion. Please call weekly for availability.

We hope these opportunities provide spiritual comfort to our parish family during this difficult lockdown.

Note: Mass will not be Live-streamed on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. but will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays. www.stdunstanssc.archtoronto.org

TEMPORARY SCHEDULE DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS

Following Archdiocesan mandate and keeping with civil authorities' appeal to restrict activities for now to deal with this pandemic, all public Masses are temporarily suspended. We continue to offer the sacrifice of the Mass daily for your intentions. Temporarily, weekday Masses will be Livestreamed on **Monday, and Friday at 9:00 a.m. and on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Sunday Liturgy ~ Mass will be Live-streamed on Sunday at 10:00 a.m.**

The Church will be open for private prayers Mondays to Friday but only for 10 people at a given time.

**Church Open for Private Prayer:
Monday to Friday 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.**

2021 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Offertory Envelopes for Year 2021 are available for pick-up in the vestibule of the church. You may pick-up your box if you come for private prayer or communion service. We encourage everyone to use Offertory envelopes as they are the fairest way of contributing to the support of our Church. As well, you will receive an Income Tax Receipts at year end.

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