

# ST. FRANCIS DE SALES PARISH

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Pastor: Rev. Peter J. Choi

Associate Pastor: Rev. Colman Mruma

Deacon: Derek Skelton



## THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

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### THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



**First Reading:** Isaiah 9.2-4, 6-7  
**Second Reading:** Titus 2.11-14  
**Gospel:** Luke 2.1-16 ++

**MASS INTENTIONS**—Please note Mass times.

Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 am: Feast:  
 St. Stephen, First Martyr

**In Thanksgiving**

Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 am: Feast:  
 St. John, Apostle & Evangelist

**James & Nellie Atreo+**

Wednesday, December 28<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 am: Feast:  
 The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

**In Thanksgiving**

Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 am: 5<sup>th</sup> Octave:

**In Thanksgiving**

Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 am: Feast:  
 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

**Leslie D'Silva+, Maria Chaves+**

Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup> No Morning Mass

### PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed for the Christmas season from Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>—Friday, January 06<sup>th</sup> 2012 . We will resume regular hours on January 07<sup>th</sup>, 2012. **We wish all our parishioners a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the staff at St. Francis de Sales.**



### FIRST COMMUNION—Parent Catechesis

First Communion Catechesis for registered young people of the parish will be on  
 Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m. OR  
 Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m.



Parents may attend **either** of the meetings so that you are up to date on the steps needed to complete the process for your child's First Communion.

### 2012 ENVELOPES

Your 2012 Sunday Offering envelopes are ready to be picked up in the foyer. If you had envelopes last year and cannot seem to find your 2012 box, please call Judy at the Parish Office. For the first month we request all parishioners to fill out names and addresses when you use these envelopes. \$ amounts should always be mentioned. New parishioners should complete a Welcome Card to register and pick up a box without a label.

**The 2012 envelopes are NOT to be used until January 01<sup>st</sup>.**

### BIBLE STUDY

Our winter programme begins on January 18, 2012 with the study of the "Book of Exodus". Parishioners who have already signed-up may purchase their set of books at the CWL kiosk in the foyer. Cost: \$20 (Set). Extra books have been ordered for any parishioners who wish to join. More information and details will follow.



### CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S EVE

There will be **no morning** Mass on Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> and New Year's Eve, Saturday December 31<sup>st</sup>.



✦ PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR R.C.I.A. INQUIRERS, CATECHUMENS, CANDIDATES AND NEOPHYTES

✦ PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Helen O'Connor	Garry Sankar	Phyllis Crowley	Joe O'Neill	Al & June Williams	Nicky Passaro
Kayden De Silva	Lourdes Tabinga	Alfredina Codanedo	Thelma Lew-a-King	Maria Melilli	Victor Marinos
Fredrick Daranjo	Doug Daly	Ava Calandra	Jennifer Lacuata	Joseph Balant	Dominic Amorini
Justin Cassell	Patty Ryan	Catherine Sinka	Bernadette Assam	Seanne Van Sluytman	Vira Da Ré
Dianne Sonogo	Ferdinand Manelo	Margaret Santos	Santina Taccone	David Duarte	Jomar Magtoto
Bernard Faria	Krishna Ramlochah	Helen Nolan	Drago Zibert	Roger Hill	Jake McCarthy
Francis Vieira	Jose Momtiel	Douglas Pike	Hilcias Martinez	Claudia Pereira	Matthew Lee Wuk Len
Patricia Vanier	Nora Wright	Amanda Jeffs-Ryland	Everett Fletcher-Riley	Eileen Dasilva	Lee-Len
Michael MacDonald	Deborah Brent	Gina Forgione	Sayed Yusuf	Giovanni Caporusso	Lena Hyland
Sheri Choi	Christopher Ramgadoo	Terry O'Sullivan	Ranan DeSilva	John Bennett	Marie Amyot
Sharon Clarke	Joan Leung	Carl Nelson	Rita Ciani	Anthony Grasso	Kathleen Bourne
Vern Mathison	Leanne Lewis	Veronica Tamaro	George Tollar	Sheila Vieira	Nathan Lindo Jenkins

**Please pray for our friends at Winbourne Park.**  
 ✦ **Please pray for the Deceased:**



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

**The Christmas Story**

There was once a man who didn't believe in God, and he didn't hesitate to let others know how he felt about religion and religious holidays. Despite his disparaging comments, his wife remained steadfast in her faith and raised their children in the practice of faith. On one snowy Christmas Eve, his wife was taking their two children to Christmas Eve Mass and asked him to come along just like she had done so many times before, but he refused her once again... "That story of Jesus is nonsense! Why would God lower Himself to come to Earth as a man? That's ridiculous!" So he stayed home by himself while his wife took the children to Church.

Later that night, the winds grew stronger and the snow turned into a blizzard. As he looked out the window, all he saw was a blinding snowstorm...and then all of a sudden he heard this very loud thump. Something had hit the window. So he ventured outside to see what could have been beating on his window. To his surprise he saw a flock of wild geese. Apparently they had been flying south for the winter when they got caught in the snowstorm and couldn't go on. They were lost and stranded on his farm, with no food or shelter. They just flapped their wings and flew around the field in low circles, blindly and aimlessly. And a couple of them had flown into his window, it seemed.

He felt sorry for the geese and wanted to help them. The barn would be a great place for them to stay, he thought. 'It's warm and safe; surely they could spend the night and wait out the storm.' So he walked over to the barn and opened the doors wide, hoping they would notice the barn and go inside. But the geese just fluttered around aimlessly and didn't seem to notice the barn. The man tried to get their attention by waving a lantern, but that just seemed to scare them, and they moved further away. He went into the house and came with some bread, broke it up, and made a bread crumb trail leading to the barn, but they still didn't catch on. He got behind them and tried to shoo them toward the barn, but they only got more scared and scattered in every direction except toward the opened barn doors. Nothing he did could get them to go into the barn where they would be warm and safe. Frustrated and exhausted, he said to himself, "Why don't they follow me? Can't they see this is the only place where they can survive the storm? If only I were a goose, then I could save them!"

Then, all of a sudden he had an idea! He went into barn, got one of his own geese and carried it in his arms as he circled around behind the flock of wild geese. He then released it. His goose flew through the flock and straight into the barn -- and one-by-one, the other geese followed it to safety. He stood silently for a moment as the words he had spoken a few minutes earlier replayed loudly in his mind: "**If only I were a goose, then I could save them!**" Then he thought about what he had said to his wife earlier that evening. "**Why would God want to be like us? That's ridiculous!**"

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE- 2011/12**

**Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

4:00 pm  
6:30 pm  
9:00 pm  
12:00 midnight  
**(No morning Mass )**

**Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

10:00 am  
12:00 noon

**Monday, Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>—Friday, Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 am  
**(No Friday evening Mass)**

**Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011**

5:00 pm  
**(No morning Mass)**

**Sunday, January 01<sup>st</sup>, 2012**

8:30 am  
10:00 am  
12:00 noon

**Will resume regular schedule Jan. 02<sup>nd</sup>**



**CONTINUING & ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION**

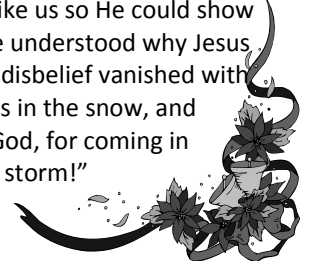
Copies of the Durham Catholic District School Board's Continuing Education Winter/Spring 2012 Course Guide are located at the back of the Church. Courses are offered in Computers, High School Credit Courses (day/night school and correspondence), English as Second Language, etc. Please pick up a copy of the Course Guide.

**YOUTH PROGRAM**

The Youth Program finally begins in our Parish, on Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup> 2012, 6:30 pm.—8:00 pm. at St. Patrick Catholic School Library on Delaney Drive. All young people of the parish from Grade 5 to 8 are encouraged to take this opportunity to come out, make new friends, and get involved.

**...Contd. Pastor's Desk**

Suddenly it all made perfect sense to him. That is what God had done! We were like the geese--blind, lost, and perishing. God had His Son become like us so He could show us the way, and save us! Suddenly he understood why Jesus, Christ had come. Years of doubt and disbelief vanished with the passing storm. He fell to his knees in the snow, and prayed his first prayer: "Thank You, God, for coming in human form . . . to get me out of the storm!"



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