

# St. Joseph Parish

*Served by the Holy Cross Fathers*



## UNITY IN DIVERSITY

"Moved by the Good News of Jesus Christ... We *Journey with St. Joseph*"

**Pastor:** Fr. Francis Noronha, C.S.C.  
**Secretary & Finance:** Erma Relunia  
**Custodian:** Allan Cobham

**MASS TIMES:**  
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 am  
Wednesday & Friday 7:00 pm  
Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm  
Sunday 10:00 am

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday: 9:30am to 12:30pm  
Wednesday: 5:00pm - 7:00pm & Office is closed on Fridays.

## CELEBRATION OF SACRAMENTS

**Music Ministry:**  
Megan Montifar, Daniel Mehdizadeh and Eric Fahn

**Sacrament of Baptism:**  
Celebrated on Sundays at 2:30pm or during Sunday Mass.  
Please contact the office for more details.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**  
Saturday before the vigil mass or on request anytime.

## PARISH MINISTRIES

Altar Servers	Parish Council
Children's Liturgy	Prayer Group
Collection Counters	Refugee Sponsorship
Communion to the Sick	Sacristans
Eucharistic Ministries	Seniors Group
Finance Council	Social Justice
Fundraising Committee	St. Vincent de Paul
Girl Guides	Youth Group
Hospitality	Ushers/Usherettes
Knights of Columbus	
Lectors	<i>* If you feel called to serve the church through any of these ministries, please call the parish office.*</i>
Liturgical Planners	
Music Ministry	

**Sacrament of Marriage:**  
Please contact the office for more information.

**Ministry to and Anointing of the Sick:**  
Please advise us if you have someone ill at home, hospital or in a nursing home so that we can minister to them.

**St. Vincent de Paul Society:** 416-546-4044

**New members please register at the office.**

**St. Joseph's School:** 416-393-5209

**Hall Rental:**  
Please contact **Margaret MacDonald** at 416-463-8638

162 Leslie St. Toronto, ON M4M 3C7

**Tel:** 416-466-7815 or 647-967-5712  
**Fax:** 416-619-4477

**Email:** [stjosephparishtoronto@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephparishtoronto@gmail.com)  
**Website:** <https://stjosephsto.archtoronto.org>

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT — YEAR B: DECEMBER 3, 2017

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## The First Week of Advent

As we begin Advent, we light one candle in the midst of all the darkness in our lives and in the world. It symbolizes our longing, our desire, our hope. Three “advents” or “comings” shape our desire. We want to be renewed in a sense that Jesus came to save us from our sin and death. We want to experience his coming to us now, in our everyday lives, to help us live our lives with meaning and purpose. And we want to prepare for his coming to meet us at the end of our lives on this earth.



So, we begin with our longing, our desire and our hope.

**When we wake up, each day this week, we could light that candle, just by taking a few moments to focus.** We could pause for a minute at the side of our bed, or while putting on our slippers or our robe, and light an *inner* candle. Who among us doesn't have time to pause for a moment? We could each find our own way to pray something like this:

“Lord, the light I choose to let into my life today is based on my trust in you. It is a weak flame, but I so much desire that it dispel a bit more darkness today. Today, I just want to taste the longing I have for you as I go to the meeting this morning, carry out the responsibilities of my work, face the frustration of some difficult relationships. Let this candle be my reminder today of my hope in your coming.”

**Each morning this week**, that momentary prayer might get more specific, as it prepares us for the day we will face. And as we head to work, walk to a meeting, rush through lunch, take care of errands, meet with people, pick up the phone to return some calls, answer e-mail, return home to prepare a meal, listen to the ups and downs of our loved ones' day, we can take brief moments to relate our desire for the three comings of the Lord to our life.

If our family has an Advent wreath, or even if it doesn't, we could pray together before our evening meal. As we light the first candle on the wreath, or as we simply pause to pray together our normal grace. Then, as we begin to eat, we can invite each other, including the children, to say something about what it means today to light this first candle.

**And every night this week**, we can pause briefly, perhaps as we sit for a minute at the edge of the bed. We can be aware of how that one, small candle's worth of desire brought light into this day. And we can give thanks. Going to bed each night this week with some gratitude is part of the preparation for growing anticipation and desire.

***Come, Lord Jesus! Come and visit your people.  
We await your coming. Come, O Lord.***

Source: “Taken from Creighton University's *Online Ministries* website: [www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html](http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html). Used with Permission.”

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## UPCOMING PROGRAMS FOR ADVENT....

**December 2/3:** Beginning of Season of Advent. Blessing of Advent wreath... sale of Christmas balls before and after the Masses.

**Monday, December 4:** Advent School Reconciliation from 9:30am to 12:30pm.

**Wednesday, December 13:** Parish Confessions from 5:00pm to 7:00pm both in English and Portuguese.

**Wednesday, December 13:** School Parish Advent Mass at 7:00pm... All are welcome.

**Sunday, December 17:** Parish Bake Sale after the 10:00am Mass at the Parish Hall.

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## PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING...

As the year 2017 comes to end soon it is time for new envelopes. I would encourage you to consider pre-authorized giving. It's easy and convenient both for the donor and parish. For more information please talk to Fr. Francis.

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT — YEAR B: DECEMBER 3, 2017

Message of Pope Francis for the *FIRST WORLD DAY OF THE POOR*

*Let us love, not with words but with deeds*

2. “This poor person cried, and the Lord heard him” (Ps 34:6). The Church has always understood the importance of this cry. We possess an outstanding testimony to this in the very first pages of the Acts of the Apostles, where Peter asks that seven men, “full of the Spirit and of wisdom” (6:3), be chosen for the ministry of caring for the poor. This is certainly one of the first signs of the entrance of the Christian community upon the world’s stage: the service of the poor. The earliest community realized that being a disciple of Jesus meant demonstrating fraternity and solidarity, in obedience to the Master’s proclamation that the poor are *blessed* and *heirs* to the Kingdom of heaven (cf. Mt 5:3). “They sold their possessions and goods and distributed them to all, as any had need” (Acts 2:45). In these words, we see clearly expressed the lively concern of the first Christians. The evangelist Luke, who more than any other speaks of mercy, does not exaggerate when he describes the practice of sharing in the early community. On the contrary, his words are addressed to believers in every generation, and thus also to us, in order to sustain our own witness and to encourage our care for those most in need. The same message is conveyed with similar conviction by the Apostle James. In his Letter, he spares no words: “Listen, my beloved brethren. Has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you, and drag you into court? ... What does it profit, my brethren, if a man says he has faith but has not works? Can his faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and in lack of daily food, and one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace, be warmed and filled’, without giving them the things needed for the body; what does it profit? So faith by itself, if it has not works, is dead’ (2:5-6.14-17)

.... to be continued....

## RED CHRISTMAS BALLS... BAKE SALE

Each December, Christmas balls are available to be placed on the parish Christmas trees in memory of loved ones. Christmas Balls will be available after all weekend Masses commencing December 2, 2017, and will cost \$5.00 each. Upon purchase of a Christmas Ball, your name will be entered into a draw for a Christmas Basket. The draw will take place on Sunday, **December 17, 2017, at our Annual Bake Sale** in the Parish Hall after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Please keep the date open as Santa Clause will be a special guest.

Please bring baked goods for the sale. All proceeds will be applied to Parish Projects.

## Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Special thanks to the members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society for reaching out the people in need in our neighbourhood. We distribute food vouchers, TTC tokens, Tim Hortons cards, clothing vouchers to people in need. They also distributed winter clothes to 21 families. They will be reaching out to people with Christmas help on the 16 of December. Thank you so much for your dedication to reach out to the poor.

## Collection...

**This weekend and next weekend** we will be taking up special collections to help neighbours in need during Christmas. Please use **St. Vincent de Paul Society envelopes** to make your donations. Thank you for supporting St. Vincent de Paul Society.

## TOTAL COLLECTIONS:

Weekly	2038.50
Candles	297.00
Shepherd Trust	60.00

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Sunday, December 3

10:00am † † *Jamie & Helen De Souza*

Req. Delfina De Souza

### Monday, December 4

9:00am † † *Marion & Ron Morrison*

Req. Pat Scannell

† *Joy Aquino*

Req. Julie Ordoña

### Tuesday, December 5

9:00am † *For all the priests who have died*

Req. Jenny Lee

### Wednesday, December 6

7:00pm † *Michael Romano*

Req. Marisa Romano

### Thursday, December 7

9:00 am † *Rosalina Perez*

Req. Laura & Allan Selman

*In honour of the Immaculate Conception*

Req. Alfredo Costa

### Friday, December 8

7:00pm † † *Virgilio Ordoña & Luisa Dumlao*

Req. Julie Ordoña

### Saturday, December 9

5:00pm † *Maria Alexandrina*

Req. Emmanuel Medeiros

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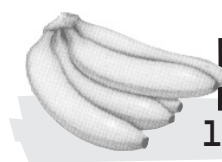
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