



## ST. MARY IMMACULATE PARISH EST. 1857

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### PARISH STAFF

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## The Nativity of the Lord

## NATIVITY OF THE LORD



Beloved Parishioners,

On that Night, over two thousand years ago, something special happened.

On that Night, Christ brought us Salvation filled with joy and happiness.

My wish for you is that this Christmas Jesus will again bring you peace, joy and happiness. May He bless you and your family. May he give you strength to live in the atmosphere of that Holy Night!

Have a Blessed Christmas!

With prayers,

Fr. Pawel

### THE SACRED LITURGY THIS WEEK

<b>Mon. Dec 26</b>	Feast	St. Stephen, The First Martyr
<b>Tues. Dec 27</b>	Feast	St. John, Apostle, Evangelist
<b>Wed. Dec 28</b>	Feast	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
<b>Thurs. Dec 29</b>	Memorial	Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity St. Thomas Becket, Bishop, Martyr
<b>Fri. Dec 30</b>	Feast	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
<b>Sat. Dec 31</b>	Memorial	Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity St. Sylvester I, Pope

### READINGS THIS WEEK

26 Acts 6.8-10; 7.54-59; Matthew 10.17-22

27 1 John 1.1-4; John 20.2-8

28 1 John 1.5 - 2.2; Matthew 2.13-18

29 1 John 2.3-11; Luke 2.22-35

30 Sirach 3.2-6, 12-14 or Colossians 3.12-21; Matthew 2.13-15, 19-23

31 1 John 2.18-21; John 1.1-18

### THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to Rivalda Tiles, Mary Onorati, Peter Oliver, Colavita Family, Anita Markle, the Knights of Columbus, City of Richmond Hill Business Improvement Area and all those who helped set up the Nativity scene, decorate the Church for Christmas, exterior lights on trees, Christmas trees, poinsettias and flowers. Our Church looked amazing. Special thanks to Petra Kim and those involved in organizing the Parish Christmas concert, our musicians, cantors, altar servers, ushers, welcoming team, lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and last but not least all SMI Parishioners.

## The Story and You™



Sacred Conversations

### CHRISTMAS

There must be thirty distinct characters in the Christmas story, but I find myself drawn to St. Joseph more and more. Does it seem to you that he is everywhere? More Christian shrines are dedicated to him than any man besides Jesus. I wonder why. He doesn't speak a single word in scripture. He doesn't have to. He is overshadowed by the Holy Spirit in his dreams, and, like that young Joseph in Egypt 1600 years earlier, he trusts that God is speaking to him through them. That trust saves the Child, and you and me, and will, in the fullness of time, the world.

St. Joseph the Worker. That's the image that most of us know. Jesus is called "the carpenter's son" (Matthew 13:55,) and that image has made its way into art of all ages. We see him working with wood, but "carpenter"---*tekton*---may also have been someone who works with stone. There weren't a lot of trees in Nazareth, but there was a large rock quarry just three miles away. Joseph and Jesus may, in fact, have worked on the large Roman city, Sepphoris, very close to Nazareth, a city largely constructed of stone, as were most of the homes in the region.

Interesting, but not at all why we love St. Joseph. We love him because of his quiet strength, his protection of Mary and the Child, his wisdom in discerning how God is acting in his life. We love that, BEFORE Gabriel told him of the virginal conception of Jesus, he had already decided to divorce her quietly, lest she fall prey to the Orthodox readers of Deuteronomy 22: 13-17, and be killed. Love him.

St. Joseph, we need you. Please dream a new world for us this year.

*What would you like to ask St. Joseph this Christmas?*

Kathy McGovern ©2022 [www.thestoryandyou.com](http://www.thestoryandyou.com)

### THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

#### Saturday, December 31

8:30 am Mass

4:00 pm Confessions

#### **New Year's Eve**

5:00 pm Vigil Mass

#### Sunday, January 1, 2023

#### **New Year's Day**

8:00 am Mass

9:30 am Mass (Italian)

11:00 am Mass

12:30 pm Mass

4:30 pm Mass

### 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.



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.

### ADVENT LOVE LETTERS TO JESUS

Thank you to all the children who wrote adorable love letters to Baby Jesus.

### 2022 TAX YEAR

This is the last weekend for donations to be included in the 2022 tax year. 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](http://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/ArchTOGiftofSecurities>.

Thank you once again for your continued support!

### 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 26 - JAN 1: THE SANCTUARY LAMPS BURN FOR:

+Gabriele & +Joseph Magnotta  
&  
+Oreste Ciardullo

### 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](mailto:stmaryimmaculateri@archtoronto.org).

Tanya Di Persio, Marco Cianfarani, Catarina Clyke, Clara Pacitti, Monica Cozzolino, Robert Harvey

### MASS INTENTIONS DEC 26 – JAN 1

<b>Mon. Dec 26</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	Private Intentions
<b>Tues. Dec 27</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	+Thomas Alexander
<b>Wed. Dec 28</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	+Joseffa Postrach & Christina Wojczal
<b>Thurs. Dec 29</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	+Virginia Lozano
<b>Fri. Dec 30</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	+Gabrielle Magnotta
<b>Sat. Dec 31</b>	<b>8:30am</b>	Thanksgiving for Mildred Camat on her birthday For Intentions placed in a Prayer Box Spec. Int. for the healing of the Niro Family Spec. Int. for the healing of the Addorisio Family Spec. Int. for the healing of the Granzotto Family Spec. Int. for the healing of the Simas Family
	<b>5:00 pm</b>	+Maria Nylida Caramancion
<b>Sun. Jan 1</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	+All Souls of Purgatory
	<b>9:30 am</b>	Private Intentions
	<b>11:00 am</b>	+Joan Morran Spec. Int. for Margareth Gonzaga on her birthday
	<b>12:30 pm</b>	People of St. Mary Immaculate
	<b>4:30 pm</b>	+All Souls of Purgatory

**Wishing you a Blessed & Joyous Christmas!**





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