

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.-4:00 p.m. Monday -Friday



Holy Eucharist



Daily Mass

Monday-Thursday 8:00 am

Friday 7:00 pm

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm

Sunday 10:30 am

6:00 Pm

Native Peoples' Mass 12:30 pm

Bridgepoint Hospital 2:30 pm

UNITY IN DIVERSITY

"Moved by the Good News of Jesus Christ... We value our diversity" **(Mission Statement)**

Pastoral Staff

Pastor Fr. Wilson Andrade CSC

In Residence Fr. Francis Noronha CSC

Finance Anne Francis

Pastoral Assistents Maria Fernandes

RCIA Rolly Cabas

Development & Peace Catherine Barry

Food Bank Carlos & Colette Carreiro

Baptism Fe Santos

Music Vengie Fabre

Custodian Ed Keenan

Caretaker Rosalie Tolentino

Cook Cristina Acosta

Celebration of Sacraments

Baptism: 4th Sundays at 2:30pm

(Parents please contact office: preparation required)

Reconciliation:

Saturdays 4:15-4:45 p.m. or by appointment

Matrimony (couple contacts office one year in advance)

Parish Happenings

Sundays

10 am: **Divine Mercy Devotion and Rosary.**

10:30 am Mass: **Pre-School and Children's Liturgy.**

4pm - 6pm: **Handmaids of the Lord.**

11:30 am: 1st Sundays: **Coffee Sunday**

Development and Peace group

11:30 am: 2nd Sundays: **Youth Activities**

11:30 am: 3rd Sundays: **Pastoral Council**

11:30 am: 4th Sundays: **Couples Group**

Saturdays

8 - 9:00 am **Tai Chi Group**

10 -11:30am: **Food Bank**

4:15 pm: **Novena to St. Bro. Andre**

4:30 pm: **Novena to St. Ann**

6:00 pm: 1st Saturdays - **Healing Service**

6:00 - 8:00 pm: **Holy Family Prayer Group**

Tuesdays: 1:00PM - SENIORS BINGO

FIRST ADVENT SUNDAY: NOVEMBER 29, 2015

Celebrating the Year of Mercy

The Story of Advent

Written by: Allen Selman

In the northern hemisphere we have the winter solstice when the sun is at its lowest point in the sky. This is the time we yearn for the return of warmth, increasing light, and signs of spring when the life-death-life cycle renews itself. Reflect upon this when we celebrate Advent and light the candles of the Advent wreath. The early processional chant (Introit) for Epiphany "*Ecce advenit Dominator Dominus*" ("Behold the Lord the Ruler is come") signals all that the Incarnation means. The remote beginnings of Advent was a Gallican custom of a time of preparation for the Feast of Epiphany which was a season of preparation for baptism taking the form of fasting and prayer.

When Advent first appeared in Rome it was celebrated as a season of preparation for Christmas. This was formally established in 567 at the Council of Tours. The author of the Roman Advent was Gregory I (Pope 590 -604), who arranged the Lectionary for the Mass. In the ninth century, when Gregory's Advent was introduced into Gaul, it was Gallicans who introduced the emphasis upon the idea of Second Coming (Parousia).

Advent has become not only a season of preparation for Christmas and anticipation of the Second Coming, but as a time of reflection on a great mystery: **the past** (historical birth of our Saviour when the Eternal becomes at one with us); **the present** (God's continual coming by grace into our hearts so that we may live the mystery through history as a pilgrim church); **the future** (the Second Coming when creation and history shall be brought to a fulfilling end).

The Advent Wreath

The origin of the Advent Wreath is somewhat obscure but it probably originated in Germany or France within the Lutheran tradition. While the four candles mark the four Sundays of Advent there are certain themes which have developed over time with the meaning of each candle. The lighting of each candle in succession symbolizes the increasing light which Jesus as the light of the world brings creation. See Genesis 1: 3, 4. Psalms 18: 29; John 1: 4, 5. The circle of Advent Wreath symbolizes the unending love of God. It is ever-green or perpetually green circle of life with God. The first, second and fourth candles may be blue (representing hope) formerly purple (representing royalty), while the third candle is traditionally pink or rose. It is also known as Gaudete (rejoice) Sunday, taken from the Introit "Rejoice (Gaudete) in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice." It reminds us to be joyful at the coming of Christ. The first and second candles allow us to reflect on the birth and Second Coming of Christ. The third candle is symbolic of John the Baptist, who was the herald of Jesus. With the fourth candle we may meditate on Mary, the tabernacle of Jesus who accepted the angelic message and remained constant in her devotion.



November 22, 2015	Total	Year of Mercy
Offertory - Envelops	\$ 1,051.00	Pope Francis has declared next year to be the Year of Mercy. We will focus on the Sacrament of Reconciliation. You are most welcomed to help us make it more meaningful by suggesting your ideas. Please email the parish office or call us at (416) 466-2127.
Offertory - Loose	\$337.80	
Total Collection	\$ 1,388.80	

FIRST ADVENT SUNDAY: NOVEMBER 29, 2015
Celebrating the Year of Mercy

Mass Intentions

(November 28 – December 4, 2015)

Saturday, Nov. 28:

5:00 p.m.+: Reta Hubble

Req. Therese Catana

+ **Maria Valdez Yamson**

Req. Luiza Chan

Intentions of Ralph Nubla Jr.

Req. Luiza Chan

Monday, Nov. 30: *St. Andrew, Apostle.*

8:00 a.m.+: Violet Mary

Req. Ena Francis

Tuesday, Dec. 1:

8:00 a.m.+: Hubert Joseph

Req. Ena Francis

Wednesday, Dec. 2:

8:00 a.m.+: Anthony Benedict

Req. Ena Francis

Thursday Dec. 3: *St. Francis Xavier, Priest*

8:00 a.m.+: Reginal Malcom Francis

Req. Ena Francis & daughter

Friday, Dec. 4: *St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church*

7:00 p.m.+: Thanksgiving Mass for

Fr. Wilson Andrade, CSC.

Spiritual Direction and the Sacrament of Reconciliation

This year, let's encourage one another to go to confession and receive the grace of absolution. The parish office will be open from **Monday to Wednesday evenings in December, from 6pm-9pm** for Spiritual Direction and the sacrament of Reconciliation. You are welcomed to partake in this Spiritual Renewal.

Society of Sharing: Volunteers

Society of Sharing: Inner-city Volunteers is seeking volunteers for various positions including friendly visitors, social group facilitators and medical/shopping escorts. For more information, please contact our Recruitment & Training Specialist at **(416) 413-0380** or email donnett@societyofsharing.org

Project Hope

In response to the global refugee crisis, Cardinal Thomas Collins has launched "Project Hope," a special emergency appeal. Visit: www.archtoronto.org to make a donation to support the appeal, or call (416) 934-3411. You can also donate through our parish with a cheque made payable to NAME OF PARISH – PROJECT HOPE – REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP. Those interested in assisting with volunteer committees should contact the Office for Refugees at (647) 780-0827. **Special envelopes will be handed out this weekend towards the funding of this project.**

St. Ann's Resettlement Group

St Ann Parish is planning to help with the resettlement of a refugee family. We are currently looking for 10 volunteers interested in being part of St. Ann's Resettlement Group. If you would like to volunteer, please fill out the form keep at the back of the church and send it to the parish office as soon as possible.

Holy Doors

The Jubilee of Mercy was announced by Pope Francis. After the solemn inauguration of this Holy Year – marked by the opening of the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica on December 8, 2015 – all locally-designated Churches throughout the world will open their own Doors of Mercy in communion with the Church of Rome on the celebration of the Third Sunday of Advent. Designated churches for the Jubilee with a Holy Door of Mercy:

St. Paul's Basilica

83 Power Street, Toronto

Merciful Redeemer Parish

2775 Erin Centre Blvd. Mississauga

St. Patrick's Parish

131 McCaul Street, Toronto

St. Anthony of Padua Parish

940 North Park Dr., Bramalea

St. Patrick's Parish

11873 The Gore Rd, Brampton

St. Theresa's Parish

2559 Kingston Rd. Scarborough

The Martyrs' Shrine

16163 Highway 12 West, Midland

Holy Cross Youth Group Christmas Raffle

St. Ann Parish Youth has organized a Christmas Raffle to be drawn on Christmas Eve (after the midnight mass). There will be 10 prizes to be raffled and prize details can be found at the back of the ticket. Tickets are currently available at \$5 per ticket, with proceeds going to parish projects.

Christmas Play

Rehearsals begin this Sunday and continue every Sunday until Christmas Eve. For more information, email Nancy & Melody McMullan at melody.mcmullan@ryerson.ca

2015-2016 Sunday Missal

2015-2016 Sunday Missals are available at the back of the church at a cost of \$4.00

Funeral Prearrangements available
Call for your FREE Personal Planning Guide



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