

# *Saint Patrick's Church*

4673 Victoria Ave.

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[stpatrick1895@hotmail.com](mailto:stpatrick1895@hotmail.com)

Rev. Gerard Power, O.Carm., Pastor (Director in Canada, Society of the Little Flower)

Rev. Marc Bell, O.Carm., Associate Pastor

Rev. Mr. David Scott, Deacon

Debbie Herman, Secretary

Alice Corfield, Bookkeeper Secretary

Brian Kneller, Caretaker



Oh Come  
Let us Adore Him

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY



**Saturday, December 23 St John of Kanty**  
**5:00** Victor Lea *req by Jeanne & Family*  
 Nancy & Nick DiPaolo *req by Jim & Rosemary Panetta*

**Sunday, December 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**8:00** Dariusz Rebisz *req by the Family*  
 Peter Moi *req by the Nguyen Family*  
**9:30** Pietro Guerin *req by Maria & Family*  
 Pat Hudson *req by Debbie & Friends*  
**11:30** People of the Parish

**Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve The Nativity of the Lord**  
**4:00pm** People of the Parish  
**6:00pm** People of the Parish  
**12:00am** People of the Parish

**Monday, December 25 Christmas Day The Nativity of the Lord**  
**8:00** People of the Parish  
**9:30** People of the Parish  
**11:30** People of the Parish

**Tuesday, December 26 St. Stephen**  
**8:00** Cecil Shannon *req by Charlene Shannon*  
 Dec'd mem of the Picca & DiPaul Families *req by Lucy, John & Family*

**Wednesday, December 27 St John**  
**8:00** Carmine DeMizio *req by Pasqualina DeMizio & Family*  
 Madeline Rosati *req by The Grandchildren*

**Thursday, December 28 The Holy Innocents**  
**8:00** Ines Marcon *req by T & G Milani & Family*  
 John Audibert *req by the Family*

**Friday, December 29 St Thomas Becket**  
**8:00** Rosina Paonessa *req by Tony & Rosa DeAngelis*  
 Oscar & Mercedes Bonaguro *req by the Family*

**Saturday, December 30**  
**5:00** Anita & Roger Archambault *req by Jeanne Lea & Family*  
 Lucrezia Rizzo *req by Mary, Patti, John, Steve & Families*

**Sunday, December 31 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**  
**8:00** Bruno Pietrobbon *req by the Family*  
 Margaret & John Pederi *req by their Dtr: Margaret Pederi*  
**9:30** Frank Ruberto *req by Teresa Ruberto*  
 James & Flora Antonio *req by the Antonio Family*  
**11:30** People of the Parish  
**5:00** Bruno Gagno *req by Nancy & Randy*  
 Rev. Ben Hogan, O.Carm. *req by John Roberts*

**Monday, January 1, New Years Day, World Day of Peace**  
**The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God**  
 \* **11:30am** Mark & Wanda Solomon *req. by the Family*  
 Dec'd mem of the Sacco & Villella Families *req. by the Family*

**Tuesday, January 2 St Basil the Great & St Gregory Nazianzen**  
**8:00** Carmela Rinaldi *req by the Family*  
 John Buckner *req by Parishioners*

**Wednesday, January 3 The Most Holy Name of Jesus**  
**8:00** Frances & Bob Comeau *req by Parishioners*  
 Marie & Jack Cadman *req by Friends*

**Thursday, January 4**  
**8:00** Tim Foster *req by the Family*  
 Ria Van Noort *req by the Family*

**Friday, January 5**  
**8:00** Madeline Rosati *req by the Family*  
 Carole Finella *req by her Daily Mass Friends*

**Saturday, January 6**  
**5:00** Tony Laslo *req by Anna & Cathy*  
 Gerry Paolin *req by Steve & Debbie Zelic & Family*

**Sunday, January 7 The Epiphany of the Lord**  
**8:00** Giuseppina Canali *req by Anne & John Condotta*  
 Marie-Ange & Clarence Adams *req by Aileen & Bryce*  
**9:30** Theresa Fisher *req by the Family*  
 Jozef Brzozowski *req by his Dtr: Jean*  
**11:30** People of the Parish

*Please pray for those who are ill. We are currently updating our sick list. This will be limited to parishioners and family members who are hospitalized or chronically ill. Please be advised that only an immediate family member can request a name to be added to this list.*

Mary Power, Barbara Conidi, Cecilia Shugg, Jim Crowley, Toni Brideau, Randy Power, Sherry Wales, Maureen Young, Maureen Tustin, Maureen Watson, Michael DelGrande, Helen Korce, Leila Khan, David Gallina, Andrew Zacharuk, Patrick Macri, Alba Rondinelli, Nancy Waters, Victor Pizzolato, Jeanne S, Christine Pritty, John & Laura Giampa, Missy Bilotta, Antoinette Vescio, Charlene Shannon, Flori Heimbigner, Rita Ross, Isabell Frost, Anna Hunt, Leroy Collee, Leon French, Tony Cuvieello, Jim & Betty Calzonetti, Eric Van Noort, Judy, Sr. Carol Forhan CPPS, D.D., William JA DeFoe, Estelle Critelli, Betty Crete, Sister Prem, Jeannette Fabian, Kelsey Liles, Julian Cassidy, Kelly Laslo, Mahmat, Teresa Hebb, Rose MacDonald, Lori Ann Pizzolato, JoAnne Biamonte Ely, Karen Bradley, Betty & Mary Ann Quigley, Bob Marshall, Arlene Collee, Danielle Barranca, Nancy Weiss, John Calder, Gregory Roulston, Cameron Boyes, Kerrie Szuch, Norma Zanus, Pasquale Abrunzo, Anna Chayer, Denise Colalillo, Francesco Albanese, Mary Jo O'Kell, Carmella Modenti, Michelle Price, Bernard Martin, Joyce Weaver, Emmanuel & Aline Chayer, Margaret Waghorn, Vicki Lea-Dawson, Evelyn Rose Baker, Lorraine Spence, Patricia O'Reilly, Gloria Smelko, Maria Guerin, Jackie, Fran Smelko, Jozefa Bilski, Faith Amadio, Jadwiga Wozniak, Francois Chayer, Walter Wallace, Julie Nicholson, Patrick McCarthy, Pepper Martin Jr, Marie Brooker, Vanessa Athoe, Brian Boudreau, Samuel Potapczyk, Alice Jones

*Please help us update our list of those who are homebound, infirm, or hospitalized by calling the parish office.*

### Children Sacramental Dates 2024

**Confirmation:** Saturday, February 10, 2024 @ 5:00 PM  
**First Reconciliation:** Tuesday, March 5, 2024 @ 7:00 PM  
**First Communion:** Sunday, April 28, 2024 @ 9:30 AM and 1:30 PM  
 (If you are a parishioner at St. Patrick Church, and have a child who does not attend St. Patrick or St. Mary Schools, and would like to celebrate their sacraments here, please contact the parish office for the registration forms.)

### Baptism Schedule for 2024

Baptisms will be celebrated in St. Patrick Church at 1:00 PM on:  
**Sunday January 21, February 25 (Infants ONLY), April 21.** A mandatory meeting for Parents and Godparents will be held in the Church on Tuesday, Jan 16, Feb 20 & Apr 16 at 7:00 pm.



### Prayer For Those who Grieve at Christmas

Comforting God, while the world is bright and sparkling, my heart feels laden and has an emptiness that cannot be filled. How can I enter into this season of joy? Instead of entering into the *Rejoice* of Christmas, I long for the sorrow of Lent. I beg you Lord, show me how the two are connected. I ponder the name *Emmanuel* and know that it means "God with us." With us. With me in this world, in this sorrow. If I look beyond my pain, I know that you too, suffered so much in this world. I never understood so clearly before that *Emmanuel* is what your nativity is really about. You are in my world, in my pain. Thank you, Lord, for the loved one you blessed my life with. Grant me now in my grief, a peace. Give me a comfort that might not make the tears go away, but that lets me feel your presence as you take up a place deep in my heart, *with me*.

### A Child's Grace for Christmas Day Dinner

Father, we thank you for this day.  
 Bless all we do and all we say.  
 May we each enjoy your blessings great  
 As Jesus' Birth we celebrate.  
 And may the love that we share here  
 Remain throughout the coming year. Amen!

### Christmas Flowers

Many thanks to all of you who donated so generously toward our Christmas Flowers and decorations. May our loved ones, in whose memory our altar is decorated, enjoy the heavenly chorus this Christmas! Heartfelt thanks to our many parishioners, young and old, who came out on the 20th to decorate our church.

CWL News...Hello Ladies, your *CWL dues of \$40* is now overdue for the 2024 calendar year. Please hand it in as soon as possible. You may place your cash/cheque in an envelope and label it with your name and *CWL dues for 2024* and place it in the collection, or drop it off at the office, or call or text Maggie Scott at 905-246-6212 to arrange a drop off.

[Today's Bulletin is for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, *Christmas Day, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, and The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God*. This material had to be submitted to the publisher on December 14<sup>th</sup>.]

The 4th Sunday of Advent always highlights Mary! It was her 'yes', her trusting faith, that made the birth of Christ possible. Being a young Jewish girl, she had every reason to be frightened, but the angel assured her, "Do not be afraid." And we know the rest of the story, how it unfolded. "Nothing will be impossible with God!" Mary trusted God. We trust our God, that all shall be well. May we have the strength and faith of Mary! We will also celebrate Mary on January 1<sup>st</sup>, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Our New Year will start out with honouring Mary, and asking for her intercession for the coming year. As the expression goes, "Keep Mary in mind, and Jesus will grow in your heart."

**Christmas Message**

On behalf of our Parish and Staff, I wish you all the blessings of the Christmas Season! We pause this day and ask our God to send the Spirit of Peace across the world, especially in areas that are torn apart by war and conflict: Sudan, Russia, Ukraine, Israel and Palestine.

.....  
The Gospel for Christmas Mass during the Day proclaims, "And the Word became flesh and lived among us!" This is not just a theological doctrine about the Incarnation! This Christmas is the gift that we are **divine life, light and love**. the depth of God's love for us. joy. It is a time to open our



affirms that God became one us at any time. The gift of never alone. We have within us, There is absolutely no limit to Christmas is a season of great eyes and hearts to the Newborn

Child! Then, open our eyes and hearts to those around us. We need to bask in the realization that *God is with us, Emmanuel!* And God will always remain faithful to us! Let's do our best to remain faithful to God, by spreading peace, love and good will... and celebrating the gift of His presence with everyone! My prayer is that we will each do our blessed part to *Keep Christ in Christmas...* and to keep Christ in our lives and in our families. **May the New-Born Saviour fill your hearts and homes with love, joy and peace!**

**Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph- December 31st**

Today is the Feast of the Holy Family! We can be tempted to look at the Holy Family as an **ideal** which we could never realize in our own families. Before we do that, may we never forget that **Mary, Joseph and Jesus** had their share of struggles! The trust which is fundamental to a marriage, was challenged by Mary's pregnancy. Imagine Joseph having to bring Mary to a stable (cave) to give birth. Imagine living in a foreign land, Egypt, away from family and traditions. Still, the Holy Family made it through the difficulties of their **family life** for one reason only: **they had great faith**. Mary and Joseph's life was fueled by their faith, hope, joy and trust in God and his promises. This is a great feast to look at our own families. Is there **JOY** in my family? We need to laugh together! Are my family gatherings tense-filled, tedious? Do we have to walk on eggshells around each other? Why not bring some joy back into our family... for **holiness sake!** Quality **TIME** together has something to do with being a **Holy Family!** And **PRAYER**. To have any chance at all at being a **Holy Family**, we must have the ingredient of **PRAYER**. We know the old saying, "The Family That Prays Together, Stays Together." None of our families will ever be perfect, but there's absolutely no reason why our families can't be a little bit **holier and sacred and joy-filled**. May Jesus, Mary and Joseph intercede for us, and draw our families closer together.



**Christmas Gift Campaign**

Many thanks to our parishioners who so generously provided gifts and food for some 150 local needy children and families. The response was overwhelming! By putting joy and happiness in a child's heart makes God more manifest... makes the Kingdom more of a reality... and it certainly keeps Christ in Christmas! God bless you for your big hearts!

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God- January 1<sup>st</sup>**

Father, Source of light in every age, the Virgin conceived and bore Your Son who is called Wonderful God, Prince of Peace.

May her prayer, the gift of a mother's love,  
be Your people's joy through all ages.  
May her response, born of a humble heart,  
draw our Spirit to rest on Your people.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**A New Year's Prayer**

May God make your year a happy one!  
Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,  
But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;  
Not by making your path easy,  
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;  
Not by taking hardships from you,  
But by taking fear from your heart;  
Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,  
But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;  
Not by making your life always pleasant,  
But by showing you when people and their causes need you most,  
and by making you anxious to be there to help.  
God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead. Amen.



Many thanks for your generosity to our *Carmelite Missions*. Please continue to pray for the success of our Missions! God bless you for your kindness.

**Resolutions**

May your problems in the coming year be as short as your New Year's resolutions!



Happy Birthday to our Pastor, Fr. Gerard.  
On December 30<sup>th</sup>, he'll be 59 for the first time!

The CWL are happy to announce a huge thank you to everyone who donated towards **SOctober**. A total of **522 pairs of socks** were very well received at Out of the Cold! Thank you again!

**Health Alert**

Please remember that the Flu Season is upon us, and there's also an increase in upper respiratory illnesses. If you are feeling ill, it is best to stay home. It is always safest to sneeze or cough into your arm (not your hand), or use a tissue. We ask that you use the hand sanitizer at the doors of the church. Let's do our part to keep everyone safe and healthy.

**2024 Church Envelopes**

Please make sure you pick up your Offertory Envelopes as soon as possible. They are in the sacristy, to the left of the altar. Many thanks.



Please take time to look at the back of our Parish Bulletin! These local advertisers pay for the printing/publishing of our bulletin. Let's do everything we can to **patronize them**, and let them know that you saw their AD here! If there's other family businesses within the parish that would like to advertise, call the company listed on the back of the Bulletin!

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