

The Parish Community of St. Ann

Served by the Holy Cross Fathers

120 First Ave. Toronto, ON M4M 1X1 (Corner Gerrard East & Degrassi St).

RECTORY Phone: (416) 466-2127 Fax: (416) 778-6545 Native Peoples' Parish: (416) 463-2500

OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

Pastoral Staff

Pastor: Fr. Wilson Andrade CSC

In Residence: Fr. Francis Noronha CSC, Fr. Roshan D'Souza, CSC

Christmas



the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.

Luke 2:10

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD: DECEMBER 25, 2016 CELEBRATING THE YEAR OF THE FAMILY

The Year of the Family

“Family that prays together, stays together.”

“The Christian proclamation on the family is good news indeed” (*Amoris Laetitia* #1). We, the community of St. Ann and Native peoples’ Mission will celebrate the liturgical year of 2016 – 2017 as the **YEAR OF THE FAMILY**. The year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis was a great success in deepening our Christian understanding that *“God is Merciful.”* We continue to celebrate the Mercy of God in our families, communities, and in our modern society. In our prayer and practice, let’s proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ with true Christian faith that is nurtured in our family, expressed in our Church community and witnessed in our society.

Christian Family:

- **Family prayer:** Let our prayer be simple and meaningful, bringing joy, unity and peace among our family members and friends. “Family is the domestic church.” (LG #11)
- **Family Events:** Let’s remember and celebrate events that brought joy and sorrow, births and deaths, anniversaries, etc. that mark God’s presence in family history.
- **Family Practices:** Let’s encourage living an authentic Christian family life by promoting gospel values (Bible), formation of Christian morality (Catechisms), and engaging in practice of our faith in our workplace and community (Ministry).

Church Family:

- **Welcoming and Homecoming:** True to our mission Statement: “unity in diversity”, we welcome everyone to celebrate God’s love in our Parish. Let us provide opportunities to grow in faith and charity, calling St. Ann parish a home of prayer and service.
- **Active and Participatory Liturgy:** We encourage everyone to make our liturgical celebrations meaningful and authentic to our Christian faith with prayerful and loving support to all.
- **Call to Serve:** Let our prayer life help us to practice our faith in our ministry places, serving the poor, Education, Faith Formation, promotion of Justice and Peace, and care for creation.

Christian Society:

- **Christian Identity:** Family is a Social unit. Let’s reflect and renew our Christian identity in our social relationships and work place, bearing a Christian witness as followers of Jesus Christ.
- **Communication and Resources:** As we live in world of communication and instant knowledge through social media, we will spend quality time in reading books, watching movies, communicating and gathering information that is helpful to deepen our faith and promote Christian practices.
- **Community participation:** With a true discerning spirit, we participate in our dialogue with everyone in promoting human dignity and freedom, social justice and peace, and care for Creation.

We celebrate our Year of the Family receiving the grace, motivation and inspiration from the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, together with Sts. Ann and Joachim who is our Patron and grandparents of Jesus. Let’s celebrate our Christian Family, our Christian Faith in Jesus Christ, Our Lord. May God bless every family bringing healing, love and peace. Amen.

Do not forget to smile.
Fr. Wilson Andrade, CSC

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD: DECEMBER 25, 2016

CELEBRATING THE YEAR OF THE FAMILY

Mass Intentions

(December 24 – December 30, 2016)

Friday, December 23: *St. John of Kanty*

7:00 p.m.: Thanksgiving for Mavic Galicia

Req. Mavic Galicia & Family

: Thanksgiving for Agnes Caruana

Req. Agnes Caruana

Saturday, December 24:

7:00 p.m.: Thanksgiving for Virginia Romero

Req. Virginia Romero & Family

2017 Offertory Envelopes are ready

Make sure to pick up your box of offertory envelopes at the main entrance of the church. If you don't already have assigned an envelope number, please pick up one of the unlabelled boxes and write your contact information on the **Envelope Record Sheet**. We kindly ask you to also write down your name and full address on the envelopes for the first few weeks.

2016-2017 Sunday Missal Sale



You can now purchase the 2016-2017 Sunday Missal and Calendar at the back of the church. Sunday Missals are available at \$4.00 and Calendars are \$1.00

Christmas Flowers

Thank you to everyone who donated towards the purchase of Christmas flowers. Your generosity helped make our liturgical celebration more beautiful and meaningful



Christmas Ornaments



Help decorate the church by purchasing a Christmas ornament and placing it on our Christmas tree. Ornaments are available for purchase at \$2.00 and will be sold at the front entrance.

Bulletin Notices:

If you would like to put any notices in our weekly bulletin, please send it to the office by Monday afternoon through our parish email stannparishtoronto@gmail.com

New Year's Programme Schedule

Saturday, Dec. 31, 2016

5:00 pm: Thanksgiving mass

11:00 pm: Vigil mass

12:00am: New Year's party

Saturday, Jan. 1, 2017

10:30 a.m.: Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

6:00 pm: Thanksgiving mass

Holy Cross Youth Group Christmas Raffle



Today, December 25, (after the 10:30 a.m. mass) is the Christmas Raffle draw. There will be 10 prizes to be raffled and prize details can be found at the back of each ticket. Tickets can still be purchased for \$5. Proceeds will help fund parish projects

Raise a Roof Jamaica 2017

Next March 2017, a group of 18 local teens, joined by Father Wilson and 5 other adult project leaders, will be headed to Kingston, Jamaica to build houses for families in need. To fund this project, we are challenged with raising funds to cover the travel and material cost. So far we have raised 55% of the goal, but still have quite a way to go. Please consider donating towards this cause. Envelopes are available at the back of the church.



Christmas Play

Thanks to everyone that participated and contributed to this year's Christmas Play. Particular commendation goes out to Nancy and Melody McMullan for their faithful tending of the children who took part in the Christmas pageant.

Merry Christmas

On the Fourth Sunday of Advent we light the last Candle in the Advent Wreath, as we complete the circle of preparation for the birth of our Saviour. We now focus on the Center of the Circle where a *white candle* is ready to be lit on Christmas day – *a symbol of Christ* – The True Light of the world. So let the Light of Christ flow into us and let's put God at the center of our lives.



On behalf of the Parish Community of St. Ann and Native People's Mission, we would like to wish all of you a Blessed and grace-filled Christmas Celebration. May the birth of Christ help us to deepen our love, strengthen our faith and reassure our hope in God, bringing peace and joy to the world.



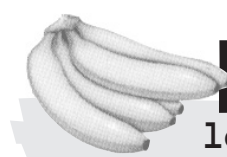
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