

# GREETINGS FROM OUR NEW PASTOR!

**FR. ROHWIN PAIS, OFM**



**Dear Brothers and Sisters,**

May the Lord give you peace! It feels wonderful to be back again at St. Jane Frances Parish, after a gap of 10 years! My transition as pastor of Jane Frances will take a few days to complete but it has been very smooth and pleasant so far, thanks to the very competent and dedicated office staff that we are blessed with – a big shout out to Patricia Vivona and Joseph Nguyen.

I wish to thank God for having given me this great opportunity to serve you as your pastor together with my associate pastors, Fr. Lazzaro and Fr. Peter, both of whom are no strangers to St. Jane Frances Parish. Fr. Lazzaro returns to St. Jane Frances after serving at St. Peter's Parish for almost four years and Fr. Peter has been serving this community with dedication for the last four years. Please know that we are here to serve you and, through you, God Himself.

I have already received a very warm welcome from many of you – in person, over the phone, via e-mails and text messages – and I really feel like I am “back home.” It is indeed heart-warming to know that so many of you still remember me and I am touched by your affection. I look forward to walking the journey of faith with all of you - the road ahead seems very exciting and promising, and we go forward resolutely to where Christ wishes to lead us.

I want to welcome you all as well – some of you are perhaps returning after being away for the summer and others could be returning to in-person worship after the pandemic. Welcome back! We understand that some are still not comfortable about returning to in-person worship on account of the virus. However, we want you to know that we are here for you, and we ask to please let us know if we can be of assistance and service to you. We invite you to consider returning to in-person worship at our Church. Please be assured that our Church is safe, and we strictly follow all guidelines and implement all safety measures recommended and required by civil health authorities and the Archdiocese of Toronto.

I wish to thank Fr. Charles and Fr. Giacomo for their hard work and dedication to this parish. I am sure you will all miss them and have fond memories of

them. They too will certainly look back on the years they spent here with nostalgia. May God bless them for their hard work and continue to guide and strengthen them in their new ministry as pastors of St. Peter's and Immaculate Conception parishes respectively. We wish to continue their good work and build on what they and other friars before them have left us as a legacy and our patrimony.

I am heartened to know we are blessed with so many dedicated volunteers – children, youth, and adults - who serve this parish and help us in so many ways. Their hard work and commitment make it so much easier for us to look after the pastoral needs of our parish. A big thank to all our volunteers! I hope to meet all our volunteers – individually and/or in groups very soon. We will contact you all via phone, e-mail or through the parish bulletin. Please continue to help and serve our parish. If you are not yet a volunteer, I ask to please consider volunteering; there are any number of activities and ministries that you could be a part of and thus contribute to making our parish even more vibrant. Call us at the parish office or send us an e-mail to let us know what your interests are, and we will help you choose and decide on an activity or ministry that you could be involved in.

We are all in a period of transition – returning after the summer break, facing realities of life after the pandemic, new pastors at the parish, etc. etc. We are all trying to get back on track and return to normalcy. We ask you to please be patient with us and bear with us as we try to settle in, learn the ropes and take the parish forward. It might take us a little time to learn everything and get to know everybody, but we will do everything we can to make sure that our parishioners are served, and your pastoral needs are taken care of.

Finally, let us all entrust ourselves, our families, and our parish to God through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the patronage of St. Jane Frances. May He who has created us and saved us through His Son, Jesus, continue to bless and guide us through the wisdom and power of the Holy Spirit.

**God bless you all,**

*Fr. Rohwin Pais OFM*  
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10 Settembre, 2022