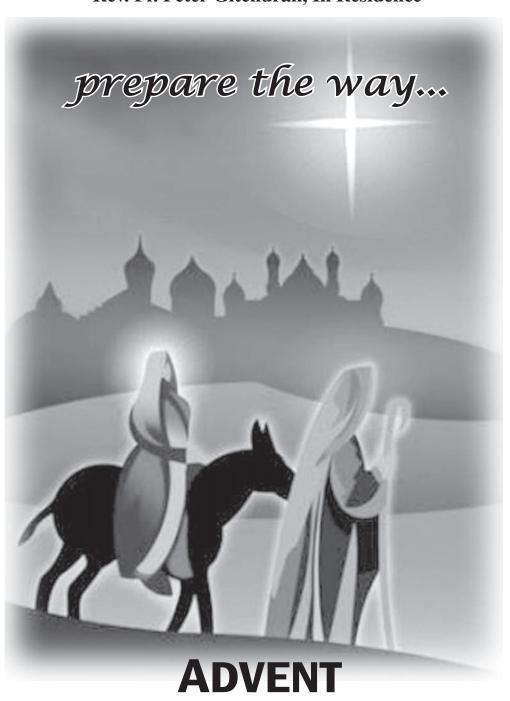
THE PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

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Rev. Fr. Charles Collins, Administrator Rev. Fr. Peter Gitendran, In Residence





May you heart be lifted in praise this Christmas for the wonderful Gift of Jesus and the joy which he brings into our lives.

My Dear Parishioners in Christ,

I am very happy to express my Christmas love and prayers to each and everyone of you.

Thank you for the love and support. Sincere thanks to all those who have shared their time and talent at the church and at the parish office. May the spirit of Christmas be with you all year round in 2025 and always!

Wishing you and your loved ones a blessed Christmas and New Year!

With Love & Prayers, Fr. Charles



Christmas Prayer by Pope John XXIII's

Sweet Child of Bethlehem,

grant that we may share with all our hearts in this profound mystery of Christmas.

Put into the hearts of men and women this peace for which they sometimes seek so desperately and which you alone can give to them.

Help them to know one another better, and to live as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father.

Reveal to them also your beauty, holiness and purity.

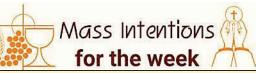
Awaken in their hearts

love and gratitude for your infinite goodness.

Join them all together in your love.

And give us your heavenly peace.

Amen.



Monday, December 23rd

12:05 pm In thanksgiving for all God's blessings & for the intentions of Letty Denovan requested by Letty Denovan

Tuesday, December 24th - Christmas Eve

5:00 pm In thanksgiving requested by the San Juan Family

9:30 pm † Eulalie Rosetta & Otto Raymond Mapp requested by their son, Anthony Michael Mapp

Wednesday, December 25th – Christmas Day

10:00 am For the People of the Parish

Thursday, December 26th

12:05 pm † Alice Farrell requested by Mary Leithwood & family

Friday, December 27th

12:05 pm † Victoria Grace & Emiliano Silverio *requested by the Ramajo family*

Saturday, December 28th

9:00 am † Richard Ainey requested by Nuala & David Bourke

5:00 pm † Morgan Anthony Jude Leithwood requested by Mary Martin & family

Sunday, December 29th Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

9:00 am For the Protection of Unborn Children requested by Masses for Life Project

11:00 am † Socrates Fernandes requested by the Llarenas family

ATTENTION YOUNG ACTORS!!

We are currently looking for children to participate in our



Christmas Pageant this year at the 5pm Mass. Anyone interested in playing a Part should contact Alice at the parish office, 416-691-6968, on Tuesdays or Fridays.

Practice sessions will be on Sunday, Dec. 15^{th} and 22^{nd} after the 9 am Mass.

Look forward to meeting this year's stars!!!

Christmas Quote



"Only if people change will the world change; and in order to change, people need the light that comes from God, the light which so unexpectedly [on the night of Christmas] entered into our night." ~ Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Lessons from our Mother The Visitation Luke 1.39-45

Mother Mary becomes the focal point of the Gospel on this fourth Sunday of Advent. Our Lady, shortly after discovering that she will conceive the Son of God, goes in haste to assist her cousin Elizabeth. After Jesus, Mary is the perfect model and example of how to live a life of deep stewardship. Let us take some time to reflect on this episode and glean insights on how we can better imitate her.



Firstly, we can learn a great lesson from how Mary "went with haste" to help Elizabeth. As stewards, we should not sit idle by and be half-hearted in our attempts to serve our neighbour. Whenever we see a need in our parish community, let us strive to utilize our gifts to readily offer our help and support.

Secondly, we should try to imitate Mary in her role of bringing Jesus to others. It wasn't so much Mary who brought help and comfort to Elizabeth, but rather, it was the presence of Jesus dwelling within her. As stewards, we need to constantly remind ourselves that it is not our own merits that bring about good and conversion in our parish. Rather, we must realize that everything is a result of the grace of God that is working through us. Let us conclude with the beautiful words of St. Teresa of Calcutta who says, "I'm a little pencil in the hand of a writing God, who is sending a love letter to the world."

Summary

After Jesus, Mary is the perfect model and example of how to live a life of deep stewardship and we can learn a great deal by reflecting on her visitation. Firstly, we should imitate Mary's "haste" in her visitation so that whenever we see a need in our parish community, we can readily use our gifts to help. Secondly, just as Mary brought the Child Jesus with her in her womb, we too need to constantly remind ourselves that it is not our own merits that bring about good, but Christ dwelling within us.

~ Stewardship Bulletin Reflection – Archdiocese of Toronto ~

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE



Christmas Eve – Tuesday, December 24th 5:00 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.

Christmas Day – Wednesday, December 25th 10:00 a.m.



New Year's Eve – Tuesday, December 31st 5:00 p.m.

Mary, The Holy Mother of God – Wednesday, January 1st [New Year's Day] 10:00 a.m.

ST. STEPHEN Feast day: December 26th



A short biography of the world's first Christian martyr, Saint Stephen. A deacon in the early Catholic church, Stephen was martyred for publicly teaching the Truth revealed by Jesus Christ. His words angered members of the Sanhedrin and he was dragged out beyond the gates of Jerusalem

and stoned to death.

St. Stephen is the patron saint of deacons, altar servers, stonemasons and casket makers. Saint Stephen lived an exemplary life as one of the seven deacons appointed by the Apostles to perform charitable acts to the poor. As his feast day draws near, let us look back to his life and legacy and look for lessons we can learn from it.



Holiday Office Hours Closed from Monday, December 23rd Will reopen on Monday, January 6th, 2025







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