

THE PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

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Website: www.immaculateheartofmarysc.archtoronto.org

Rev. Fr. Charles Collins, Pastor

Rev. Fr. Peter Gitendran, In Residence



MASS SCHEDULE

Monday to Friday at 12:05 pm

Saturday at 9:00 am & 5:00 pm (Sunday Vigil)

Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every Friday at 11:00 am

FATIMA DEVOTION

Every 1st Saturday of the month
following the 9:00 am Mass

LIVESTREAM MASS [English]

<https://www.youtube.com/@olghtamilparish/streams>

Sunday at 11:00 am

CONFESSIONS

Monday to Friday at 11:30 am | Saturday at 4:30 pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Susan Lee, Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

(Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, RCIA)

Alice Warford, Sacramental Coordinator

awarford@archtoronto.org

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Jeanette Paul: 647.428.2880

ihmscarborough.svd@gmail.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Selva S.: 647.656.0846

LEGION OF MARY

Br. Joseph Douris: 416.691.6968

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Alice Warford: 416.453.3965

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY SCHOOL

416.393.5272

OUR LADY OF GOOD HEALTH PARISH

Rev. Fr. Charles Collins, Pastor: 416.264.6544

Sunday Masses at 12:30 & 4:30 pm (in Tamil)

Rejoicing amidst the Darkness

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.” These are the words proclaimed in the entrance antiphon of Mass for Gaudete Sunday this week. It urges us to constantly rejoice in the Lord, and as good stewards of Christ, we should always strive to live lives inundated with the joy that flows from the Lord.

In order to do this, we must understand the difference between joy and happiness, for the Lord never promised us happiness. Instead He says, **“I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete”** (John 15:11). Happiness is a result of our good circumstances, because we feel good, or we had something positive happen to us, etc. Joy on the other hand goes much deeper. Henri Nouwen describes it as *“the experience of knowing that you are unconditionally loved and that nothing -- sickness, failure, emotional distress, oppression, war, or even death -- can take that love away.”*

So, joy is the ability to remain happy due to our awareness of being beloved sons and daughters of God even amidst the trials of our life. Henri Nouwen further describes joy as a choice we must make every day. How often in our difficult lives do we take solace and rejoice in our identities of being beloved children of God? This Gaudete Sunday let us strive to be more intentionally joyful, and to pray to Christ for strength, for He says, *“Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete”* (John 16:24).

Summary

Gaudete Sunday urges us to constantly rejoice in the Lord. Henri Nouwen describes joy as the ability to remain happy due to our awareness of being beloved children of God even amidst the trials of our life. So let us strive to be more intentionally joyful, and to pray to Christ for strength, for He says, *“Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete”* (John 16:24).

~ Stewardship Bulletin Reflection – Archdiocese of Toronto ~



Thank You!

FOR SUPPORTING WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to give a big thank-you to all our amazing parishioners for supporting our World Day of the Poor. Thank you to all who contributed to our collection. Your kindness brings hope and support to those most in need.

May God bless you for your generosity!



Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Monday December 15th

12:05 pm † Monica & Russel Masters
requested by Henry Masters

Tuesday, December 16th

12:05 pm † Joel Aljandro on his death anniversary
requested by Josephine

Wednesday, December 17th

9:45 am [School Mass]

12:05 pm In thanksgiving & intentions of Leo & Virgie on their 42nd wedding anniversary
requested by Virgie & Leo Luzano

Thursday, December 18th

12:05 pm In thanksgiving & intentions of Guelmar & Maria Sulay on their wedding anniversary
requested by the Sulay family

Friday, December 19th

12:05 pm † Jorgina Medeiros on her death anniversary
requested by Ida & family

Saturday, December 20th

9:00 am † Emily Nephin
requested by Alice & Brian Warford

5:00 pm † Maggie D'Souza
requested by Annie D'Cunha & family

Sunday, December 21st

9:00 am In thanksgiving & intentions of Joshua Rampersaud on his birthday & graduation
requested by Vanessa Rampersaud

11:00 am † Teodulo Hipolito
requested by the Llarenas family

CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

St. Vincent de Paul will be hosting a food drive to help



those in need of food over the holidays. Beginning the first weekend of advent, November 29th & 30th to December 22nd, 2025. The food will be donated to the Good Shepherd.

Please make an effort to help the less fortunate. A drop off bin will be available at the entrance of the church. Most needed items are peanut butter, canned meats and vegetables, rice coffee, cereal, juice boxes and granola bars. Thank you!

FORGIVEN AND FREE: Advent and Confession

The Sacrament of Penance is especially important as a way to bring order into our hearts and souls during these often bewildering times, when chaos seems to reign in the world around us.

The Season of Advent challenges us to “*prepare the way of the Lord*” and to “*make straight his paths.*” The Sacrament of Penance is especially important as a way to bring order into our hearts and souls during these often bewildering times, when chaos seems to reign in the world around us.

Can God forgive my sins?

Yes! God can do anything, and He wants very much to show you His love and mercy. St. Paul teaches us, “*This saying is trustworthy and deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners*” (1 Tim 1:15). The very reason God sent his only Son to live among us, to suffer and die for us and to rise from the dead was so that He could save us from sin and death. No matter what sins you have committed, and no matter how many times or for how many months or even years you have committed them, God can forgive you, and He wants to do so more than you can possibly imagine.

Why should I go to Confession?

In His kindness, God has not left us in the dark about how we are to have our sins forgiven. On the evening of the first Easter Sunday, Jesus Christ appeared to His apostles and said to them, “*Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.*” And, we read further in the Gospel according to John, “*And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained’*” (Jn 20:21-23). Jesus entrusted the power of His forgiveness to His first priests, the apostles, and in turn, to all of the bishops and priests of the Church who would follow after them. In the Sacrament of Penance (or Reconciliation), known also as “confession”, priests share the gift of God’s forgiveness with those who are sorry for their sins and who are ready to confess those sins and live a new life.

Approaching a priest for confession can make a person kind of nervous. Priests also go to confession regularly, so they understand how you feel! But, the Sacrament of Penance is about God’s love, His mercy, and the freedom that comes with knowing that your sins are forgiven. Many Catholics would undoubtedly agree that the most consoling words they ever hear in this life are those they hear near the end of their confessions, when the priest says, “*I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*”

~ by Fr. Charles Fox ~

DAY OF CONFESSIONS FOR ADVENT

Confession during Advent is a crucial spiritual preparation for Christmas, allowing us to receive God's mercy, cleanse our souls, and truly welcome Jesus' birth with a pure heart! Our parish day of Confessions will take place on **Tuesday, December 16th** at the following times:

- ❖ 10 am to 11:45 am & 1 pm to 2 pm
- ❖ 6 pm to 7 pm & 8 pm to 9 pm

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

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

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



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

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
[New Year's Day]
Thursday, January 1st
10:00 a.m.

JUBILEE 2025

The Jubilee Year will conclude on **Sun. Dec. 28, 2025**. In his homily at each of the Jubilee Regional Masses, Cardinal Leo strongly encouraged us to consider a visit/pilgrimage to one or more of the designated Pilgrimage Churches in the Archdiocese of Toronto during this special year of blessings. A listing of these churches and resources for your visit can be found at:



<https://www.archtoronto.org/en/offices-and-ministries/sub-sites/year-of-prayer/home/pilgrimage-churches/>

In addition, for those wishing to receive a Plenary Indulgence through their visit to a Pilgrimage church, further information can be found at:

<https://www.archtoronto.org/en/offices-and-ministries/sub-sites/year-of-prayer/home/plenary-indulgence/>



The Catholic Women's League will be having their annual Christmas Raffle. Tickets go on sale starting this weekend and will be available at all the Masses every weekend until the fourth week of Advent December 22. The Draw will take place immediately following the 11 am Mass on that same day. Tickets will be 3 for \$5.00 10 for \$10.00 or two arms for \$20.00. Please support these ladies and all they do for the parish.



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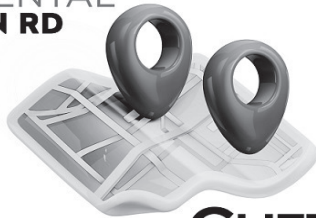
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