



ST. MARY IMMACULATE PARISH EST. 1857

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Feast of the Holy Family

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY



Beloved Brothers & Sisters!

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph and Monday we begin the New Year, may we entrust all our cares into the hands our dear Mother Mary, the Holy Mother of God, that she may take care of all our needs. May God's love light your way and lead you into a New Year that shines with His special joy!

I would like to thank all those who remembered us during the holiday season with thoughtful cards, well wishes, gifts and homemade goodies.

May the New Year be loaded with blessings for you and your family.

In Christ,
Fr. Pawel

Saturday, December 30

5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, December 31

8:00 am Mass

9:30 am Mass (Italian)

11:00 am Mass

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Sunday, December 31

New Year's Eve

4:30 pm Vigil Mass

Monday, January 1, 2024

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

THE SACRED LITURGY THIS WEEK

Mon. Jan 1	Solemnity	The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord
Tues. Jan 2	Memorial	St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops, Doctors
Wed. Jan 3	Memorial	The Most Holy Name of Jesus

READINGS THIS WEEK

31 Sirach 3.2-6, 12-14: Colossians 3.12-21: Luke 2.22-40 or Luke 2.22,25-27,34-35,39-40++

1 Numbers 6.22-27: Galatians 4.4-7: Luke 2.16-21

2 1 John 2.22-28: John 1.19-28

3 1 John 2.29; 3.1-6: John 1.29-34

4 1 John 3.7-10: John 1.35-42

5 1 John 3.11-21: John 1.43-51

6 1 John 5.5-13: Mark 1.4-5, 7-11++

The Story and You



Sacred Conversations

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

"Mary *kept* all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." I've thought about that word a thousand times. It appears that Mary was as shocked at the words the angels sang to the shepherds as they were.

When the shepherds joyously ran the five miles from what is now called Shepherd's Field to "see this thing which has come to pass," they found Mary and Joseph and the Child. Then, apparently, they ran into the neighborhoods, shouting the Good News which the angels had proclaimed.

And what did the young Mary do? She *kept* these things. She *treasured* these things. She *pondered* these things. We'll see that word again twenty verses later when Jesus, now a young man of twelve, is "found" in the Temple by his frantic parents.

At some unconscious level, they must have known the day would come when their Child would announce the mission of his life.

The three returned to Nazareth, and Mary *pondered* all this in her heart.

To "ponder" means to "throw together." I think this means that Mary *held together* the entire Mystery--the Angel Gabriel's shocking announcement, the surprise pregnancy of her older cousin Elizabeth, the angels filling the skies and singing about the birth of her Son, the visit of the shepherds, the joy with which Anna and Simeon greeted the Child in the Temple, and yes, the prophecy that a sword would pierce her heart.

She *held all these things together*. Throughout history, the human race has begged her to *hold our prayers close to her*, now, and at the hour of our death.

Do you think Mary was shocked at the appearance of the angels, and the shepherds?

Kathy McGovern ©2024 www.thestoryandyou.com

2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPE BOXES

The 2024 offertory envelope boxes are available for pick up and are located 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.

2023 TAX YEAR

The last weekend for donations to be included in the 2023 tax year will be this **Sunday, December 31**. 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

Will be closed Monday, January 1.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM
& CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

Both programs will resume **January 14, 2024**.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

for students that have registered with St. Mary Immaculate and have received an email from the Parish office, will begin next **Sunday, January 7, 2024** commencing with **Mass at 4:30 pm** followed with classes in the Parish hall from 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CATECHISM CLASSES

for children that have registered with St. Mary Immaculate and have received an email from the Parish office, will begin next **Sunday, January 7, 2024** from 9:45 am – 10:45 am in the Parish hall followed with Mass at 11:00 am.

RCIC PROGRAM CLASSES

for children receiving multiple Sacraments that have registered with St. Mary Immaculate and have received an email from the Parish office, will begin **Monday, January 8, 2024** from 5:00 pm – 6:15 pm in the Parish hall.



Come Join Us for Our Next Exciting Bible Study on
Follow Me – Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John
Thursday mornings 9:15 am - 11:15 am
January 25, 2024 to March 14, 2024
Contact Parish office to register.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE

Our Parish is offering marriage preparation course.

Wednesday evenings from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Spring session: February 7- March 13, 2024

If you are planning to marry in the near future and would like to register, contact the Parish office.

**CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE MASS WITH ARCHBISHOP
FRANCIS LEO – FEBRUARY 11, 2024 AT 3:00 P.M.**

As part of Marriage Sunday 2024 celebrations, Archbishop Francis Leo will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, with special recognition for those celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2024. The Mass will take place at **3:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 11, 2024 at St.**

Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto). All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their marriage commitment during the Mass.

All are welcome to attend. Couples celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+ anniversary in 2024 may register for reserved seating. Reserved seating is limited, so please register early. All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who are unable to attend at the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass. Registration and other important information can be found at

www.archtoronto.org/marriage. For questions, please email formation@archtoronto.org or call 416-934-3400 ext. 523.

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, Clelia Proia, Immacolata Morlando, Hamid Hemmati

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.

JAN 1 - 7: THE SANCTUARY LAMPS BURN FOR:

+Maria & +Michele Rosano

MASS INTENTIONS JAN 1 – JAN 7

Mon. Jan 1	8:00 am	Private Intentions
	9:30 am	+All Souls of Purgatory
	11:00 am	Private Intentions
	12:30 pm	People of St. Mary Immaculate
	4:30 pm	+All Souls of Purgatory
Tues. Jan 2	8:00 am	+Remigio Yu Tan
Wed. Jan 3	8:00 am	+Norberto Gomes
Thurs. Jan 4	8:00 am	+Severino Bucci
Fri. Jan 5	8:00 am	+Stephen Lappin
	7:00 pm	+All Souls of Purgatory
Sat. Jan 6	8:30 am	+Davis Ahlowalia +Alberto Ditta
	5:00 pm	For healing daughter from an addiction and her return to God
Sun. Jan 7	8:00 am	Private Intentions
	9:30 am	+Filomena Santopolo
	11:00 am	+Americo Rodrigues Frade +Angela Mazzotta
	12:30 pm	People of St. Mary Immaculate
	4:30 pm	+Patrizio Pardetti

**FATIMA
GIFT SHOP**

OPEN
EVERY WEEKEND
HALF AN HOUR AFTER
EVERY MASS
AND
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12:00 – 1:00 PM

Gift shop closed Sunday, December 31

**Wishing you a Blessed &
Healthy New Year!**

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