

# **THE PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY**

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**Rev. Fr. Charles Collins, Administrator**

**Rev. Fr. Peter Gitendran, In Residence**



*Feast of the Holy Family*



A Christmas Message from the Administrator

My Dear Parishioners in Christ,  
The Light of 'Love' has come to earth. It's a time for us to pause to see this Light and feel its warmth and celebrate its cause.

As we celebrate Christmas Masses, as one big parish family, each one of you can be sure and certain that you are all remembered at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and in the Liturgy of the Office.

The Christmas message is that there is hope for a ruined humanity – hope of glory – because at the Father's will, Jesus became poor, and was born in a stable so that thirty years later, He might hang on a cross.

Whatever the circumstances of your life right now - grief or joy, struggle or success, faith or doubt - Jesus has lived it himself, and he longs to live it with you. The pandemic time and COVID variances have been putting additional struggle and grief in our daily lives. Choose life with Jesus! Let Him be born again in your heart. Allow Him to enter into your moments and give you the life for which you were created.

I would like to thank all of our parishioners for your commitment to our parish this past year. The giving of your time, talent and treasure to the Lord continues to bear fruit for the Kingdom of God. I would also like to extend my gratitude to all who worked so hard to make our liturgies truly wonderful. Thanks to all who were involved in scheduling, coordinating, livestreaming, sanitizing, cleaning and of course, decorating our churches and setting up for the different liturgies, this season and throughout the liturgical year.

I wish you, my dear parishioners, a Holy and Blessed Christmas and Peaceful New Year. May the Love, Joy and Peace of Baby Jesus be in your hearts and your homes.

In Christ,

*Fr. Charles Collins*

**SYNOD ON SYNODALITY**

Pope Francis has launched the Synod on Synodality: a two-year global process of listening to the faithful that will help the Church reflect on how we can do God's will in the world today. The comments of the faithful will ultimately be discussed at a meeting of the bishops in the Vatican in 2023. To learn more about the Synod on Synodality and to share your thoughts, please visit: [www.archtoronto.org/synodality](http://www.archtoronto.org/synodality).



**This week  
The Sanctuary Lamp  
is dedicated**  
In thanksgiving for all the blessings  
received for the year 2021

*requested by  
The Sevilla family*



Mon.	Dec. 27	12:05 pm	Intentions of Venidle Ferreira <i>requested by Angela Cabral</i>
Tue.	Dec. 28	12:05 pm	† Socrates Fernandez, <i>requested the Llarenas family</i>
Wed.	Dec. 29	12:05 pm	Intentions of the parents of Meyardo & Roselyn Sevilla, <i>requested by the Sevilla family</i>
Thur.	Dec.30	12:05 pm	Special intentions of Tirso & Jen Castor on their wedding anniversary, <i>requested by the Sevilla family</i>
Fri.	Dec. 31 <i>[New Yr's. Eve]</i>	5:00 pm	For the good health of all priests, especially Fr. Charles Collins, & Fr. Peter Gitendran <i>requested the Sevilla families</i>
Sat.	Jan. 1 <i>[New Yr.]</i>	8:30 am 10:00 am	For the People of the Parish † Caroline Colaris, <i>requested by Albert Colaris</i>
Sun.	Jan. 2	9:00 am 11:00 am	† Doris Ward, <i>requested by the Catholic Women's League</i> † Sunio, Pereira, Espano, D'Silva families, <i>requested by the Pereira family</i>

**2022 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES**

Your envelopes are now ready for pickup. Please ensure that the box has your correct name & number. Extra boxes are available if you wish to use envelopes – kindly ask one of the volunteers. Thank you for supporting your parish!



**Thursday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 to  
Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
Merry Christmas & many Blessings  
in the New Year! *Clergy & Staff*

## Building Families on Prayer

### The Finding of Jesus in the Temple

Luke 2:41-52

The Holy Family went through many of the same experiences that all parents and children experience today. They too would have had moments of great joy and difficult trials as well as many moments of simple ordinary life. Jesus, Mary and Joseph are the perfect example of how families should live in holiness and stewardship. Let us take some time today, on this Feast of the Holy Family, to seek ways to imitate them.

The Gospel from Luke recounts how “every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover.” Mary and Joseph took their faith very seriously and sought to pass on their beliefs to their child. They realized that while there are many important things that a child needs to grow, their relationship with God should be their first priority. They would have also taken Jesus to the synagogue and taught him how to pray and read the scriptures.

We can take their example to heart by striving to make our

faith the highest priority in our families as well. We can strive to be great parental stewards just like Mary and Joseph. For starters, we should make attending Sunday Mass the most important aspect of our week. We can supplement this by regularly going as a family for times of Confession and trying to pray together at home.

One beautiful practice we can try to adopt is praying the Rosary together. If an entire rosary together is too difficult due to everyone’s schedules, perhaps we can pray just one decade together. Let us commit to making our families beautiful and holy just like that blessed family from Nazareth.

~ Stewardship Bulletin Reflection – Archdiocese of Toronto ~



## New Year's Day Schedule

**New Year Eve:** Friday December 31<sup>st</sup>  
5:00 pm [English]

**New Year's Day:** Saturday January 1<sup>st</sup>  
8:30 am [Bilingual Mass Tamil & English]  
10:00 am [English only]

**Saturday, January 1<sup>st</sup>** – No Sunday Vigil Mass

**Sunday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>** – *Solemnity of the Epiphany of The Lord*  
9:00 am & 11:00 am

**To reserve your seat, please remember to sign up for ALL Masses. SPACE IS LIMITED!**

Thank you for your cooperation.

## CHRISTMAS - Q & A

**Q. When does Christmas officially end?**

**A.** The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the vigil Mass on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

**Q. What is the Octave of Christmas - December 25 – January 1 (inclusive)?**

**A.** An octave extends the celebration of a feast or solemnity for eight days. During the Octave of Christmas, for example, all the readings and prayers during the celebration of Mass are related to the birth of Christ. Octave celebrations got their start in the Church way back in the fourth century. The “octave day” (eighth day) of Christmas is January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God—a holy day on which all Catholics are obliged to celebrate Mass.

**Q. Explain the Twelve Days of Christmas (Christmastide) December 26 – January 6 (or Epiphany)**

**A.** Traditionally, the twelve days of Christmas begin on December 26 and end on January 6, the traditional date of Epiphany. Epiphany means “manifestation” or “appearance.” So while the baptism of Christ marks the beginning of his public ministry, it is also part of his “manifestation” or “appearance”—one of the events signaling that God has broken into human history in a unique way.

**Q. Is every day Christmas for Catholics?**

**A.** For Catholics, every day is, in the most basic sense, Christmas. That’s because every day, the Word becomes flesh in the sacraments, particularly the Eucharist; and through the sacraments, the people of God become of the Body of Christ in the world. Just as Mary’s “yes” made her an instrument of God’s incarnation in the world, by our “yes,” we too birth the Son of God into the world.

## Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God January 1<sup>st</sup>



Through this Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, the Church tells us that we should not be afraid, that we should prepare ourselves for the beginning of the New Year by asking Our Lord and our Most Beloved Mother, the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, to come to our aid.

We should ask her, not just today – although on this solemnity is an especially important occasion for doing so – but always, to help us to

live like people who have been renewed, ready, with her aid, to identify ourselves more closely with the teachings of the Church and with the Commandments, so that we may follow Christ more closely.



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