

St. Mary Immaculate Parish

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Pastor: Rev. Pawel Zborowski

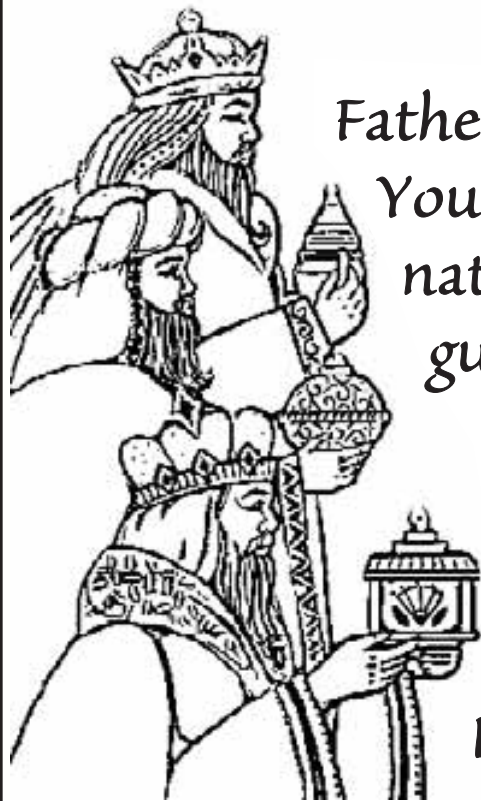
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*Father, You revealed
Your Son to the
nations by the
guidance of a star.*

*Lead us to Your
Glory in Heaven
by the
Light of Faith.*

IN CHOOSING TO BE BORN FOR US, GOD CHOSE TO BE KNOWN BY US

In the mystery of our Lord's incarnation there were clear indications of His eternal Godhead. Yet the great events we celebrate today disclose and reveal in different ways the fact that God Himself took a human body. Mortal man, enshrouded always in darkness, must not be left in ignorance, and so be deprived of what He can understand and retain only by grace.

In choosing to be born for us, God chose to be known by us. He therefore reveals Himself in this way, in order that this great sacrament of His love may not be an occasion for us of great misunderstanding.

Today the Magi find, crying in a manger, the one they have followed as He shone in the sky. Today the Magi see clearly, in swaddling clothes, the one they have long awaited as He lay hidden among the stars.

Today the Magi gaze in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, man in God, God in man, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body. As they look, they believe and do not question, as their symbolic gifts bear witness: incense for God, gold for a king, myrrh for one who is to die.

So the Gentiles, who were the last, become the first: the faith of the Magi is the first fruits of the belief of the Gentiles.

A sermon by St Peter Chrysologus

THE MYSTERIES OF JESUS' INFANCY

Jesus' circumcision, on the eighth day after His birth, is the sign of His incorporation into Abraham's descendants, into the people of the covenant. It is the sign of His submission to the Law and His deputation to Israel's worship, in which He will participate throughout His life. This sign prefigures that "circumcision of Christ" which is Baptism.

The Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Savior of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (magi) from the East, together with His baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee. In the magi, representatives of the neighboring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation. The magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, in the messianic light of the star of David, the one who will be king of the nations. Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and worship Him as Son of God and Savior of the world only by turning towards the Jews and receiving from them the messianic promise as contained in the Old Testament. The Epiphany shows that "the full number of the nations" now takes its "place in the family of the patriarchs", and acquires Israelitica dignitas (is made

"worthy of the heritage of Israel").

Catechism of the Catholic Church, #527-528.

THE SANCTUARY LAMPS THIS WEEK BURN:

In honour of the Holy Family

SACRED LITURGY THIS WEEK

Wednesday, Jan. 7th, St. Andre Bessette, Religious.

Known to millions simply as Brother Andre, Alfred Bessette was born in Quebec in 1845 and orphaned by the age of 12. In 1870, he joined the congregation of the Holy Cross and in 30 years gained a reputation throughout the city as the "Miracle Man of Montreal." During his life, Brother Andre devoted his efforts to building 6th Oratory, which was to become the world's greatest sanctuary dedicated to St. Joseph.

2015 CHURCH SUPPORT ENVELOPES are ready to be picked up in the Church hall. Envelopes are organized numerically. If your box is not there, or if you are new to the parish and wish to use envelopes, please write your name on the registration form next to the envelope boxes. **Please use current year's envelopes only to ensure your donations get credited to you. Parishioners using envelope numbers 1501 and above have been reassigned. Please check the chart for your new number. Thank you for your continued support.**

VOCATION SEEDS If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Chris at vocations@archtoronto.org or 416-968-0997.

COME JOIN THE PILGRIMAGE TO AUSTRIA, CZECH REPUBLIC & POLAND with FR. OMAR! May 24-June 2, 2015 for \$2390. To join or for more info, please call Stan at 647-463-9057 or Halina at 647-294-4116 or speak with Fr. Omar after Mass.

COME JOIN THE PILGRIMAGE TO FRANCE, SPAIN & PORTUGAL with FR. PAWEL! October 11-22, 2015 for \$2790. To join or for more info, please call Stan at 647-463-9057 or Halina at 647-294-4116 or speak with Fr. Pawel after Mass.

CAMPAIGN LIFE CHRISTMAS CAKES are available for purchase from the parish office.

SHEPHERDS' TRUST COLLECTION COMMITTEE is looking for new volunteer members to assist with the annual campaign to raise money for the retired priests of the Archdiocese. The committee meets a few times a year, with the bulk of work taking place in the spring and early summer. Parishioners with fundraising knowledge or writing skills and an interest in this important initiative are encouraged to apply by ending their resume to Marisa Rogucki at mrogucki@archtoronto.org

Do not be content to live a mediocre Christian life: walk with determination along the path of holiness.

-Pope Francis



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION begins on **January 5th** in all York Catholic schools. We look forward to welcoming your child into our schools. You can register your child at your local Catholic school. For more information, please visit www.ycdsb.ca and click on the **Admissions** icon.

TWO HEARTS ROSARY PRAYER GROUP will be praying "Our Lady's Complete Psalter" on **Wednesday, January 7th at 5:30 p.m.** All are invited to attend.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CONSECRATED LIFE CELEBRATION AT ST. PAUL'S BASILICA On Monday, February 2, 2015, the Church celebrates the World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life. In the Archdiocese of Toronto we are blessed to have living and serving among us more than 1000 religious men and women of over 100 different religious congregations. This world Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life is a wonderful opportunity for us to thank God for the gifts of these religious sisters, brothers, and priests and to pray for God's blessing upon them in their efforts to faithfully live the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience. On **Sunday, February 1, 2015, at 3:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Basilica**, there will be a special Mass presided by His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins, in celebration of the vocation and witness of these special men and women religious who are such an important part of the life and ministry of the Church in our archdiocese. All are welcome.

LAY CARMELITES, A Journey of Love (3rd ORDER CARMELITES) The Lay Carmelite is called to the Family of Carmel to be involved in the ministries of the Church and to contribute to the transformation of the secular world. Lay Carmelites are Roman Catholic men and women called to share in the charis of the Carmelite Order. They are part of an 800 year old tradition of contemplative prayer, community and ministry. Carmelites share a deep spirituality embraced by the Order's friars, nuns and laity, including St. Therese of Lisieux, St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein) and St. Nuno Alvares Pereira. **We meet every Second Saturday of each month in the St. Mary Immaculate Church Meeting room after the 8:30 Saturday morning Mass (January 10).** For more info, please contact Lourdes at 416-628-0746 Lourdes.crabtree@laycarmelites.org or Lidia at 905-508-9831.

"Go to the Madonna. Love her! Always say the Rosary. Say it well. Say it as often as you can! Be souls of prayer. Never tire of praying, it is what is essential. Prayer shakes the Heart of God, it obtains necessary graces!"
- **Padre Pio of Pietrelcina**

Epifania - 4 gennaio 2015

"La Provvidenza misericordiosa, avendo deciso di soccorrere negli ultimi tempi il mondo che andava in rovina, stabilì che la salvezza di tutti i popoli si compisse nel Cristo. ... Tutti i popoli, rappresentati dai tre magi, adorino il Creatore dell'universo, e Dio sia conosciuto non nella Giudea soltanto, ma in tutta la terra, perché ovunque «in Israele sia grande il suo nome» (cfr. Sal 75, 2). Figli carissimi, ammaestrati da questi misteri della grazia divina, celebriamo nella gioia dello spirito il giorno della nostra nascita e l'inizio della chiamata alla fede di tutte le genti. Ringraziamo Dio misericordioso che, come afferma l'Apostolo, «ci ha messo in grado di partecipare alla sorte dei santi nella luce. E' lui che ci ha liberati dal potere delle tenebre e ci ha trasferiti nel regno del suo Figlio diletto» (Col 1, 12-13). ... Tutto questo, lo sappiamo, si è realizzato quando i tre magi, chiamati dai loro lontani paesi, furono condotti da una stella a conoscere e adorare il Re del cielo e della terra. Questa stella ci esorta particolarmente a imitare il servizio che essa prestò, nel senso che dobbiamo seguire, con tutte le nostre forze, la grazia che invita tutti al Cristo. In questo impegno, miei cari, dovete tutti aiutarvi l'un l'altro. Risplendete così come figli della luce nel regno di Dio, dove conducono la retta fede e le buone opere. Per il nostro Signore Gesù Cristo che con Dio Padre e con lo Spirito Santo vive e regna per tutti i secoli dei secoli. Amen. (S. Leone Magno)."

Prostrati i santi Magi adorano il Bambino,
offrono doni d'Oriente: oro, incenso e mirra.
O simboli profetici di segreta grandezza,
che svelano alle genti una triplice gloria!
Oro e incenso proclamano il Re e Dio immortale;
la mirra annunzia l'Uomo deposto dalla croce.
Betlemme, tu sei grande fra le città di Giuda:
in te è apparso al mondo il Cristo Salvatore.
Nelle sue mani il Padre pose il giudizio e il regno:
lo attestano concordi le voci dei profeti.
Non conosce confini nello spazio e nel tempo
il suo regno d'amore, di giustizia e di pace.
A te sia lode, o Cristo, nato da Maria Vergine,
al Padre e allo Spirito nei secoli dei secoli. Amen.

AVVISI

1. A tutti auguri per un nuovo anno pieno di gioia e serenità.
2. Le buste per le offerte per il nuovo anno possono essere prelevate nella sala parrocchiale.

On this day illumined by the Gospel hope which springs from the humble stable of Bethlehem, I invoke the Christmas gift of joy and peace upon all: upon children and the elderly, upon young people and families, the poor and the marginalized. May Jesus, who was born for us, console all those afflicted by illness and suffering; may He sustain those who devote themselves to serving our brothers and sisters who are most in need. Happy Christmas!"
- **Pope Francis**

MASS INTENTIONS		January 4-10
SAT.	5:00 p.m.	+Pro Populo
SUN.	9:30 a.m.	+Defunti Famiglia Pacitto +Massimo Vincenzo e Albert Colavecchia +Rosa e Giuseppe Ciavatta +Deceased of the Perciballi Family +Virginia D'Intino
	11:00 a.m.	+Ugo Veri
	12:30 p.m.	Pro Populo
	4:30 p.m.	Pro Populo
MON.	8:00 a.m.	In Thanksgiving
TUE.	8:00 a.m.	+ Michaelangelo Montano
WED.	8:00 a.m.	Intentions of Jack Chow
THURS.	8:00 a.m.	Holy Souls in Purgatory
FRI.	8:00 a.m.	+Holy Souls in Purgatory
	7:00 p.m.	In Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus +Saverino Giusti Roman and Wood Families Sergio Durante Members of the Naughton Family +Members of the Paxton Family
SAT.	8:30 a.m.	In Thanksgiving to the Immaculate Heart of Mary +Members of the Madden & Winton Families +Angela Gerritse-Bramson +Rosina Palazzo Members of the Paxton Family

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SICK: Ursula Addesi, Doris Anderson, Eugene Bomba, Matteo Burbano, Patrick Burke, Rory Burke, Stephanie Byrne, David Calado, Andy Calado, Victoria Carli, Bruno Cassara, Andrea Cavallin, Joe Cinno, Carol Cook, Manuela Clement, Rosa Corvinelli, Caterina De Grano, Paolo D'Elia, Thomas De Souza, Harry Dekharmenjan, Tanya DiPersio, Maria DiZio, Nancy Duncan, Steven Fiorini, Roberto Garcias, Margaret Gardiner, Milberg Gibbons, Jessica Gonzales, Godfrey Gosein, Carmel Harrison, Gertiudes Henriques, Andy Heutehaus, Theresa Hogan, Lawrence Howe, Elena Iacobelli, Rogelia Infante, Maria Iudiciani, Jolanta Karabowicz, Margaret Kelly, Olivera Lambeta, Ester Lin, Mary Malandrino, Macaria Margate, Chris Markle, Veronica Martin, Rachelle (Joy Ann) Mendoza, George Morgan, Anthony Morse, Susan, Nino Naccarato, Lydia, Michelle Antoinette Nedvedskaya, Helen & Catherine, Luigi Nucci, Myola Nunes, Rosemary Palmieri, Lisa, Domenico Pileggi, Kaliopi & Eugenia Pandelopoulou, Esther Reyes, Todd, Patricia Rybka, Santaguida, Werner & Lucienne Schachatsiek, Claire Schickedanz, Hung Ki Sem, Vincenzo Sorbara, Pat Sullivan, Jannette Thompson, Linda Vincent, Therese Vincent, Nora Waldherr, Abigail Walz, Sandra Weinholdt, Kayla Whelan

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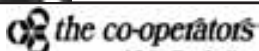
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