



TCDSB celebrates Saint John Paul II Day on October 22nd

Liturgy of the Word

Call to prayer

Today, we celebrate Saint John Paul II Day. St. John Paul II was born Karol Józef Wojtyła and he lived a life that was full of hope. Born in 1920, he lived through the Second World War, was an actor, became a priest, and was appointed a cardinal in 1967. On October 16th, 1978, Karol Wojtyła was elected Pope and Bishop of Rome. He took the name Pope John Paul II. In 1984, John Paul II became the first pope to step on Canadian soil. Since then, he has returned twice. Also, a record number of Canadians have been canonized and beatified during his pontificate. The pope traveled the world seeking dialogue among nations and religions, instituted World Youth Day, and beatified and canonized many men and women. He encouraged the faithful to pray, to care for the poor and to celebrate and encourage young Catholics around the world. Let us take a moment to reflect and pray for Saint John Paul II, and that he in turn will pray for us.

Opening Prayer

Let us begin by signing ourselves in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**

A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew (5:13-16)

'You are the salt of the earth;
but if salt has lost its taste,
how can its saltiness be restored?
It is no longer good for anything,
but is thrown out and trampled underfoot.

'You are the light of the world.
A city built on a hill cannot be hidden.
No one after lighting a lamp puts it under
the bushel basket, but on the lampstand,
and it gives light to all in the house.
In the same way, let your light shine before others,
so that they may see your good works and
give glory to your Father in heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Litany for Saint John Paul II

Saint John Paul II, patron of World Youth Day, we ask that you intercede for us and the youth in the world. In particular, keep the students, staff, parents and all of the Toronto Catholic District School Board community in your prayers.

Peter said, *"Always be prepared to make a defence to anyone who calls you to account for the hope that is in you"* (1 Peter 3:15 - 1st World Youth Day Rome, Italy 1986).

All: Saint John Paul II, pray for us.

Jesus said, *"As the Father sent me, so am I sending you"*, (John 20:21- WYD Manila, Philippines 1995)

All: Saint John Paul II, pray for us.

Jesus said, *"I came that they might have life, and have it to the full."* (John 10:10 - WYD Denver, USA 1993)

All: Saint John Paul II, pray for us.

Jesus said, *"You are the salt of the earth ... you are the light of the world"* (Matthew 5:13-14 - WYD Toronto, Canada 2002)

All: Saint John Paul II, pray for us.

Jesus said, *"Go and make disciples of all nations,"* (Matthew 28.19—WYD Rio, Brazil)

All: Saint John Paul II, pray for us.

Our Father...

Closing Prayer

Loving God, who sent us Saint John Paul II
as a model of how to live a holy and blessed life,
May you guide us to follow his example
To celebrate,
To stand up for our faith,
To seek dialogue with all faiths and people,
To be a seeker of Truth,
To treat others with dignity and respect,
To forgive and ask for forgiveness,
To seek You during adverse times,
And most of all: to *"Be not afraid"*.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

AMEN.

