

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

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

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



Oh Come  
Let us Adore Him

**THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**


The Feast of the Holy Family is an essential part of the Christmas Season. It makes clear that the Incarnation means not just that the Divine Word assumed a human body, but entered into every aspect of human life, including family life sanctifying it all and making it a path to holiness.



The feast of the Holy Family reminds us that, as Vatican II teaches, all human beings are called to the heights of holiness. That all states in life, including student, teenager, and parent, offer abundant opportunities to grow in faith, hope, and love. That the nitty gritty of family life, if approached right, can be a road to profound personal transformation and communion with God.

The creator of the universe spent most of his human life as a craftsman, working with dad in the family business and ultimately taking it over. Mary, the holiest of all creatures, spent most of her time changing diapers, cooking, and cleaning. The secret to holiness is not to do extraordinary things, but to do ordinary things with extraordinary love and gratitude (Colossians 3:15-17). ~ Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio ~



This week   
**The Sanctuary Lamp**  
 is dedicated  
**For the repose of the souls of**  
**Frs. Peter Tammearu**  
**& EdwinD'Souza**  
 requested by  
 Alice & Brian Warford

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Monday [New Yr's day]	Jan. 1	10:00 am	For the People of the Parish
Tuesday	Jan. 2	12:05 pm	
Wednesday	Jan. 3	12:05 pm	In thanksgiving & intentions of Amor Ignacio on his 70th birthday, <i>requested by Nila De Lara</i>
Thursday	Jan. 4	12:05 pm	
1 <sup>st</sup> Friday	Jan. 5	12:05 pm	† Marcenne Mansour, <i>requested by Carol Morra</i>
1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	Jan. 6	9:00 am	In thanksgiving & intentions of Sonia Javier, <i>requested by Sonia</i>
Sunday	Jan. 7	5:00 pm	For the People of the Paish
		9:00 am	† Jorgina Medeiros, <i>requested by Ida Medeiros</i>
		11:00 am	† Ildelfonsa Predenciado, <i>requested by Thelma Potal &amp; family</i>

**MASS SCHEDULE**  
 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish  
**Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023**  
**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**  
 9 am & 11 am

**New Year's Eve \***  
 5:00 p.m.

**Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024**  
**Mary, The Holy Mother of God**  
*[New Year's Day] \**  
 10:00 a.m.

*\* A Holy Day of Obligation for all Catholics*

**OFFICE OF VOCATIONS**  
 ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO  
 Serra's 'Vocation Seeds'

By Baptism we are God's holy family. Pray today for the grace to live faithfully your vocation as a single, married, ordained or consecrated person. If God is calling you, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email: [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)

## MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

January 1<sup>st</sup>, Feast of Mary, the Mother of God is a very appropriate way to begin a new year. This celebration reminds us that the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, is also our Heavenly Mother. This is an occasion to renew our devotion to Mary, who is also Mother of the Church because she is our spiritual mother — and we are the Church.



In 1970, Pope St. Paul VI instituted the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. In his encyclical on devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, *Marialis Cultus*, he wrote, “This celebration, assigned to Jan. 1st in conformity with the ancient liturgy

of the city of Rome, is meant to commemorate the part played by Mary in this mystery of salvation. It is meant also to exalt the singular dignity which this mystery brings to the ‘holy Mother ... through whom we were found worthy ... to receive the Author of life.’ The solemnity shows the relationship of Jesus to Mary. It’s a perfect example of how we should venerate Mary under all of her titles and is a good foundation for our understanding of Mary’s place in Christology. The Church puts the feast of this solemnity on the first day of the New Year to emphasize the importance of Mary’s role in the life of Christ and of the Church. We commemorate the various saints on the different days of the year, but Mary is the most prominent of them all. She has a special role and mission given to her by God. As Mother of our Redeemer and of the redeemed, she reigns as the Queen at the side of Christ the King. She is a powerful intercessor for all of our needs here on earth. In celebrating her special feast day, we acknowledge this great gift for the Church and world; we call on her to be actively involved in our daily life; we imitate her virtuous life as a great inspiration; and we cooperate with all the graces we get through her.”

- ◆ Let us strive to be pure and holy like our Heavenly Mother. Promise her that we will practice her virtues of Faith, obedience, purity and humble service
- ◆ We need our Heavenly Mother’s prayers to have a better physical life and spiritual life in the New Year so that we may glorify God.
- ◆ We need to honor Mary as the Mother of Jesus. We do so by actively participating in today’s Mass and in all the Marian feasts of the Church throughout the year.

~ Fr. Antony Kadavil~

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION



Registration for Sacramental Preparation is still open. Information sheets and registration forms are available in a binder at the entrance of the church; or if you require assistance, kindly check with one of the ushers.



**Note:** These forms are also available on our parish website and can be downloaded via the following link:

<https://immaculateheartofmarysc.archtoronto.org/en/parish-life/downloadable-forms/>

**All completed registration forms must be returned to the Parish office no later than January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024.** Any registration received after this date will not be accepted as books and supplies need to be ordered and classes will resume the following week.

## 2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Will be available for pick up after all Masses or at the parish office.

### Tips:

- ◆ Ensure that the box of offertory has your correct name and address.
- ◆ Prior to using the 2024 envelopes, please **discard** all 2023 and previous years envelopes.
- ◆ Fill out all information on the first FOUR envelopes that you use. **Please print clearly.**



## OFFICE



**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED**

**Friday, December 22nd, 2023**

**&**

**WILL REOPEN**

**Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

## LIVESTREAM MASSES

Effective January 2, 2024, Masses will no longer be livestreamed during the week except on Sundays at the 11:00 am Mass.





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