

St. Mary Immaculate Parish

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Pastor: Rev. Pawel Zborowski

Associate: Rev. Victor Boiragi

Associate: Rev. Francesco Sandrin

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Joseph D'Amico

Pastoral Worker/Office Mgr: Michelle Gregory

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

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On behalf of Fr. Victor, Fr. Francesco and Deacon Joseph and myself, I would like to wish all of you a wonderful and blessed Christmas!

May the peace and love of the Christ Child, which surpasses all understanding, fill your lives and guard your hearts and your minds.

Praying for you and your families!

In Christ,
Fr. Pawel

THE SANCTUARY LAMPS THIS WEEK BURN FOR:
+Gabriele Magnotta

ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT on Friday Dec. 30th will take place from 6-6:50 p.m.

CONFESSIONS are **cancelled** on Saturday, December 31st.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Christmas Eve, Saturday, Dec. 24

5 p.m., (English); 9:00 p.m. (Italian / English); (11:30, Carols) 12 Midnight (English)

Christmas Day, Sunday, Dec. 25

8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. (Italian), 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m.

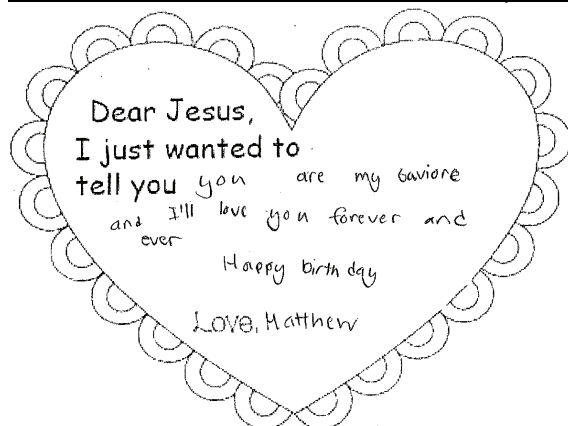
There is NO 4:30 p.m. Mass this day.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

Eve (Saturday, Dec. 31): 5 p.m.,

Day (Sunday, Jan. 1): 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. (Italian), 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m.; 4:30 p.m. **Please note that January 1st is a HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION.**

HIGHLIGHT FROM OUR LOVE LETTER TO JESUS



PLEASE NOTE that anyone wishing to have their donations included for the year 2016 must be given by Sunday, Dec. 25th. We are unable to pre-date any donations. Thank you for your continued support.

THE LITTLE BLUE BOOK for Advent and Christmas Season is available for purchase from the parish office. The Little Blue Book contains six minute daily reflections on the Infancy Narrative of St. Luke to deepen our faith. It takes a short Scripture passage and simply let God speak to us through the words, guiding us to reflection.

FORMED

STEP #1: HOW TO CREATE YOUR OWN PERSONAL PROFILE?

1. Visit the website www.formed.org.
2. Enter the parish code in the empty box: **DWMDQ7**
3. Create a personal profile by entering the requested info (e.g. name, address, email address, etc.). **IMPORTANT: Please note that you are required to create your own password in order to login after having created your personal profile.*
4. Check the box next to: "I have read & understood the Terms and Conditions and Privacy Policy."
5. Click on the button: "Submit Profile".
6. You're signed in! Feel free to browse the various programs on the site!
7. To log out when you're finished, click on "My Account" and then "Sign Out".

MARK your CALENDAR



Fr. Pawel invites you to our Valentine's Gala on February 10th.

Tickets will be sold soon!

SMI YOUTH GROUP meets on January 8th after the Sunday 4:30 p.m. Mass in the parish hall.

CAMPAIGN LIFE CHRISTMAS CAKES & RIGHT TO LIFE CHRISTMAS CARDS are available from the parish office. Please support this worthy cause.

CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS!!! Our Fr. Pawel Book Club presents the "3rd Book Review & Tea Time with Fr. Pawel" at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 18th in the Parish Hall. Please secure a copy of the book to be discussed – "7 Secrets of the Eucharist" and "A Biblical Walk Through the Mass." Available at the CWL Religious Store and at the Office. Please note the date change. Facilitator for this evening: Fr. Francesco

MOTHERS' GROUP Our parish is starting a Mothers' Group. Do you want to be refreshed? Inspired? Meet other Catholic moms? Then come out to our first meeting which will be held on **Tuesday, January 17th** in the Meeting Room at 7 p.m. Please call the parish office to pre-register.

RETRouvaille TORONTO: A CATHOLIC LIFELINE TO HELP TROUBLED MARRIAGES Retrouvaille is a program to help married couples through troubled times in their marriages. They may be experiencing difficulty or deep misery in their marriages. Retrouvaille is designed to provide the tools to help get your marriage back on track. It will give you the opportunity to rediscover one another and examine your lives together in a new and positive way. Contact us for confidential information. Upcoming weekend: Friday, January 27 to 29th. For info, please call 416-281-6007 or visit www.torontoretrouvaille.com <http://bit.ly/jan2017retrouvaille>

SECURITIES / MUTUAL FUND DONATION Consider using your appreciated securities to make your offertory gift for 2016 and avoid paying capital gain tax. The Development Office of the Archdiocese of Toronto can assist you with this process. You can also use securities to consolidate all of your other church giving. For example, if you make an annual gift to ShareLife, we will arrange to have your parish credited with your gift. To learn more or to ask for a donation form, please contact the Dev. Office at 416-934-3411 or www.archtoronto.org/development. The deadline for making gifts of securities or mutual bonds is 10 a.m. on Wednesday, December 21, 2016 to be eligible for a 2016 tax receipt. Donation forms can be sent to development@archtoronto.org or by fax to 416-934-3412. Thank you!

FRIARS' STUDENT WRITING AWARD 2017 Deadline to submit essays for the Friars' Student Writing Award is **January 13, 2017**. Win Great Prizes! Students aged 14 to 18 are invited to write a 500-word essay on the theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, celebrated January 18-25, 2017. The Theme is "Reconciliation – The love of Christ compels us" (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:14-20). Students should read the above Scripture passage and respond to the following statement in the essay: As the Christian world reflects on the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation (1517) and after reading 2 Corinthians 5:14-20, discuss the main obstacles to Christian reconciliation and ways to overcome them based on your own experiences. First Prize: iPad Air 2 (64 GB). Second Prize: Kobo Aura H2O. Third to Sixth Prizes: one-year subscription to The Catholic Register and other prizes. Essays will be edited and published in The Catholic Register. Deadline for entries is January 13, 2017. Email your essay to editor@catholicregister.org or fax it to 416-934-3409 (please include your full name, email address, phone number, and the name of your school on the front page of the essay). For further information, call 416-934-3400, ext. 344 or 416-934-3410, ext. 403 or 1-855-441-4077.

25 dicembre 2016 – Natale del Signore

Verbum caro factum est - Il Verbo si fece carne (Gv 1,14). Cari fratelli e sorelle, con gioia vi annuncio il messaggio del Natale: Dio si è fatto uomo, è venuto ad abitare in mezzo a noi. Dio non è lontano: è vicino, anzi, è l'Emmanuele, Dio-con-noi. Non è uno sconosciuto: ha un volto, quello di Gesù. E' un messaggio sempre nuovo, sempre sorprendente, perché oltrepassa ogni nostra più audace speranza. Soprattutto perché non è solo un annuncio: è un avvenimento, un accadimento, che testimoni credibili hanno veduto, udito, toccato nella Persona di Gesù di Nazareth! Stando con Lui, osservando i suoi atti e ascoltando le sue parole, hanno riconosciuto in Gesù il Messia; e vedendolo risorto, dopo che era stato crocifisso, hanno avuto la certezza che Lui, vero uomo, era al tempo stesso vero Dio, il Figlio unigenito venuto dal Padre, pieno di grazia e di verità (cfr Gv 1,14).

Il Verbo si fece carne. Di fronte a questa rivelazione, riemerge ancora una volta in noi la domanda: come è possibile? Il Verbo e la carne sono realtà tra loro opposte; come può la Parola eterna e onnipotente diventare un uomo fragile e mortale? Non c'è che una risposta: l'Amore. Chi ama vuole condividere con l'amato, vuole essere unito a lui, e la Sacra Scrittura ci presenta proprio la grande storia dell'amore di Dio per il suo popolo, culminata in Gesù Cristo.

Il Verbo si fece carne. La luce di questa verità si manifesta a chi la accoglie con fede, perché è un mistero d'amore. Solo quanti si aprono all'amore sono avvolti dalla luce del Natale. Così fu nella notte di Betlemme, e così è anche oggi. L'incarnazione del Figlio di Dio è un avvenimento che è accaduto nella storia, ma nello stesso tempo la oltrepassa. Nella notte del mondo si accende una luce nuova, che si lascia vedere dagli occhi semplici della fede, dal cuore mite e umile di chi attende il Salvatore. Se la verità fosse solo una formula matematica, in un certo senso si imporrebbe da sé. Se invece la Verità è Amore, domanda la fede, il sì del nostro cuore. E che cosa cerca, in effetti, il nostro cuore, se non una Verità che sia Amore? La cerca il bambino, con le sue domande, così disarmanti e stimolanti; la cerca il giovane, bisognoso di trovare il senso profondo della propria vita; la cercano l'uomo e la donna nella loro maturità, per guidare e sostenere l'impegno nella famiglia e nel lavoro; la cerca la persona anziana, per dare compimento all'esistenza terrena. L'amore del Dio con noi doni perseveranza a tutte le comunità cristiane che soffrono discriminazione e persecuzione, ed ispiri i leader politici e religiosi ad impegnarsi per il pieno rispetto della libertà religiosa di tutti.

Cari fratelli e sorelle, il Verbo si fece carne, è venuto ad abitare in mezzo a noi, è l'Emmanuele, il Dio che si è fatto a noi vicino. Contempliamo insieme questo grande mistero di amore, lasciamoci illuminare il cuore dalla luce che brilla nella grotta di Betlemme! Buon Natale a tutti!

AVVISI.

1. A tutti auguri per un felice S. Natale ed un anno nuovo apportatore di tante benedizioni.
2. 7 gennaio; Festa della Famiglia e Befana, con regalini per i bambini.

PLEASE DO NOT USE past years' envelopes as they may not be credited to you. Should you wish to obtain parish envelopes for this year, please call the parish office.

MASS INTENTIONS		Dec. 25-31
SAT.	5:00 p.m.	Pro populo
	9:00 p.m.	Pro Populo
SUN.	9:30 a.m.	Pro populo
	11:00 a.m.	Pro populo
	12:30 p.m.	Pro populo
	4:30 p.m.	Pro populo
MON.	8:00 a.m.	Intentions of Cardinal Raymond Burke
TUE.	8:00 a.m.	+Thomas Alexander
WED.	8:00 a.m.	+Gabriel Siu
THURS.	8:00 a.m.	+ Anthony Tamburrini
FRIDAY	8:00 a.m.	+ Gabriele Magnotta
	7:00 p.m.	Paxton Family Members Naughton Family Members +Jeny, Stanislaw & Mancin Rytka
SAT.	8:30 a.m.	+Holy souls in purgatory

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SICK: Fr. McGough, Fr. Tilley, Eugene Bomba, Matteo Burbano, Patrick Burke, Rory Burke, Stephanie Byrne, David Calado, Andy Calado, Caitlyn, Victoria Carli, Bruno Cassara, Andrea Cavallin, Rose Chang, Manuela Clement, Rosa Corvinelli, Paolo D'Elia, Thomas De Souza, Harry Dekharmenjan, Nicholas Di Cearare, Francesca Di Domenico, Donato Di Giorio, Tanya DiPersio, Maria DiZio, Nancy Duncan, Steven Fiorini, Frank, Gail Frey, Rafael Garcia, Roberto Garcias, Margaret Gardiner, Marcus Gibbons, Jessica Gonzales, Godfrey Gosein, Gertiudes Henriques, Andy Heutehaus, Theresa Hogan, Lawrence Howe, Rogelia Infante, Maria Iudiciani, Jolanta Karabowicz, Margaret Kelly, Olivera Lambeta, Mary Malandrino, Jacob, Macaria Margate, Chris Markle, Noah, Veronica Martin, Susan McGee, Rita McKinnon-Peel, Rita McLennan, John McNamara, Maria Medeiros, Rachelle (Joy Ann) Mendoza, George Morgan, Susan, Bill Myers, Nino Naccarato, Lydia, Louise, Michelle Antoinette Nedvedskaya, Helen & Catherine, Myola Nunes, Rosemary Palmieri, Lisa, Domenico Pileggi, Kaliopi & Eugenia Pandelopoulou, Victoria Ramirez, Esther Reyes, Christine Ribbons, Patricia Rybka, Werner & Lucienne Schachatsiek, Claire Schickedanz, Tiberio Simoes, Vincenzo Sorbara, Bruno Sposato, Pat Sullivan, Jannette Thompson, Linda Vincent, Therese Vincent, Luigi Vittorio, Nora Waldherr, Abigail Walz, Sandra Weinholdt, Terence Whelan

BEREAVEMENT PEER SUPPORT SESSIONS at **St. Padre Pio Parish, Woodbridge**. Facilitators: Deacon Curtis & Joanne Boon. For info, contact 905-893-7879 or newbeginnings.stpadrepiochurch@gmail.com

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