

St. Mary Immaculate Parish

Established in 1857

10295 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, Ontario L4C 3B9

Tel: (905) 884-1784 Fax: (905) 884-1883

E-mail: smirh@bellnet.ca www.smirh.com

Office Hours: Monday - Saturday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm



Pastor: Rev. Fr. Robert Reddy
Associate Pastor: Rev. Fr. Marco Testa
Associate Pastor: Rev. Fr. Pietro Gennuso
In Residence: Rev. Fr. Jim Adams
Deacon: Rev. Mr. Wayne McCulloch
Pastoral Worker: Michelle Gregory
Secretary: Ida Foch
Pastoral Care Giver: Anne Roman
Knights of Columbus: Ross Bruno & Ross Caldarola
Catholic Women's League: Maura Moore
Legion of Mary: meets every Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.
Youth Group: Boots Montano, Jackie Puri
Youth Group President, Lauren Chee-Hing 905-770-6764
St. Vincent De Paul: Louise Wilson 905-717-9827
RCIA: Flavia Silano & Murielle Poirier
Sunday School: Elizabeth Follows
Atrium: Anita Markle, Lily McCullough, Marie Lehman
Usher: Roland Leandrosz
Homebound: Mary Barry
Nursing Home: Peggy Paterson
Parish Volunteer Screening: Antoinette Stirling
Italian Prayer Group: Adele Cremonese & Rosa Marsella
Italian Pastoral Care Giver: Antonia Ciuffetta
Italian Committee: Antonietta Miniaci

Sunday Masses:

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am
9:30 am (Italian)
11:00 am
12:30 pm
4:30 pm

Lauds: Monday to Friday: 7:30 am

Weekday Masses:

Monday to Friday: 8:00 am
Friday: 7:00 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am
Wednesday Italian Mass: 7:00 pm

Confession:

Saturday: 4:00 to 5:00 pm
Sunday: 4:00 to 4:30 pm
15 minutes before each Sunday Mass.
Weekdays: Appointment with the priest

Baptism:

2nd, 3rd, & 4th Saturday at 10:00 am

Marriage:

Contact the priest one year in advance

Friday Exposition & Adoration: 6:00 pm to 6:50 pm

Devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help: Saturday morning at 9:00 am

Two Hearts Rosary Prayer Group: Every Wednesday 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Italian Prayer Group: Every Wednesday at 8:00 pm

Schools

St. Anne	905-883-0311	St. Charles Garnier	905-884-0223
St. Mary Immaculate	905-884-5381	Fr. Henri Nouwen	905-884-8086
Corpus Christi	905-770-8713	St. Theresa of Lisieux High School	905-787-1407

Counselling and Immigrant Services: Catholic Community Services of York Region
Tel.: 905-770-7040 www.ccsyr.org

Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery Tel.: (905) 889-7467 www.catholic-cemeteries.com

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ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

St. John the Baptist is the Lord's immediate precursor or forerunner, sent to prepare His way. "Prophet of the Most High", John surpasses all the prophets, of whom he is the last. He inaugurates the Gospel, already from his mother's womb welcomes the coming of Christ, and rejoices in being "the friend of the bridegroom", whom he points out as "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world". Going before Jesus "in the spirit and power of Elijah", John bears witness to Christ in his preaching, by his Baptism of conversion, and through his martyrdom.

John the Baptist is "more than a prophet." In him, the Holy Spirit concludes His speaking through the prophets. John completes the cycle of prophets begun by Elijah. He proclaims the imminence of the consolation of Israel; he is the "voice" of the Consoler who is coming. As the Spirit of truth will also do, John "came to bear witness to the light." In John's sight, the Spirit thus brings to completion the careful search of the prophets and fulfills the longing of the angels. "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit. And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.... Behold, the Lamb of God." Finally, with John the Baptist, the Holy Spirit begins the restoration to man of "the divine likeness," prefiguring what he would achieve with and in Christ. John's baptism was for repentance; baptism in water and the Spirit will be a new birth.

Catechism of the Catholic Church #719-720

ADVENT

Advent has a twofold character. As a season to prepare us for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered: as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period of devout and joyful expectation.

From December 17th on, there is a notable shift in emphasis as the events immediately preceding the Lord's birth are present in the gospel readings while the first readings proclaim the most important Messianic prophecies.

During Advent, each Sunday's gospel has a specific theme. The Old Testament readings, especially those taken from Isaiah, are prophecies about the Messiah and messianic times. The selections from the writings of the apostles present exhortations and instructions on different themes of this season.

IOED'AMICO is to be ordained to the Diaconate in the Archdiocese of Toronto on May 26, 2012 at St. Michael's Cathedral. Please remember him in your prayers. Canon Law obliges Catholics to reveal any impediment to sacred orders to the bishop or pastor.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL At Christmas we will be providing gift hampers to many families in the community. If you would like to participate in this program, please email us at svdp.smi@gmail.com or phone our voice mailbox 905 717-9827.

THE SACRED LITURGY THIS WEEK

The Sanctuary Lamps burn for:
+Michael Romeo
Intentions of the Salerno Family

Wednesday, December 7th, St. Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor, St. Ambrose was born at Trier about the year 340. In 374, while living in Milan, he was elected bishop of the city by popular acclaim and ordained on December 7th. He devotedly carried out his duties and was an effective pastor and teacher. He died in 397.

Thursday, December 8th, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

This Solemnity celebrates the sinlessness and purity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. "*O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.*" **Masses on this day are at 8:00 a.m. (English), 12 noon (Italian) and 7:00 p.m. (Sung English Mass). Rosary at 6:30 p.m.**

THANK YOU DEACON WAYNE!!!!!! As announced, Deacon Wayne McCulloch is transferring to St. Mark's Parish, Stouffville. Wayne and his wife Cheryl are 'downsizing' and moving to Stouffville and wish to be part of St. Mark's parish. After 25 years as a member of SMI and 15 years as a Deacon, Wayne and Cheryl have made many friends here. "Thanks for your support in my ministry at York Central Hospital & my role at SMI. Keeping you in our prayers, we look forward to seeing you in the future. Blessings." from Deacon Wayne.

RIGHT TO LIFE CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CAMPAIGN LIFE CHRISTMAS CAKES will be on sale on the weekend this weekend.

LEGION OF MARY meets every Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. For info, please call Roland at 905-780-8354.

TWO HEARTS ROSARY PRAYER GROUP invites everyone to pray the 4 mysteries of the Rosary on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the Church.

CWL Bake Sale the weekend of Dec. 10/11. All proceeds going to the SMI Building & Maintenance Fund. Donations of baked goods welcomed from everyone. No Nuts Please. For further info please contact Maura Moore at 905-737-9182.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT on Saturday, Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m. for the whole family. Program includes: *The Promise; Ave Maria; Mary & the Child; Angels & Shepherds; Wise men & the Star.* In addition, they will invite the audience to join them in singing traditional Christmas choruses. Tickets: Adults \$20, Children 6-12, \$10 from St. Francis Xavier Parish office, Mississauga, 905 890 5290.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT on Sunday, Dec. 11 at the Unionville Alliance Church. Proceeds go to the York Centre for children, Youth and Family. Special guests: Michael Burgess, Jackalyn Short, Toronto Mass Choir, Upper Canada Children's Chorus. Tickets: \$35. For tickets call 905-887-5896 x 235 or 905-294-5230.

“Oh, how painful it is to Me that souls so seldom unite themselves to Me in Holy communion. I wait for souls, and they are indifferent toward Me. I love them tenderly and sincerely, and they distrust Me. I want to lavish My graces on them, and they do not want to accept them. They treat Me as a dead object, whereas My Heart is full of love and mercy. In order that you may know at least some of my pain, imagine the most tender of mothers who has great love for her children, while those children spurn her love. Consider her pain. No one is in a position to console her. This is but a feeble image and likeness of My love.” (Jesus to St. Faustina. Taken from the Diary of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, #1447).

ACT OF ADORATION AND REPARATION TO JESUS IN THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

I adore You profoundly, O my Jesus, in Your sacramental form; I acknowledge You to be true God and true Man, and by this act of adoration I intend to atone for the coldness of so many Christians who pass before Your churches and sometimes before the very Tabernacle in which You are pleased to remain at all hours with loving impatience to give Yourself to Your faithful people, and do not so much as bend the knee before You, and Who, by their indifference proclaim that they grow weary of this heavenly manna, like the people of Israel in the wilderness. I offer You in reparation for this grievous negligence, the Most Precious Blood which You did shed from Your five wounds, and especially from Your sacred Side, and entering therein, I repeat a thousand times with true recollection of spirit: O Sacrament most holy! O Sacrament divine! All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine. Our Father,... Hail Mary,... Glory be,...

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SICK

Ursula Addesi, Doris Anderson, Eugene Bomba, Winifred Burke, Stephanie Byrne, David Calado, Andy Calado, David Canivet, Baby Abigail, Enrico Carusi, Esmy, Peter Christoff, Manuela Clement, Alan & Carol Cook, Joe Crevier, Mary D'Amato, James Davidson, Caterina De Grano, Harry Dekharmenjan, Nancy Duncan, Steven Fiorini, Roberto Garcias, Jessica Gonzales, Godfrey Gosein, Anna Jedlicsek, Carmela Harrison, Gertiudes Henriques, Andy Heutehaus, Theresa Hogan, Terry Jennings, Margaret Kelly, Olivera Lambeta, Macaria Margate, Peter & Chris Markle, Veronica Martin, Margaret McConnell, Paul Melotte, Rachelle (Joy Ann) Mendoza, Anthony Morse, Susan, Michelle Antoinette Nedvedskaya, Myola Nunes, Michael & Michelle Osborne, Giuseppina Pellegrini, Domenico Pileggi, Esmy, Todd Santaguida, Werner Schachatsiek, Joan Scott, Vincenzo Sorbara, Linda Vincent, Therese Vincent, Abigail Walz, Sandra Weinholdt, Kathleen Whelan, Ted Zygmunt, Helen & Catherine.

2ª di Avvento - 4 dicembre 2011

“Mosè battezzò, ma nell’acqua (cfr Es 17,6); e ancor prima nella nube e nel mare (cfr Es 13,21) ... Battezzò anche Giovanni e non più alla maniera dei Giudei: infatti non battezzò solamente con l’acqua, ma anche per la conversione; tuttavia il suo battesimo non era ancora completamente spirituale, perché egli non aggiunse che battezzava ‘nello Spirito’. Battezza anche Gesù, ma nello Spirito ... Conosco anche un quarto battesimo, quello che avviene per mezzo del sangue e della testimonianza, e che fu impartito anche al Cristo stesso, ed è un battesimo molto più venerabile degli altri, in quanto non viene insozzato da altre macchie. Ne conosco anche un quinto, quello delle lacrime; ma è un battesimo più impegnativo, perché è quello che bagna ogni notte di lacrime il proprio letto e il proprio giaciglio (cfr Sal 6,7) (Gregorio di Nazianzo, *Omellie Pasquali* 39,17).”

“Troppo spesso quando portiamo un messaggio la gente vede noi e percepisce un messaggio che forse arriva attraverso noi, perché non siamo sufficientemente identificati con quello che dobbiamo dire. Per ottenere questa identificazione dobbiamo leggere il Vangelo in modo tale, renderlo così nostro e rendere noi stessi così Vangelo, che quando parliamo come dal di dentro del Vangelo stesso, in suo nome, dovrebbe essere semplicemente il Vangelo che parla – indipendentemente dalle parole usate, e non sto parlando di citazioni – e noi dovremmo essere come una voce, la voce di Dio. La seconda cosa è che per arrivare allo stadio in cui poteva parlare senza essere notato, in cui la gente aveva di lui l’impressione di un uomo trasformato completamente in un messaggio, in una visione, in una proclamazione, egli doveva essere un uomo che aveva rinunciato a ogni forma di egoismo, di accaparramento, a tutto ciò che era piacevolmente gratificante (Anthony Bloom, *Dio e l’uomo*, 126-128).”

“Ed è proprio lo Spirito Santo, che nel grembo della Vergine ha formato Gesù, Uomo perfetto, a portare a compimento nella persona umana il mirabile progetto di Dio, trasformando innanzitutto il cuore e, a partire da questo centro, tutto il resto. Avviene così che in ogni singola persona si riassume l’intera opera della creazione e della redenzione, che Dio, Padre e Figlio e Spirito Santo, va compiendo dall’inizio alla fine del cosmo e della storia. E come nella storia dell’umanità vi è al centro il primo avvento di Cristo e alla fine il suo ritorno glorioso, così ogni esistenza personale è chiamata a misurarsi con lui – in modo misterioso e multiforme – durante il pellegrinaggio terreno, per essere trovata “in lui” al momento del suo ritorno. Ci guidi Maria Santissima, Vergine fedele, a fare di questo tempo di Avvento e di tutto il nuovo Anno liturgico un cammino di autentica santificazione, a lode e gloria di Dio Padre, Figlio e Spirito Santo (Benedetto XVI, *Omelia per I primi vesperi della prima domenica di Avvento*, 2005).”

AVVISO

1. Si prepara la festa della famiglia che si terrà sabato, 7 gennaio 2012. Per informazioni chiamate Antonietta (905-737-3210) o Rosa (905-731-9175).

MASS INTENTIONS**Dec. 4 - 10**

SUN.	9:30 a.m.	+Santo & Giovanna Veltri +Dec. Members of the Iafrate Family +Mrs. Goering +Antonietta + Saverino Mercuriano +Rosina & Antonietta Bernardo +Carlo Carusi +Marcello Frasca +Elsa Baldassarra +Egidio Cervini +Carmine & Maria Canale
MON.	8:00 a.m.	+Alma Gibbons
	7:00 p.m.	Holy Souls in Purgatory
TUE.	8:00 a.m.	+Grm Family
	7:00 p.m.	Holy Souls in Purgatory
WED.	8:00 a.m.	+Kaspar Ruedi
	7:00 p.m.	In Honour of St. Joseph +Incoronata & Giovanna Romano & Family +Olga Campos +Bunda Kim & Deceased Family Members +Nicola & Filomena Toffi & Family +Ernesto Manzo +Maria Tomasone +Frank Carpino +Rino Carraro +Carmine & Danny +Lina Naccarato-Anderson +Gina Sudgen +Carmine & Francesca Maione
THURS.	8:00 a.m.	+Barbara Ercul
	7:00 p.m.	Holy Souls in Purgatory
FRI.	8:00 a.m.	+Maria Kelton
	7:00 p.m.	In reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus +Lina Perugino +Members of the Naughton Family In Thanksgiving (Dejano & Lucila Families +Alessia Morisani +Apolonia & Waclaw Monik +Francisco Leandrosz +Vito Spinosa Holy Souls in Purgatory
SAT.	9:00 a.m.	In reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Special Petition to Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception +Members of the Paxton Family +Members of the Madden & Winton Families +Barbara Ercul +Milan Ercul Special Intention of Stephan Han Holy Souls in Purgatory

"God dwells in our midst, in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar."

- St. Maximilian Kolbe

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