

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

3 Combermere Drive, Don Mills, ON M3A 2W4 (416) 445-1760

www.bvmtoronto.com

Fr. Jude Coyle - Pastor
Fr. Stephen Gilbert - Associate Pastor
Fr. Steve N. Ransome - In Residence
Ms. Grace Hong - Parish Manager/Secretary

Christmas



the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.

Luke 2:10

ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH,
TORONTO, ONTARIO

*"The shepherds found Mary and Joseph and the child
lying in the manger."*

PRAY WITH THE SAINTS



Sunday, December 25th is *Christmas, a Holy Day of Obligation*

Monday, December 26th is the *Feast of St. Stephen, The First Martyr*

Tuesday, December 27th is the *Feast of St. John, Apostle, Evangelist*

Wednesday, December 28th is the *Feast of The Holy Innocents, Martyrs*

Friday, December 30th is the *Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

Join us in prayer in communion with these great saints and all the saints in Heaven at the 8:00AM and 12:30PM Masses on weekdays, and 9:00AM Mass on Saturday.

CHRISTMAS — THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD

We celebrate the birth of our Lord into our world; however, many have not received the birth of our Lord into their hearts. The Christmas Season celebrates the birth of the Lord Jesus and the ways he manifested the presence of God among us.

BLESSING FOR A CHRISTMAS CRIB



God and Father of us all, bless us as we prepare this crib and let it be a reminder of the Lord Jesus who was born of the Virgin Mary in the City of David. Grant that we may always serve you in faith as did the angels, praise you for your saving deeds as did the shepherds, and surround you with the warmth of our love as did the animals in the stable. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen!

RCIA

Interested in becoming a Catholic? Come and walk the faith journey with us. We meet weekly from October to Eastertide. For more information, please contact the Parish Office.



A CHRISTMAS GREETING



On the feast of Christ's birth, we are reminded to reflect on God who is love. May you experience the joy, peace and love which the Christ child brings.

The Pastoral Team of Annunciation Parish: Fr. Jude Coyle, Fr. Stephen Gilbert, Fr. Steve N. Ransome, and the entire parish staff, extend to you best wishes and prayerful greetings for a happy and Blessed Christmas.

CHRISTMAS FAMILY BLESSING



God of light and hope, look upon us in love and fill us with the Spirit of Jesus that we may love you and serve you in your kingdom. Protect us during this week and keep us watchful in prayer as we await the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the light of the world, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen!

NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, Dec. 26th — Thursday, Dec. 29th, 2016

Daily Mass at 9:00AM

Parish Office Closed

Friday, Dec. 30th, 2016

Feast of the Holy Family

Daily Mass at 9:00AM

Parish Office Closed

NEW YEAR'S EVE : Saturday, Dec. 31st, 2016

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Masses at 5:00PM & 7:00PM

Daily Mass at 9:00AM

Parish Office Closed

NEW YEAR'S DAY: Sunday, January 1st, 2017

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Masses at 8:00AM, 9:30AM, 11:00AM & 12:30PM
(No 7:00PM Mass)

Monday, January 2, 2017

Daily Mass at 9:00AM

Parish Office Closed

Regular Mass Schedule and Office Hours resume on
Tuesday, January 3rd, 2017

ANNUNCIATION PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



THE CHRISTMAS MYSTERY

525 Jesus was born in a humble stable, into a poor family. Simple shepherds were the first witnesses to this event. In this poverty heaven's glory was made manifest. The

Church never tires of singing in the glory of this night: *The Virgin today brings into the world the Eternal and the earth offers a cave to the inaccessible. The angels and shepherds praise him and the magi advance with the star, for you are born for us, little child, God eternal!*

526 To become a child in relation to God is the condition of entering the kingdom. For this we must humble ourselves and become little. Even more: to become "children of God" we must be "born from above" or "born of God." Only when Christ is formed in us will the mystery of Christmas be fulfilled in us. Christmas is the mystery of this "marvelous exchange": *O marvelous exchange! Man's Creator has become man, born of the Virgin. We have been made sharers in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share our humanity.*

WHAT DOES THE GOSPEL TEACH ABOUT THE

MYSTERIES OF THE BIRTH AND INFANCY OF JESUS?

At *Christmas* the glory of heaven is shown forth in the weakness of a baby; the *circumcision* of Jesus is a sign of his belonging to the Hebrew people and is a prefiguration of our Baptism; the *Epiphany* is the manifestation of the Messiah King of Israel to all the nations; at the *presentation in the temple*, Simeon and Anna symbolize all the anticipation of Israel awaiting its encounter with its Saviour; the *flight into Egypt* and the massacre of the innocents proclaim that the entire life of Christ will be under the sign of persecution; the *departure from Egypt* recalls the exodus and presents Jesus as the new Moses and the true and definitive liberator.

CHURCH BULLETIN ADVERTISING

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the advertisements for our church bulletin. The advertising will begin in January 2017 and supports the bulletin service.

Call Liturgical Publications at (905) 624 4422

USE OF INCENSE AT CHRISTMAS MASSES



A courtesy message to parishioners who are sensitive to burning incense:

Incense **will be used** at the 9:00PM and 12:00 Midnight Masses on Christmas Eve, and at the 11:00AM Mass on Christmas Day. Incense will **not** be used at the 6:00PM Mass on Christmas Eve, and the 9:30AM and 12:30PM Masses on Christmas Day.

CHRISTMAS PARKING

We all know that parking will be a problem over the Christmas/New Year stretch. Please remember there is **absolutely no parking at anytime between the lanes marked "No Parking" and the driveway in front of the church. It is a fire route!**

A limited number of handicap spots are available for those with **valid permits**.

Remember, the Parking Authority never takes a holiday!



Memorial Lamps & Special Intentions

*December 25th to
December 31st*

*To the memory of
Immanuel Riscardi, Iman
who died December 6th, 2014.
Remembered with love by his wife,
children and grandchildren.
Requested by: Hendra and Bella*

*In loving memory of Antonio Figueira.
So deeply loved, missed and eternally cherished.
Requested by: Dad, Mom, your loving sister
Kerry-Ann and brother-in-law Lucio.*

*In loving memory of Luis Figueira.
May you have eternal rest in our Lord's house.
You may be gone, but never forgotten.
Forever in our hearts, Dennis, Gemma, Kerry-Ann
and Lucio.*

Requested by: Dennis Figueira and Family.

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