

Transfiguration of Our Lord Church

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

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Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Rhoda Marcoccia



Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

GOSPEL REFLECTION

This Sunday we see Mary just days after the grueling journey and the amazing birth. She is carrying out the promise she made to Gabriel. All is well. The child is healthy and cute, and the angels, unable to contain their joy, have once more danced into Mary's life. Even the animals understand. It is breathtaking.

It would seem that Mary's calm would now seek some quiet and rest after all that had happened. But no. Unkempt shepherds, straight from the fields, "went in haste" to the shelter, announcing in their craggy voices that they knew who this baby is. Angels had told them. Wise men, or as we now say, kings, found the holy shelter and barged right in, bearing royal gifts. Does this all impinge on Mary's peace? No. She is good to her word. The Gospel says that Mary quietly "kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." "May it be done unto me according to your will." Mary's acceptance was complete.

As we witness this calm, within a crowded, difficult, surprising stable, as we keep the picture of it within our own hearts, may each of us be able to echo Mary's words, "May it be done unto me according to your will." (John Foley, SJ)

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE

Join His Eminence Cardinal Thomas Collins and a wide representation of Christian leaders to pray for the restoration of full visible unity willed by Jesus Christ for the Church at **St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (73 Simcoe St. at King St. W. in Toronto) on Sunday January 22, 2023, at 4 p.m.** This event is jointly organized by the Office for Promoting Christian Unity and the Greater Toronto Area Council of Christian Churches.

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). The 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 via livestream at <https://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live/> The broadcast will begin at 2:15 p.m.

PARISH ENVELOPES 2023

Envelopes for the year 2023 are still available in the parish hall and are in numerical order. If you don't know your envelope number, please refer to the binder with names listed in alphabetical order.

NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 31st New Year's Eve

4:30 pm: Confession
5:30 pm: English Mass
11:00 pm Adoration: Holy Hour in the Church
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)) Kindly note there is no Mass at 7 pm.

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 Tuesday, January 3rd.

SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

We are deeply grateful for all the generous support of our Christmas Drive. We would like to express our thanks to all the sponsors, donors and everyone else that helped to make the work we do so rewarding and joyful. This year all the families who reached out to us received assistance in some combination of sponsorship by individual families or businesses, food vouchers, gift cards for food and toys and miscellaneous other gift cards. In total this year, we helped 76 families comprising of 143 adults and 131 children. Thank you for making all this possible.

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.

New hats scarves, mitts, gloves & socks are being collected. Please bring them in the reception area of the parish office and they will be given to The Good Shepherd & the Ernestine's Shelter. All parishioners are invited to contribute.

CHAPEL

Our parish is honoured with an opportunity to have an adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 24 hours/day, 7 days/week exposed in our chapel for the last 20 years. If you would like to commit one hour a week or be a "backup" to fill in for the hour that adorers on a regular basis cannot do, please leave your name and contact number in the parish office. All are welcome to come and pray.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

The regular collection for Dec. 18th was \$7,315.00. 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.

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING

The Archdiocese of Toronto has established a Pre-Authorized Giving plan (PAG) to help you support the parish's work through your regular offertory gift. To accomplish the mission entrusted to us by Christ, parishes depend entirely on the generosity of their parishioners. Pre-Authorized Giving allows you to donate to your parish through scheduled monthly transfers from your bank account or credit card. These funds are then deposited directly into the parish's account.

There are various benefits of participating in pre-authorized giving, both for you and for your parish.

Advantages for You:

- The convenience of having your offering automatically contributed to the parish.
- Knowing you continue to support the parish even when you are away.
- Continual support of ministries and programs funded through the parish.

Advantages for the Parish:

- Regular, dependable contributions to the parish.
- Reduction of cash on hand. • Reduction of paperwork.

For information on how to enrol, please contact your parish office or email development@archtoronto.org

THE OUTREACH PROGRAM

Most urgently needed are individually packaged snacks, e.g. chips/cookies/granola bars, juices & bottled water, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, bar soap, shampoo, conditioner, men's new underwear, socks, jeans warm gloves, winter hats & scarves, towels. Items can be placed in the blue bin located at the reception area of the parish office.

LA MATERNITÀ DI MARIA

«O Dio, che nella verginità feconda di Maria hai donato agli uomini i beni della salvezza eterna, fa' che sperimentiamo la sua intercessione, poiché per mezzo di lei abbiamo ricevuto l'autore della vita». Così recita l'orazione colletta della Messa di oggi. E possiamo domandarci: che cosa significa per me che Maria sia la Madre di Dio? Come lo sperimento personalmente? Papa Francesco chiarisce che «la Madre del Redentore ci precede e continuamente ci conferma nella fede, nella vocazione e nella missione. Con il suo esempio di umiltà e di disponibilità alla volontà di Dio ci aiuta a tradurre la nostra fede in un annuncio del Vangelo gioioso e senza frontiere. Così la nostra missione sarà feconda, perché è modellata sulla maternità di Maria». (Opus Dei)

Celebriamo anche oggi la Giornata Mondiale della Pace, mettiamo sotto la Madonna il nostro desiderio di pace per fare sì che finiscano le guerre ormai sparse in tutto il mondo.

COLLETTA SETTIMANALE

Grazie per la vostra generosità. La colletta regolare della settimana 18 Dicembre e' stata \$7,315.00. Grazie ancora per il vostro contributo per aiutare con le spese della chiesa. Utimamente abbiamo fatto dei lavoretti di manutenzione che richiedono delle spese...Dio vi benedirà.

MASS INTENTIONS INTENZIONI DELLE MESSE

Sunday January 1 Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God, The Octave
Day of the Nativity of the Lord

7:45 am Pro Populo
9:00 am † Giovanni Vena
10:30 am † Matthew Dishart, † Nicola Biancofiore
12:00 pm † Pierino Marinucci, † Michael D'Cunha
1:30 pm IGBO Mass

Monday January 2 Saint Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and
Doctors of the Church

9:30 am † Adelina & Quiteria Olivera, † Sebastiao Lima ,

Tuesday January 3

9:30 am † Deceased Members of the Soares Family

Wednesday January 4

9:30 am † Stephanie Lanni, † Caetano & Ruth Ratos,
† Mario Ratos, † Marcello Mastrella
† Anthony Misquitta
† Deceased members of the Lyall Family

Thursday January 5

9:30 am † Robert Pereira

Friday January 6

9:30 am † Giuseppe & Giselda Greco, † Fr. Franco Ierardi

Saturday January 7 Saint André Bessette, Religious

9:30 am
3:30 pm Mass at Parkland Seniors' Residence
4:30 pm Confession
5:30 pm

Sunday January 8 The Epiphany of the Lord

7:45 am Pro Populo
9:00 am † Francesco Lenoci, † Michele Di Leo, † Ida Turco,
† Nicola & Maria Colomba Mongelli
† Giuseppe & Angela Abbattista
10:30 am † Mr. Fernandez, † Carlo Borrelli, † Eugenio Borrelli
12:00 pm † Natale D'Urzo
7:00 pm



FEAST OF SANTO NIÑO

Please join us for a special celebration of the Feast of Santo Niño of Cebu to be held on Saturday, January 14th (Rosary at 11 am and Mass at 11:30 am). A pot-luck lunch will be held in the parish hall after Mass and procession. Everyone is invited.

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,
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