

THE PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

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*Father, You revealed Your Son to the nations
by the guidance of a star. Lead us to
Your Glory in Heaven by the Light of Faith.*

Being a Visible Witness
The Visit of the Wise Men

As we continue along in this wondrous season of Christmas, we are invited to reflect on the Epiphany of the Lord this Sunday. The word epiphany means “to make manifest” or “to make known.” So on this feast day we are celebrating how God made himself known to all the nations, which is symbolized through the visit of the foreign Magi. As stewards, we are called to help the Church in her efforts to continue to make Christ known to the ends of the earth.

The way of stewardship is essentially a call to evangelization. The greatest gift we can share with others is not money or food, but the knowledge and love of Christ. Pope Francis says that “we cannot keep ourselves shut up in parishes, in our communities, when so many people are waiting for the Gospel!” We must go out of our comfort zone to bring others to Jesus.



One way we can evangelize others is by simply living as visible Catholic disciples in our world. In today’s secular culture, any act of religiosity is seen as a radical witness of our faith. For example, whenever we are eating in public, we can begin with the

sign of the cross and our grace before meals. Moreover, St. John Paul II said that we should not be “ashamed to recite the Rosary alone, while you walk along the streets to school, to the university or to work, or as you commute by public transport.” Let us strive to be a sign of our faith to the world.

Summary

The feast of the Epiphany of the Lord celebrates how God made himself known to all the nations, which is symbolized through the visit of the foreign Magi. As stewards, we are called to help the Church in her efforts to make Christ known to the ends of the earth and we can do this by simply being a visible witness of our faith. Let us strive to make small actions that display our love for Christ such as saying grace before meals in public, praying the rosary on the bus or saying “God bless you” when someone sneezes or we say goodbye.

~ Stewardship Bulletin Reflection – Archdiocese of Toronto ~



Mass Intentions
for the week

Monday, January 6th

12:05 pm † Deceased members of Francis Cardoz family
requested by Dominic Cardoz

Tuesday, January 7th

12:05 pm

Wednesday, January 8th

10:00 am † Michael Roque on his 1st year death anniversary
requested by Myla Carlos

Thursday, January 9th

12:05 pm

Friday, January 10th

12:05 pm

Saturday, January 11th

9:00 am † Hubert Pereira
requested by the Pereira family

5:00 pm † Luigi Patrizi
requested by Jeanette & Stewart Paul

Sunday, January 12th – Baptism of the Lord

9:00 am For the People of the Parish

11:00 am † Fidelito Sanchez
requested by Julie Gatranton & family



Registration

Kindergarten Registration opens in January 22nd, 2025 for children born in 2020.

Please note: Children baptized in a recognized Christian Orthodox Church affiliated with the See of Constantinople or Alexandria are welcome to apply

For further assistance or clarification, please contact the Immaculate Heart of Mary School at 416-393-5272.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration takes place every Friday at our parish at 11 am followed by Mass at 12:05 pm.

What is Adoration?

When Catholics say they are “going to Adoration,” they are typically referring to Eucharistic Adoration. Which, in the most basic terms, is the worship of the Eucharist outside of the Mass. The Eucharistic Host is displayed in a monstrance on the altar so that all can see and pray in the presence of Christ.



The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us that, “Adoration is the first attitude of man acknowledging that he is a creature before his Creator. It exalts the greatness of the Lord who made us and the almighty power of the Savior who sets us free from evil. Adoration is homage of the spirit to the “King of Glory,” respectful silence in the presence of the “ever

greater” God. Adoration of the thrice-holy and sovereign God of love blends with humility and gives assurance to our supplications.” (CCC 2628)

We can show our adoration to God in many ways, **but in Eucharistic Adoration, we spend time adoring the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist.**

The Saints Encourage Us to Go to Adoration

“Whenever I go to the chapel, I put myself in the presence of our good Lord, and I say to him, ‘Lord, I am here. Tell me what you would have me to do’ . . . And then, I tell God everything that is in my heart. I tell him about my pains and my joys, and then I listen. If you listen, God will also speak to you, for with the good Lord, you have to both speak and listen. God always speaks to you when you approach him plainly and simply.”

~ St. Catherine Labouré ~

PERSONAL PRAYER



Personal prayer is important in the promotion of our living relationship as children of God with our Father who is goodness itself, with Jesus Christ his Son and our Redeemer, and with the Holy Spirit our Sanctifier. A life of

prayer is the habit of being in the presence of the thrice-holy God and in communion with him (cf. CCC, n. 2565).



The Church will be opened from 5pm - 7pm, Monday to Friday for personal prayer.

LOCAL EVENTS

IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

As communicated by Archbishop Leo, there will be a series of local events to celebrate this significant moment for the Archdiocese of Toronto. In addition to the celebration noted below at St. Michael’s Cathedral (electronic invitations to follow in the coming weeks), Regional Masses will celebrate our new cardinal as well as the blessed Jubilee Year which opens on December 29. Please take note of the events for your own calendar, all of which will start at 7:00 p.m.:

St. Michael’s Cathedral (Mass to celebrate elevation to the College of Cardinals - by invitation only) – Wednesday, January 15, 2025 (Mass only, no reception following Mass)

Western Region - Wednesday, January 29, 2025 – St. Mary’s Parish, Brampton

Northern Region – Tuesday, February 4, 2025 – St. Padre Pio Parish, Kleinburg

Eastern Region – Wednesday, February 19, 2025 – St. Barnabas Parish, Scarborough

Central Region – Tuesday, February 25, 2025 – St. Edward the Confessor Parish, North York

YEAR OF JUBILEE

Pilgrimage for Young Adults

The Archdiocese of Toronto’s Office of Catholic Youth is excited to announce that the Jubilee for Youth is filling up fast, with 60 per cent of our 100 spots already taken! The pilgrimage to Rome will take place from July 23 to August 5.

Registrations are open to all young adults ages 19 to 39 until the end of February 2025, so there’s still time to secure a spot. Don’t miss out—register today at <https://form.jotform.com/242754342056253!>

2025 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Your envelopes can still be picked up at all Sunday Masses or contact the parish office.

- ◆ Before using the envelopes, please ensure that your name & address is correct on the label.
- ◆ Discard all 2024 envelopes prior to using the new 2025 ones & following the instructions labelled on the box.
- ◆ If you are new to the parish, please fill out a parish registration form – one of the volunteers will be able to assist you. Completed forms can be placed in the offertory basket or dropped off at the parish office.

Thank you for your co-operation!



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