

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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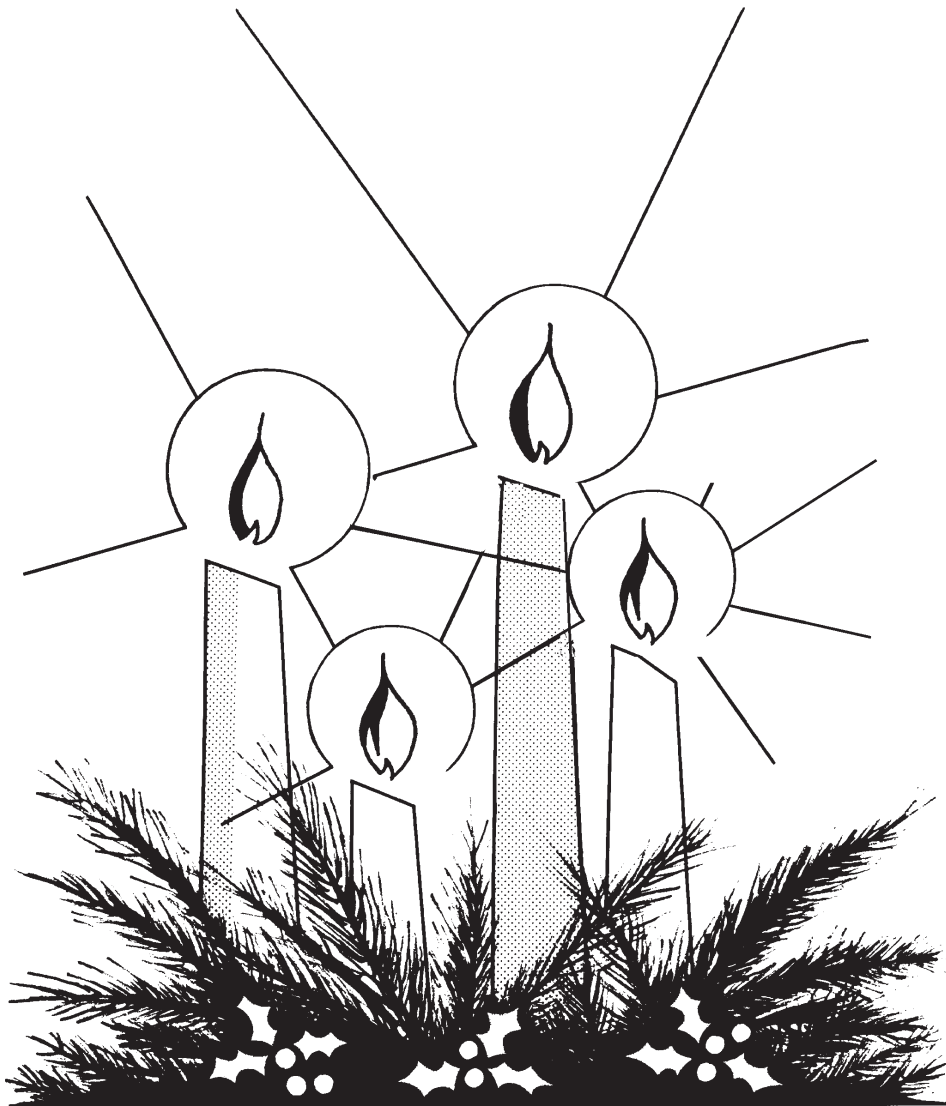
PARISH TEAM

Fr Paul Dobson Parish Priest

Fr Neiman D'Souza Associate Priest

Rev Mr Lionel Gomes Permanent Deacon

Rev Mr George Jurenas Permanent Deacon



Advent

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT	21	
5:30	pm †	Beverley Bolster & Family
SUN	22	
8:00	am †	Antonio Ricciardi
9:30	am	<i>Pro Popolo</i>
11:00	am †	Gabriel Teixeira
12:30	pm	In Thanksgiving
6:00	pm †	Celina Kozlowska
MON	23	
8:30	am †	Maria Sabina Rodrigues † Walter Teodoro
TUES	24	Christmas Eve
4:00 pm		6:00 pm 8:00 pm 10:00 pm & Midnight
WED	25	Nativity of Our Lord
8:00am		9:30 am 11:00 am
THUR	26	St. Stephen, The First Martyr
8:30	am †	Antonio (Patruce) Pereira
FRI	27	St. John the Evangelist
8:30	am	In Thanksgiving
SAT	28	The Holy Innocents
9:00	am †	Fernando Carreiro † Manuel De Jesus

FEAST OF THE WEEK***THE HOLY INNOCENTS*****Patron Saints of Babies**

“A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.”

Jeremiah 31:15

The Feast of the Holy Innocents, also called Childermas or Innocents' Day, is a Christian feast in remembrance of the massacre of young children in Bethlehem by King Herod the Great in his attempt to kill the infant Jesus (*Matthew 2:16–18*).

Already the choice, for or against The Christ, is put clearly before men and these innocent lives bear witness to Him who was persecuted from the time of His birth by a world unwilling to receive Him.

But the persecutors are powerless, for Christ came to perform a work of salvation that nothing can prevent.

At the time chosen by God He fell into the hands of His enemies to redeem the world by His own Blood.

Holy Innocents Pray for us !

WHAT SHOULD JOSEPH DO, THEN?

Today's Gospel brings St. Joseph into our Advent picture. He is the last of King David's descendents from whom the Redeemer had long ago been promised by the Prophets. Let us look at what is happening: Our Lady and Joseph are betrothed, which, to use our own words, means more than “*engaged*”, but less than “*married*”. They are truly husband and wife in Jewish law but not yet living together. So when Mary is found to be pregnant what should Joseph do? He is described by St. Matthew as “*a just man*”. He does not want to cause Mary harmful publicity and shame, because he already knows enough about her to be morally sure that she has not been unfaithful to him. Then why should he think of “*putting her away secretly*”? We can only assume that Joseph was unsure what God wanted of him at this delicate stage in his relationship with his young wife. Maybe after much careful reflection and prayer he came to the conclusion that God would not want him to “*pretend*” to be the Father of the child his wife was carrying. It is at this point that God intervenes. Just as He had sent Gabriel to announce His will to Mary, so now He sends another angel to Joseph in a dream to convince him that all that has happened to Mary is part of God's own plan, and that Joseph's part in this plan is precisely to take Mary as his wife, and her child as his own, and to name the boy “*Jesus*” - a name which means “*God saves (His people)*”. In the first reading the prophet Isaiah also speaks of another name indicating the Redeemer's role of uniting God and His people: Emmanuel—“*God is with us*”.

~ Fr Paul Dobson

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Tuesday, December 24 (All English)
4:00 pm / 6:00 pm / 8:00 pm / 10:00 pm & 12:00 midnight

Christmas Day - Wednesday, December 25 (All English)
8:00 am / 9:30 am / 11:00 am
(no 12:30 pm Mass or 6:00 pm Mass)

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Eve)
(Holy Day of Obligation)
Tuesday, December 31, 5:30 pm

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Day)
(Holy Day of Obligation) **NO** 8:00 am or 6:00 pm Mass
Wednesday, January 1 9:30 am, 11:00 am & 12:30 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

The office will be closed from December 24th at noon and reopen Saturday Dec 28th 9am – noon.

OFFERTORY DONATIONS FOR 2019

Must be received in the office by noon December 31st to be included in your 2019 tax receipt. Donations after this date will be credited to 2020.

MARRIAGE SUNDAY 2020

On Sunday, Feb 9th 3 pm, at St. Isaac Jogues Parish (1148 Finch Ave, Pickering) Cardinal Thomas Collins will preside at a special celebration Mass to honour couples celebrating milestone anniversaries in 2020 and renew their vows. Celebrating couples must reserve by February 4th at archtoronto.org/marriage. Guests and non-reserved seating will be provided on a first-come first-served basis.

THANK YOU from St. Joseph's Protectors

Our pro-life ministry raised \$1,150 at their recent bake sale! Thank you for your generosity!

VITA CENTRE BABY CRIB

The Knights of Columbus are collecting donations of disposable diapers and baby wipes which will be brought to Vita Centre. Please place any donations in the crib in the lobby, and our Knights will pickup and bring over to Vita Centre.

THE EUCHARIST in Scripture

Mondays, Jan 6, 13, 20, 27, Feb 3 & 10 (6 sessions)
Mornings 9-11 am upstairs OR evenings 7-9 pm hall
Built around three of Dr. Scott Hahn's foundational talks: "The Lamb's Supper," "The Fourth Cup," and "Consuming the Word," The Eucharist in Scripture examines the biblical foundations of the Eucharist and explores the Church's liturgy as the original context for the books of the Bible. Register in the parish office. Cost \$30 with workbook / \$10 without.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION CLASS 2020

Our classes will be held on:
Friday March 20/21 and March 27/28
Friday 8-10 pm & Saturday 10am-5pm;
Register with the Parish Office. Payment by cash or cheque only. Couples must attend all four days.

SMILE OF THE DAY

What do angry mice send each other at Christmas?

Answer:
CROSSMOUSE CARDS

MINISTRIES

HUMAN FAMILY IN CHRIST

Thank You/ Muchas Gracias

The heartfelt gratitude of the Human Family in Christ is extended to the St. Joseph Parish CWL for its generous donation of \$1206 to the Society's Child sponsorship program in Bolivia, SA. The funds come from the sale of Christmas Angels that are produced yearly by Deborah Chiborak. Thank you Deborah for your talent and generous heart!

We also say a sincere thank you to all who sponsor one or more children and to all of the parishioners that purchase these Christmas Angels. You are truly Christmas Angels for the over 150 mothers and 500 children that are helped by your generosity of heart.

May the Child Jesus bless you and your loved ones at Christmas and throughout 2020.

~ With gratitude, prayers and blessings,

The Executive of the Human Family in Christ

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP

Prayer Meetings 7 pm every Wednesday in the Parish Hall

Next Special Events: - Everyone is Welcome -

HOLY MASS WITH HEALING SERVICE - Wed, Jan 29, 7 p.m. – Church | Celebrant: Rev. Fr. David Avila

LENTEN RETREAT Sat, Feb 29, 8am-4pm Parish Hall
Rev. Fr. Joel Okojie, Shrine Our Lady Grace, King City

YOUTH GROUP – LIFE TEEN

Next meeting January 4th. For all teens grades 8 +

Wishing you a happy and blessed Christmas!

May the friendship of the Christ-Child

EVENTS

AROUND THE ARCH

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY 2020

Saturdays 10am – 4pm: January 4, 11, 18, 25 & Feb 1, 15
At Pauline Books & Media | 3022 Dufferin St. Toronto.
Presented live by Sr. Paulina Burns fsp. Why is it John Paul II's life changing teaching – Theology of the Body – the answer to today's hottest issues.

TEAMS OF OUR LADY – COUPLES GROUPS

Teams of Our Lady is a faith-filled community where couples pray, learn, study together and find spiritual support. Please email us to learn more about this ministry at: information.central@teamsfourlady.ca.

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