



Sat. Dec. 18 5:00 pm +Manuel Barbosa Sun. Dec. 19 8:00 am For the People of the Parish 9:15 am +Vittorio Fortuna 10:30 am +Claudio Martellacci 12:00 noon +Antonino Comella Mon. Dec. 20 7:00 pm + Deceased members of the D'Annibale & Figliomeni Families Wed. Dec. 22 7:00 pm +Adalgisa Bifolichi Fri. Dec. 24 6:00pm +Earl & Patricia St. Amand 8:00pm + John & Carmela Carwana 10:00pm+Giuseppe Miceli 12:00am For the People of the Parish Sat. Dec. 25

9:15am _George Ace

Feast Days This Week

Tues. Dec. 21 – **St. Peter Canisius**, priest, doctor of the Church

Thurs. Dec. 23 – St. John of Kanty, priest

Fri. Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve – The Nativity of the Lord

Sat. Dec. 25 – Christmas Day – The Nativity of the Lord.

Blessed Christmas – The Christmas season celebrates the birth of the Lord Jesus and the ways He manifested the presence of God among us. Jesus continues to be born in our hearts today. He is forever, Emmanuel, God-With-Us. And with all the angels, we sing out our joyful proclamation, "Joy to the World, the Lord is Come!"

Christmas Joy! Christmas Mass Schedule

This is the first time in two years that we will have Christmas Masses with a congregation. Because of the growing number of people who are returning to church, we will have 8 Christmas Mases this year. Our capacity is still limited because of social distancing. This means that once all four sections in the church are full and with a limited number of people in the narthex, the church will have reached full capacity and the doors will be closed and no one else may enter. So please come early if you expect to get a seat. The Masses will be very simple, with musicians and soloists only, however, the brass will play at the midnight Mass. Another sign of good news, **we will be able to start singing again**. The Archdiocese has given us the go-ahead, a sign that the pandemic is slowly winding down, but we will still have to wear masks. It will be wonderful to hear everyone singing the Christmas Carols and all the parts of the Mass.

Christmas Eve – Friday, December 24

6:00 pm 8:00 pm 10:00 pm 12:00 midnight

Christmas Day – Saturday, December 25

8:00 am Italian 9:15 am 10:30 am 12:00 noon

(Please note that there will **not** be a 5:00pm Mass on Saturday, December 25)

The midnight Mass on Christmas Eve and the 10:30am Mass on Christmas morning will be livestreamed on our website: <u>www.stpp.church</u>

An Advent Service for the Home - A member

of the family lights all four candles on the Advent wreath **Leader**: Rejoice the Lord is at hand.

All: Come, Lord Jesus

(A family member reads the suggested bible passage for the day)

Third Week o	f Advent:
Sunday	Matthew 1:18-25
Monday	John 1:1-5
Tuesday	Luke 1-26-38
Wednesday	Luke 1:39-45
Thursday	Luke 1:46-56
Friday	Luke 2:1-14
Saturday	Luke 2:15-20
Leader. The peace of the Lord be with y	

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you. **All**: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray. O God, who sent prophets to prepare the way for the coming of your Son, help us to hear their warning and their measure of joy which was given for all people; so that at the birthday of your Son, our redeemer, we may receive Him more joyfully into our hearts. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen

All: Our Father, who are in heaven...

Leader: May the Almighty and merciful God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. **All**: Amen

Blessing of a Christmas Tree – Gather the family together to say a little Christmas prayer together.

"Dear Lord, the evergreen ranches of this tree are symbols of your everlasting light; the sparkling lights and decorations, reflections of your presence; the gifts beneath it, reminders of your many gifts to us. Help us to keep the peace and joy of Christmas in our hearts all through the year." Amen

Blessing of a Nativity scene – Make it a family project to put up your Christmas Nativity Scene. When the Manger is in place, plan to have a candlelight crib procession. Gather in the room farthest from the crib and turn out all the lights in the house. Mom or dad or an older child can carry a lighted candle and light the way as you process to the crib. You might like to sing 'Silent Night'. A younger child can carry the infant Jesus and place Him in the manger. Then kneel at the crib and read the Gospel account of the first Christmas:

(Luke 2:15-20) and say this prayer:

"Dear Jesus, bless this crib that we have set up in memory of your birth. Help us to remember each time we look at it that you came down to us at Bethlehem because you loved us. Remind us too that the presents we give and receive are given and received in the memory of your love. Bless our family and our world with peace and joy." Amen

Now process to the kitchen and have a birthday party for Jesus! Use the leader's candle to light the candles on a birthday cake (on which is written, 'Happy Birthday Jesus.' Sing the birthday song together, blow out the candles, turn on the lights and have a party. Talk about the first Christmas and what you think it might have been like, how Mary and Joseph looked or felt. Discuss what you could do as a family to give Jesus a birthday present.

Feast of the Holy Family – Next Sunday is the feast of the Holy Family. A general blessing of families will take place at the end of all Masses next weekend. Because of Covid, individual blessings will not be given this year.

Masses for New Year's

New Years is the feast of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. It is a major feast. Masses will be celebrated: Friday. Dec. 31 at 5:00pm Sat. Jan. 1 at 8:00am (Italian), 9:15am, 10:30am and

12 noon. (Please note that there will NOT be a 5pm on Sat. Jan. 1)

Offertory Envelopes for 2022 are available for pick up in the Narthex. Envelopes are sorted alphabetically. If you are new to the parish and would like to start using envelopes, please ask one of the Ushers to get you a new box. Please do not touch all of the boxes and sanitize your hands after picking up your box. PLEASE DO NOT REARRANGE THE BOXES

Baptisms

We offer our congratulations to the parents of the children baptized on Saturday and Sunday of last weekend.

Mateo Grgas Grando Jaime Sarang Chang Maeve Lin Lim Mia Pellegrino Mila Palleros Francesco Nicola Plati Nikolas Ragainis Logan Joseph Rossi

Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) – Parishioners are encouraged to sign up for Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG). It is a convenient, easy and automatic way to support your parish. This allows the parish to meet its monthly obligations, such as hydro, heat, payroll etc. All donations are tax deductible and can be stopped at any time. Donations can be directed to your weekly or building fund offering, or both and will be deducted from your bank account on the 20th of the month. Thanks to all our parishioners who give so generously.

Donating Securities to the Archdiocese of

Toronto – A donation of securities is one of the easiest and smartest ways to donate in Canada. When you donate securities to the Archdiocese of Toronto, you put stock in knowing that you are creating the greatest impact on the church and those we serve.

With a gift of securities, you can receive an immediate donation receipt for the fair market value of the security. In addition, there is no capital gains tax applied to any benefit received from the sale of these securities. Listed securities include stocks, bonds and mutual funds. Consider making a gift of securities to your parish or any one of our archdiocesan charities. To donated listed securities, you can obtain our form, the letter of direction by visiting this link: <u>https://bit.ly/GiftofSecurities</u>.

For further information, contact the Development Office at 416-934-3400 ext. 561/519 or <u>development@archtoronto.org</u>.

Christmas Greetings – Deacon Gary, Deacon Curtis, the Office staff and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a most joyous Christmas! May the Lord's presence and peace be in your hearts as we celebrate His coming among us.

