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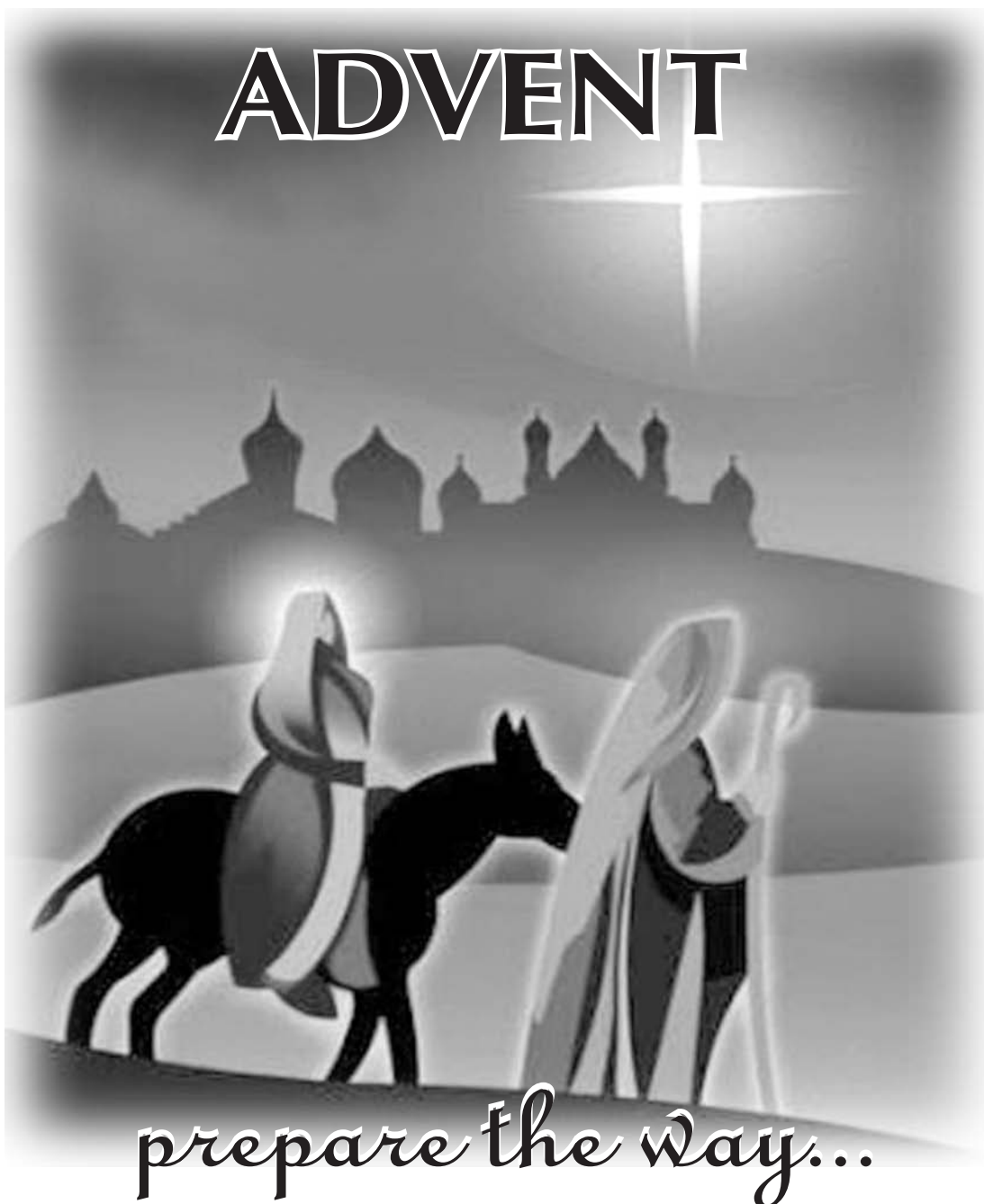
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ADVENT



prepare the way...

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Story and You™



Sacred Conversations

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

I'm confused. Is the child's name to be Jesus--Yeshua, which means "God saves"--- or is it to be Emmanuel, which means *God with us*? How can this Child have two distinct names? That's a question that bothers the careful reader of today's Gospel.

First, though, a fun distinction between how Luke and Matthew handle the Name. Luke, that great lover of Mary, says that SHE is going to name her Son. (1:31). HA! A woman naming her own child? Unheard of.

Matthew, writing to a Jewish audience, remembers this scene differently. His narrative of the birth of Jesus is told through the eyes of Joseph.

That's wonderful, since without Matthew's account we'd know nothing about Joseph at all. And, of course, it is Joseph who shall name the Son. The father names the child, and Joseph will take on the role of the father of this miraculously conceived Child.

And how rich it is, in Matthew, that Jesus will have two names. He will come to save us. But he will also come to *be with us*. By giving him these two names, Matthew starts healing us right away. We need a savior. We need help in illness and death. We need help with our aging parents. We need a savior for our troubled children. But we need a God who is *with us* as we face these agonizing trials.

From the start, we know that Jesus will be *with us*. And at the very end, as Jesus is ascending to heaven, he says, "And lo, I am *with you always*, to the end of the age" (28:20).

A savior? Yes. Who is *with us*? Oh, yes. O come, O come, Emmanuel.

How do you sense that God is with you?

Kathy McGovern ©2022 www.thestoryandyou.com

THE SACRED LITURGY THIS WEEK

Wed. Dec 21	Memorial	St. Peter Canisius, Priest, Doctor
Fri. Dec 23	Memorial	St. John of Kanty, Priest

READINGS THIS WEEK

18 Isaiah 7.10-14; Romans 1.1-7; Matthew 1.18-24
19 Judges 13.2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1.5-25
20 Isaiah 7.10-14; 8.10d; Luke 1.26-38
21 Zephaniah 3.14-18a or Song of Songs 2.8-14; Luke 1.39-45
22 1 Samuel 1.24-28; Luke 1.46-56
23 Malachi 3.1-4; 4.5-6; Luke 1.57-66
24 2 Samuel 7.1-5, 8-12, 16; Luke 1.67-79

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 24

No 8:30 am morning Mass

No Confessions at 4:00 pm

Christmas Eve

5:00 pm Children's Mass

10:00 pm Mass

11:30 pm Mini Christmas concert

12:00 am Midnight Mass

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day

8:00 am Mass

9:30 am Mass (Italian)

11:00 am Mass

12:30 pm Mass

4:30 pm Mass

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY

(BLESSING OF BABY JESUS STATUES)

Pope John Paul II began the tradition of Bambinelli Sunday during his papacy to remind families about the joyous event of Baby Jesus' arrival in the manger. We invite you to bring your baby Jesus statues for a special blessing at the **11:00 am Mass, Sunday, December 18, 2022.**

SMI CHRISTMAS CONCERT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2022

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Join us for a wonderful evening of Christmas music being performed by many of our talented musicians and conducted by our very own Music Co-Ordinator, Petra Kim. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the Parish hall. Tickets: \$20 Adults and \$15 Seniors and Children.

Tickets available for purchase in the Church foyer after all the Masses and will be available for purchase at the doors before the concert begins. All proceeds will go towards the renovations of the Parish hall, kitchen and elevator project. Thank you for your support.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

This **Sunday, December 18** is the last session of Children's Liturgy during the 11:00 am Mass. Children's Liturgy will resume **January 15, 2023.**

2023 SUNDAY MASS MISSALS

Are available for purchase in the parish office while quantities last.

2023 OFFERTORY ENVELOPE BOXES

The 2023 offertory envelope boxes are available for pick up and are located in 3 areas of the Church; Our Lady of Fatima Chapel, Sacred Heart of Jesus Chapel and at the back of the Church. Envelopes are organized by the first letter of the surname. If you would like envelopes or need assistance, please contact the parish office.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

Children are invited to participate in the Children's Christmas Eve Mass, **Saturday, December 24 at 5:00 pm.** If your child is interested in participating, please complete the permission form available on the tables at all the entrances to the Church and submit to the Parish office. Final rehearsal this Sunday, December 18 from 10:30 am to 11:00 am.

ADVENT LOVE LETTERS TO JESUS

Dearest Baby Jesus.....

Thank you for protecting me everyday.
I love you very much and you are the best.
I hope you are having a great time in
heaven. I appreciate how you answer
many of my prayers when I really
need it. Please help me be a better person
and please help me not to lose things as
often.

With all my love.....

Katherine
(Name)



Listen to Catholic Espresso with Fr. Pawel and co-host Russell Hoyt from Texas. **Christmas Edition** podcast. Visit <https://anchor.fm/catholicespresso> or our website for the link.

CHRISTMAS PANETTONE

The Knights of Columbus will be selling panettone in the Church foyer after all Masses this weekend for only \$10 each. Consider buying not just for yourself, but to give as gifts!

CWL RELIGIOUS ARTICLES

Will be available in the Church foyer following all Masses this weekend. Last chance to shop for beautiful statues and sacramental gifts before Christmas.

CWL GENERAL MEETING

Will be held on **Monday, December 19** in the Fr. Kolbe room, beginning with the Holy Rosary at 7:00 pm in the Church. All members and ladies are invited to attend and share some Christmas cheer.

POINSETTIA PLANTS FOR THE CHURCH

We are accepting donations of poinsettia plants for Christmas. Kindly drop off at the Parish office. Thank you for your generosity.

2022 TAX YEAR

The last weekend for donations to be included in the 2022 tax year will be **Sunday, December 25**. We ask you to please notify the Parish office if you have changed address or contact information. Thank you for your continued support.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED DURING HOLIDAYS

Monday, December 26
Tuesday, December 27
Friday, December 30
Monday, January 2



Come Join Us for Our Next Exciting Bible Study on
Jesus - The Way, The Truth, And The Life.
Don't Miss This Wonderful And Important Study About Our Savior.
Beginning Tuesday Mornings 9:15 am - 11:15 am
January 31, 2023 to March 28, 2023
Contact Parish office to register.

A CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

A special Mass will be celebrated on **Sunday, February 12, 2023** at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica at **2:30 pm** by His Excellency, Bishop Vincent Nguyen. All married couples, particularly those who will celebrate a milestone anniversary are welcome to attend. Registration for this event is required. Please visit www.archtoronto.org/marriage.

SUPPORT YOUR PARISH WITH A GIFT OF SECURITIES THIS CHRISTMAS

As Christmas approaches, it is a good time to call to mind some of the blessings we've experienced thus far. Thank you for your support throughout the year! While you are planning your seasonal giving benefiting the parish and the community, consider making a gift of securities. It is one of the most financially sound ways to make a difference. When you donate stocks, bonds or mutual funds, you pay no capital gains tax and receive a tax receipt for the full value of your securities. It means a great tax break for you and greater support to the parish. To learn more about gifting securities and how you can make an impact for the 2022 tax year, contact the Development Office at 416-934-3400 ext. 561/519. To donate listed securities, you can

obtain the information sheet and Letter of Direction by visiting this link: <https://bit.ly/ArchTOGiftsofSecurities>.

Thank you once again for your continued support!

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Antony Domenicano & Arturo David Perez Garcia
We welcome you into the Church! We wish the Parents and Godparents of the newly baptized, God's blessing and protection of our Mother Mary!

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF SOULS

+Nazzareno Michele
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTIONS

Available to offer for loved ones for a one week period. Sanctuary lamps are the red votive candles lit beside the tabernacle. To request an intention for the sanctuary lamps, please call the Parish office at 905-884-1784 during office hours.

DEC 19 - 25: THE SANCTUARY LAMPS BURN FOR:

+Najebeh Zakhem & +Richard Isa
&
+Sandi Rose Weinholdt

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK & THEIR CAREGIVERS

If you would like to mention a loved one who is sick or a caregiver caring for a sick loved one that are in need of prayers, please call the parish office at 905-884-1784 or email at stmaryimmaculateri@archtoronto.org.

Tanya Di Persio, Marco Cianfarani, Catarina Clyke, Clara Pacitti, Monica Cozzolino, Robert Harvey, Helena Leung Chak, Paula Chorostil

MASS INTENTIONS DEC 19 – DEC 25

Mon. Dec 19	8:00 am	+All Deceased members of the Burkhardt Family
Tues. Dec 20	8:00 am	+Antonio Suppa
Wed. Dec 21	8:00 am	+All Deceased members of the Ranahan Family
Thurs. Dec 22	8:00 am	+Franca Di Blasi
Fri. Dec 23	8:00 am	In Thanksgiving for the blessing of Athena
Sat. Dec 24	5:00 pm	+Paolo Tanel
	10:00 pm	+Mary, +Owen & +All Deceased members of Mc Kenna Family
	MIDNIGHT	Private Intentions
Sun. Dec 25	8:00 am	+Stella & +Patricia Beresford
	9:30 am	+Filomena Santopolo +Gioacchino Adamo +Esterina Nigro
	11:00 am	+Lorenzo Gabriel Gibellini +Pasquale & +Palma D'Angela +Dario Iacobelli +Catherine D'Angela +Angiolina & +Guido De Berardis +Regina, +Arduino & +Antonio Mazzoli +Stephen Lappin +Anthony D'Lima +Victoria D'Lima Gray +Andrea D'Lima O'Donnell
	12:30 pm	People of St. Mary Immaculate
	4:30 pm	+All Souls of Purgatory



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