

Transfiguration of Our Lord Church

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

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Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Carlos Sierra Tobon

Associate Pastor: Fr. Jomon George, M.Ss.Cc.

Deacon: Mr. Raymond Frendo

In Residence: Monsignor Fady Boktor

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Rhoda Marcoccia



ADVENT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Joseph's dream contained a quiet certainty of the presence of God. No doubts followed it, in a situation when doubts would surely seem called for. It was like the face of a mother to an infant. Like the voice of a close friend.

Another way to put it is that Joseph already had much trust in God's love. This trust was in no way broken into, shattered or pulled to pieces by the dream. Instead the message fit right into the design of Joseph's life with God. And so he followed it.

What is your internal sense of the Christmas story? Is the birth of God an impossible tale reserved for children? Or do you find the roots of trust within yourself as Joseph did? Pray for the open faith Joseph and Mary had. (John Foley, SJ)

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

It is with great joy and with a deep sense of gratitude that I write to you. Christmas is here for us to rejoice and celebrate, also in the closeness of a new year, we must all say "thanks be to God forever".

Each one of us has a heart full of memories good and bad, but in the end we can say, we made it, that is what counts the most.

On behalf of Fr. Jomon, Msgr. Fady, and the parish office staff, I would like to wish that God may continue to bless you and may Jesus (the reason for the season), dwell always in your hearts, homes and places of work.

Finally, I continue appealing to you, please come and help us to do what is needed to have the church all of you deserve.

Fr. Carlos Sierra Tobon

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

Theresa Burns, Sonja Schryer, Noemy Pereira, Clint Viegas,
Samuel Cordeiro, Arthur Ruston, Raphael Colaco,
Dana McGrath, Roman Joe Zakrajse, Enzo, Domenica,
Teresa Pirrello, Margaret Speciale, Joe Simardone,
Margaret Ramjattan, Rosa Natale,
Christina Vitale, Walter Ryan

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FOR ALL MINISTRIES

We encourage any parishioners interested in joining the ministry of Altar Server, Choir, Lector, Eucharistic Minister or Usher to kindly fill out a form and to submit it to the parish office.

PARISH ENVELOPES 2023

Envelopes for the year 2023 are still available in the parish hall and are in numerical order. If you have not had the chance to pick up your box, please do so. If you don't know your envelope number, please refer to the binder with names listed in alphabetical order. Thank you for your cooperation.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 24th Christmas Eve

4:30 pm: Confession
5:30 pm: Children's Christmas Mass (English)
11:30 pm: Christmas Carols w/ Cecilia and Choir
12 Midnight: Bilingual Mass

Sunday, December 25th The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

7:45 am (English), 9:00 am (Italian), 10:30 am (English),
12 Noon (English)

CHAPEL CLOSING

Our chapel will close at 4:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, December 24th and will re-open on December 27th at 10 am

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The parish office will be closed December 26th & 27th and will re-open on December 28th

NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 31st New Year's Eve

4:30 pm: Confession
5:30 pm: English Mass
12 Midnight: Bilingual Mass

Sunday, January 1st Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

7:45 am (English), 9:00 am (Italian), 10:30 am (English),
12 Noon (English)

CHAPEL CLOSING

Our chapel will close at 4:00 p.m. on New Year's Eve, December 31st and will re-open on January 2nd at 10 am

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The parish office will be closing at 12 Noon on December 30th and will re-open on Monday, January 2nd

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

The CWL 2023 Membership Drive is currently ongoing. Membership Fees are \$35.00. Cheques can be made payable to Transfiguration Catholic Women's League & left in the parish office. Please include your name, address, phone number & email address.

The CWL will also hold it's Winter Warmth Drive. New hats scarves, mitts, gloves & socks for all can be left in the bin in the Parish Office until Sunday December 18th and they will be given to The Good Shepherd & the Ernestine's Shelter. All parishioners are invited to contribute.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

The regular collection for last week was \$8,595.00. Please remember Transfiguration of Our Lord Church in your last will and testament. Don't forget to ask us about Pre-Authorized Giving (P.A.G). Thank you to all!

MARRIAGE SUNDAY

Bishop Vincent Nguyen will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, especially those celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+) in 2023. **The Mass will take place at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 12th** at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto). All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their vows and milestone anniversary celebrants will be honoured with a special blessing.

The Mass is open to all, but due to space restrictions those wishing to attend are asked to register online. Milestone anniversary celebrants will be assured of reserved seating. All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who are unable to attend at the Cathedral are invited to join the special celebration via livestream Mass, kindly log on to: <https://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live/>
The broadcast will begin at 2:15 p.m.

THE OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Outreach program will be collecting men's new underwear, socks, jeans warm gloves, winter hats & scarves, towels. Most urgently needed are individually packaged snacks, e.g. chips/cookies/granola bars, single-serve juices, single-serve bottled water, mayonnaise, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, bar soap, shampoo, conditioner.

MEDITAZIONE SPIRITUALE

Giuseppe è scelto da Dio per un compito alto, ma lo stesso Giuseppe sceglie Dio e si dimostra disponibile a tutto, anche se questo significa fare i conti con la propria umanità e dover convertire la propria visione di Dio e del rapporto con lui.

Giuseppe è l'uomo giusto per Maria, che trova in lui uno che per amore e per fede in Dio la protegge, e con lei protegge il frutto del suo grembo.

Giuseppe diventa modello anche per la comunità cristiana che in questi giorni affretta il passo in vista delle celebrazioni del Natale insieme alla più larga comunità umana che si ritrova a festeggiare per tradizione queste festività.

I cristiani possono avere in Giuseppe il modello di chi sa sognare e ascoltare: sognare Dio e ascoltare quello che Lui suggerisce al cuore per il bene nostro e di chi ci sta accanto. Questa è la vera comunità cristiana, e non quella che nelle tradizioni sclerotizzate del "sempre si è fatto così" muore, ma che invece sa cogliere l'imprevedibilità di Dio che chiama a seguirlo nella storia umana così come si manifesta.

La vera tradizione del Natale non è dunque "fare sempre le stesse cose" ma al contrario diventare capaci di ascolto e conversione, come Giuseppe, l'uomo dei sogni, l'uomo che si prende cura del "Dio con noi", di Gesù.

COLLETTA SETTIMANALE

Grazie per la vostra generosità. La colletta regolare della settimana 11 Dicembre è stata \$8,595.00. Grazie ancora per il vostro contributo per aiutare con le spese della chiesa. Ultimamente abbiamo fatto dei lavoretti di manutenzione che richiedono delle spese...Dio vi benedirà.

MASS INTENTIONS INTENZIONI DELLE MESSE

Sunday December 18 Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:45 am	Pro Populo, † Alex Risavy, † Maria Ciano
9:00 am	† Christina, Lucia & Luigi Tomassi † Claudio, Antonio & Assunta Loprevite † Nicola & Maria Pulsone, † Danilo & Suvilia Reffo
10:30 am	† Manuelita Coelho, Paul Fantauzzi, † Graciano Maglian and Special Blessings for Rochelle Oswyn, Noah & Cleo Alvares
12:00 pm	† Pierre Pena, † Sylvia Gore Special Blessings for the Pena Family † John, Rosario, Lina Colosimo, † Ciriaco, Vito Grieco, † Mario Bellisario † Theresa Tigani, † Jean Lapointe
1:30 pm	IGBO Mass
7:00 pm	† Giovanni Ferri & In Honour of the Immaculate Conception

Monday December 19

9:30 am	† Vincenzo DePaola, † Armando & Giovanna Torchia
10:00 am	Mass at Dante Alighieri School Auditorium

Tuesday December 20

9:30 am	† Kevin Falconer, † Lisa Mazzuca † Francesca, Francesco & Tony Frustaci, and † Domenic Cosentino and Special Blessings for Cheryl Pereira
7:00 pm	1-Month Memorial Mass: (Italian): Vito Ditarano

Wednesday December 21 Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of Church

9:30 am	† Anthony Menezes, † Maria Catena Cirillo and Deceased Members of the Cirillo Family
10:30 am	Mass at St. Maurice School Gymnasium
1:30 pm	Mass at Dante Alighieri School Auditorium

Thursday December 22

9:30 am	† Anna & Carmine Maietta, † Maria Miranda In honour of St. Rita and Special Blessing for Dominico
10:30 am	Confessions at St. Maurice School Gymnasium

Friday December 23 Saint John of Kanty, Priest

9:30 am	† Matthew Dishart, † Domenic Cosentino, † Franco Bellissimo, † Bruno Bellissimo † Luigi Palumbo
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Saturday December 24

9:30 am	Mass of the Day
3:30 pm	Mass at Parkland Seniors' Residence
4:30 pm	Confession
5:30 pm	Children's Christmas Mass (English)
11:30 pm	Christmas Carols with Cecilia & Italian Choir
12 Midnight	Mass (Bilingual)

Sunday December 25 The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

7:45 am	Pro Populo
9:00 am	
10:30 am	
12:00 pm	

ADVENT SEASON: FOURTH SUNDAY

On the fourth week of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Savior. This final candle, the "Angel's Candle," symbolizes peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men." The white candle is placed in the middle of the wreath and lit on Christmas Eve. This candle is called the "Christ Candle" and represents the life of Christ.

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*Based on 'All Agents Totals Combined For Sold Properties' total listed and sold units, in Etobicoke from 2013 to October 2020, as reported by independent research company R E Stats Inc. **Etobicoke is the area bounded by Steeles Ave. W. on the North, Humber River on the East, Lake Ontario on the South and Highway 427 on the West. Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract with a brokerage.

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