



Dear friends in Christ,

We traditionally put a light in the crib. While I don't know the origins of that tradition; at a human level, it makes sense that where people are living, even for a few short days, there should be a light. But when you think that Jesus is the light, then it seems to me that the little light in our crib is meant to shine outwards rather than inwards.

In much the same way, we who are the disciples of Jesus are not called just to gather here once a week and to be comfortable in the light of Christ, we are called to reflect that light outwards so that it reaches into all the dark corners of the world. It is our mission to shine the light of compassion, truth and justice into the market-place, into the board-room, into our schools, our hospitals and into all the places that we go. That is how we give Glory to God in the Highest. Every Christmas invite us for that.

We live our lives in between the birth of Jesus and His coming again at the end of time. The challenge for us, as St. Paul says is "to be self-restrained and to live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing that will come". If, to use the words of Isaiah, "our gladness is greater", it is not because everything is sorted. It is because the Lord is near. Like the light shining in the darkness, that is what gives us the courage to live from day to day in justice and integrity.

I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and thank you for your support and generosity towards Transfiguration parish. I will be offering Masses for you and for your family members, especially those who are sick or away from home at this time.

On behalf of Fr. Charles, Fr. Fady and the staff, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year. May Baby Jesus bless you all.

Fr. George Parayil

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VISIT OF THE SICK

During this season of Advent and Christmas, if you would like for a priest to visit you, (anyone who is sick) hear your confession, to receive communion or bless your home, please contact the parish office at (416)247-0513 and one of our priests will come visit.



Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 23 December 2019

9:30 am Matthew Dishart

Tuesday: 24 December 2019

Mass: 5:30 pm; 7:30 pm & 12 Midnight

Wednesday: 25 December 2019

Mass: 7:45 am; 9:00 am; 10:30 am & 12 Noon

Thursday: 26 December 2019

9:30 am Stephanie Omany

Friday: 27 December 2019

9:30 am Carmela Vitellaro
Concetta Vitellaro & Giovanni Galiano

Saturday: 28 December 2019

9:30 am Maria Di Maria
Genoveffa Lauricella
5:30 pm Amelia & Robert Lee Chong
Nicholas Ward

Sunday: 29 December 2019

7:45am Jean-Marie Hytega
9:00am Danilo Reffo, Luigi & Ida Giammattolo,
Adamo, Santo & Maria Fata,
Maria & Nicola Pulsone,
Claudio Previte & Rosa Palliotto (L)
10:30am **Parishioners of Transfiguration**
Adelina & Quiteria Oliviera
Aurora Oliviera, Serafina, Serafim,
Alek, Toni & Lili Cymbal
12:00pm Francis De Souza, Mary Sequeira,
Antonio, Teresa, Sam & Pat DeCaria
7:00pm Luciano Barone &
Venanzio Di Giallonardo

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Please remember the following people in your prayers:

Theresa Burns, Pat G., Noemy Pereira,
Clint Viegas, Samuel Cordeiro, Arthur
Ruston, Avio Carboni, Raphael Colaco,
Victor Colaco, James Ernst, Sophia Coleman,
Dana McGrath, Roman Joe Zakrajse &
Olivia Balsam

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The Outreach program will be collecting men's new underwear, socks, vaseline, baby oil, kleenex, toothpaste, toothbrushes razors,

& shaving cream. Please place your donated items in the blue box in the waiting room.



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 24th

5:30 p.m. - Family with children
7:30 p.m.
12 Midnight

DECEMBER 25th

7:45 a.m.
9:00 a.m. Italian
10:30 a.m.
12 Noon
NO EVENING MASS

CHAPEL CLOSING

Our chapel will close at 4:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, December 24th and will re-open on December 27th.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The parish office will be closed on December 25th and December 26th and will re-open on December 27th.

NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 31st

5:30 p.m.

JANUARY 1st

9:00 a.m. Italian
10:30 a.m.
12 Noon
NO EVENING MASS

CHAPEL CLOSING

Our chapel will close at 4:00 p.m. on New Year's Eve, Dec. 31st and will re-open on Jan. 2nd.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The parish office will be closed on January 1st and will re-open on January 2nd.



2020 SUNDAY MISSALS

The 2020 Sunday Missals are available in the parish office at a cost of \$5.00 per book.

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FORMED

FORMED is a web-based digital platform, designed to help adults to grow in their faith and in their lives. FREE to all parishioners & your families. Register at FORMED.org

Code: MF473

PARISH ENVELOPES

Envelopes for the year 2020 are available in the parish hall. They are displayed numerically so please make sure you know your number when you come into the hall.

Please DO NOT start using your envelopes until the new year and at that time throw away any remaining 2019 envelopes.

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CHURCH MAINTENANCE ENVELOPE

We would like to request that you continue using the blue donation envelopes that are available in the vestibule and the parish office.

As we have to pay back the loan to the Archdiocese for the cost of repaving of our parking lot and the outstanding church assessment, the council has decided that in 2020, a *weekly blue church maintenance envelope* will be included in the box set of donation envelopes. We would greatly appreciate your assistance and support in this matter. Thank you for generously supporting our parish community.

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

All men are invited to a **Day of Retreat** on Saturday, January 11th from 9:30am to 12:30pm.

Speakers will be Fr. Charles Egbulefu and Robert Pella. Please register at the parish office.

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VOCATION SEEDS

“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife... When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him.” Are you willing to respond as Joseph did? If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister, please contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at (416)968-0997.

Email: vocations@archtoronto.org

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4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1st Reading: Isaiah 7.10-14

2nd Reading: Romans 1.1-7

Gospel: Matthew 1.18-24 *The Birth of Jesus the Messiah*

The great saints of the church speak of an intermediary coming of Christ, the coming of Christ to our present lives. Jesus says in the

Book of Revelation, "Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you" (Revelation 3:20). We can let him into our lives as stewards by realizing it is not ourselves ministering to our neighbour, but the love and presence of Christ within us.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Transfiguration Youth Ministry will be selling Rosaries and T-shirts before and after each Masses this weekend. Money raised will be going towards off setting future costs of retreats and other Youth Ministry activities for the youth of our parish.

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ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MINISTRY

Held bi-weekly on Fridays evenings for Grades 5 to 8 on from 7 pm – 9 pm until June.

The program engages with the youth through snacks, games, skits, teachings, small group discussions and much more.

Sign up at the Parish Office or online.

If you have any questions, please visit transchurch.ca/edge/

December 27th - Christmas Break (No Edge)

January 10th - Body Language

January 24th - Journey: Gender Identity

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HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

Held bi-weekly on Friday evenings for Grades 9 to 12 from 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm until June.

Free registration includes dinner and a Life Teen t-shirt. For more info and to sign up please visit transchurch.ca/life-teen/

January 17th - Pathways & Providence

January 31st - A Time Such as This

February 14th – Valentine's Special

Tunnel (wet tunnel), Western Wall Tunnel, Jerusalem by night Tour.

For further information, please contact:

Fr. George at (416)247-0513 ext. 0 or 1

Travel arrangements by:

Intersight Tours & Travels Ltd.

TICO # 50022847

(416)623-7389 or (647)989-7568

Email: justin@intersight.in

HOLY LAND: JORDAN & ISRAEL

*Under the Spiritual Leadership of Fr. George Parayil
September 14th – September 24th, 2020*

CAD \$3,380.00 tax included (double occupancy)

CAD \$4,180.00 tax included (single occupancy)

All 3 Meals, Entry tickets, Road &

Air Transportation included

Attractions: Petra, Madaba, Nabatean Tombs, Basilica of Annunciation & the Well of Virgin Mary, Mount Precipice, Capernaum, Mount Beatitudes & Church, Tabgha, Mount Tabor, Boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, Knights Hall, Aljazar Mosque, Church of the Nativity & the Shepherds' Fields, Mount of Olives, Chapel of Ascension, Pater Noster, Chapel of Dominus Flevit, Garden of Gethsemane & Church, Church of All Nations, Mount Zion Complex, Pools of Bethesda (St. Anne's Church), St. Peter in Gallicantu, Yad Vashem Museum, Qumran National Park, Masada National Park including cable car, Wailing Wall & the Temple Mount, Cenacle Church, Ecce Homo Convent, City of David including Hezekiah's