

SAINT CECILIA'S CHURCH

Archdiocese of Toronto
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PASTOR: Father Joseph Tap Tran
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ADVENT



Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 21, 2025

YEAR A

Christmas Message from Our Pastor

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

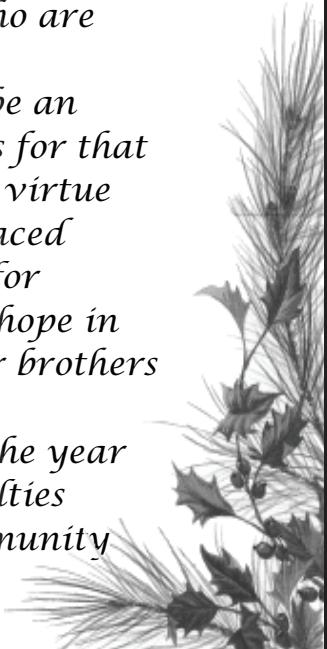


The wonderful, joyful, and holy celebration is here again, the celebration of Christmas; the celebration of the Coming of the Lord in the Mystery of Incarnation. This Coming is wonderful because it brings us together and reunites us with God. Through the Mystery of Incarnation, the Son of God enters deeply into the fullness of our being to redeem us from the very root of sin that disconnected us from God the father. The Mystery of Incarnation is the manifestation of God's unconditional love for us. The birth of Christ was the greatest event in human history. It marks a new dawn in the history of salvation.

This special year, we celebrated the Jubilee Year with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope." In the Papal Bull, "Spes Non Confundit" (Hope does not Disappoint), which introduced the year, Pope Francis wrote "Everyone knows what it is to hope. In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring. Even so, uncertainty about the future may at times give rise to conflicting feelings, ranging from confident trust to apprehensiveness, from serenity to anxiety, from firm conviction to hesitation and doubt. Often, we come across people who are discouraged, pessimistic and cynical about the future, as if nothing could possibly bring them happiness. For all of us, may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope. God's word helps us find reasons for that hope." Pope Francis also prayed the year would draw us towards a virtue closely linked to hope, patience, which can feel elusive in our fast-paced world. As the Jubilee year comes to a close, let us continue to pray for and practise patience, "marked by the hope that does not fade, our hope in God, and may we go forth as, "tangible signs of hope for those of our brothers and sisters who experience hardships of any kind".

I would like to thank all of you for your great support throughout the year of 2025. I pray that all of us will be out of the darkness of all difficulties of life into the light of Hope. May we continue to build up our community as one of Faith, Hope, and Charity throughout the year of 2026.

Fr. Joseph Tap Tran, Pastor



MASS INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK

Mon. Dec 25 - Sun Dec 28

Monday 9:05 a.m.

Silvia and Emiddio Ruccolo (RIP)
Req. by Maria Ruccolo

Tuesday 9:05 a.m.

In Thanksgiving to Jesus and Mary (INT)

Req. by R.C.

Friday 9:05 a.m.

Friends of Dias and Clementino Families (RIP)

Req. by R.C.

Saturday 9:05 a.m.

Trudi Cortens (RIP)

Req. by Ann Rooney and Family

Saturday 7 p.m.

Stanley and Marianna Juskiewicz (RIP)

Req. by Natalie Chabane

Sunday 9 a.m.

Mary Kelly (RIP)

Req. by Don English

Sunday 11 a.m.

The St. Cecilia Parish Family (INT)

2025 DONATIONS

The last day to make a 2025 donation that will count towards your 2025 donation tax receipt is December 31, 2025.

As of January 1st, 2026, any donations made will be attributed to the 2026 tax year.

2026 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Envelopes for 2026 are ready for pick-up at the back of the church

Please do not use your 2026 offertory envelopes until January 1st, 2026. Please print your full name, address, and phone number on your first few donations. If making a larger donation to cover multiple Sundays you have missed, please put the donation in one envelope to make it easier for the office staff to record. Please note that envelope numbers that were unused in 2025 were deleted.

New envelope users/parishioners are asked to fill out a **Parish Registration Form** and return it to an usher to obtain offertory envelopes for 2026.

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Tue.	Dec. 23: St. John of Kenty, <i>priest</i>
Thrs.	Dec. 25: Nativity of the Lord
Fri.	Dec. 26: St. Stephen, <i>The First Martyr</i>
Sat.	Dec. 27: St. John, <i>apostle, evangelist</i>
Sun.	Dec. 31: The Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph

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