

# 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.

### Music Ministry:

Megan Montifar, Daniel Mehdizadeh and Eric Fahn

### 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	
Liturgical Planners	
Music Ministry	

*\* If you feel called to serve the church through any of these ministries, please call the parish office.\**

### CELEBRATION OF SACRAMENTS

#### 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.

#### 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>

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT —YEAR B: DECEMBER 17, 2017

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*Gaudete Week*

Our week begins with “Gaudete Sunday.” *Gaudete* means “rejoice” in Latin. It comes from the first word of the Entrance antiphon on Sunday. The spirit of joy that begins this week comes from the words of Paul, “The Lord is near.” This joyful spirit is marked by the third candle of our Advent wreath, which is rose colored, and the rose colored vestments often used at the Eucharist.



The second part of Advent begins on December 17th each year. For the last eight days before Christmas, the plan of the readings changes. The first readings are still from the prophecies, but now the gospels are from the infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke. We read the stories of faithful women and men who prepared the way for our salvation. We enter into the story of how Jesus' life began. These stories are filled with hints of what his life will mean for us. Faith and generosity overcome impossibility. Poverty and persecution reveal glory.

*Preparing our Hearts and asking for Grace*

We prepare this week by feeling the joy. We move through this week feeling a part of the waiting world that rejoices because our longing has prepared us to believe the reign of God is close at hand. And so we consciously ask:

*Prepare our hearts and remove the sadness that hinders us from feeling the joy and hope which his presence will bestow.*

Each morning this week, in that brief moment we are becoming accustomed to, we want to light a *third* inner candle. Three candles, going from expectation, to longing, to joy. They represent our inner preparation, or inner *perspective*. In this world of “conflict and division,” “greed and lust for power,” we begin each day this week with a sense of liberating joy. Perhaps we can pause, breathe deeply and say,

*“My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my savior.”*

Each day this week, we will continue to go through our everyday life, but we will experience the difference our faith can bring to it. We are confident that the grace we ask for will be given us. We will encounter sin - in our own hearts and in our experience of the sin of the world. We can pause in those moments, and feel the joy of the words,

“You are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1:21

We may experience the Light shining into dark places of our lives and showing us patterns of sinfulness, and inviting us to experience God's mercy and healing. Perhaps we wish to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation this week. We may want to make gestures of reconciliation with a loved one, relative, friend or associate. With more light and joy, it is easier to say, “I'm sorry; let's begin again.”

Each night this week we want to pause in gratitude. Whatever the day has brought, no matter how busy it has been, we can stop, before we fall asleep, to give thanks for a little more light, a little more freedom to walk by that light, in joy.

Our celebration of the coming of our Savior in history, is opening us up to experience his coming to us this year, and preparing us to await his coming in Glory.

*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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### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE...

**December 23/24:** Fourth Sunday of Advent... Masses as usual

**December 24:** Christmas EVE: Family Mass at 7:00pm and Midnight Mass

**December 25:** Christmas Day... Mass at 10:00am

**December 30/31:** Masses as usual (There will be no evening Mass on New Year's Eve).

**January 1, 2018,** New Year's Day: Mass at 10:00am

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT —YEAR B: DECEMBER 17, 2017

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

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

4. Let us never forget that, for Christ's disciples, poverty is above all a *call to follow Jesus in his own poverty*. It means walking behind him and beside him, a journey that leads to the beatitude of the Kingdom of heaven (cf. *Mt 5:3; Lk 6:20*). Poverty means having a humble heart that accepts our creaturely limitations and sinfulness and thus enables us to overcome the temptation to feel omnipotent and immortal. Poverty is an interior attitude that avoids looking upon money, career and luxury as our goal in life and the condition for our happiness. Poverty instead creates the conditions for freely shouldering our personal and social responsibilities, despite our limitations, with trust in God's closeness and the support of His grace. Poverty, understood in this way, is the yardstick that allows us to judge how best to use material goods and to build relationships that are neither selfish nor possessive (cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Nos. 25-45).

Let us, then, take as our example Saint Francis and his witness of authentic poverty. Precisely because he kept his gaze fixed on Christ, Francis was able to see and serve Him in the poor. If we want to help change history and promote real development, we need to hear the cry of the poor and commit ourselves to ending their marginalization. At the same time, I ask the poor in our cities and our communities not to lose the sense of evangelical poverty that is part of their daily life .....

.... to be continued....

Sock Drive...

The Knights of Columbus are organizing a sock and children's mitten drive at the parish. Please bring new pairs of socks (adult or children) and children's mittens and put them in the red boxes at the entrance of the church.

## ENVELOPES FOR 2018...

2018 envelopes available. Those who have not picked them up please do so. Those who do not have envelopes and wish to have one please pick one that is not labelled and in the first three or four envelopes please write your full name and address.

I encourage you to consider

**PRE-AUTHORIZED** giving. Thank you for your generosity to St. Joseph Parish.

## Bake Sale and Visit of Santa...

The Annual Bake sale will take place this morning (Sunday) at the parish hall after the 10:00am Mass. There will be a visit from Santa. Children will be receiving special gifts. **Hope to see you all there!**

TOTAL COLLECTIONS:	
Weekly	1,210.45
Candles	295.00
Building Fund	50.00

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Sunday, December 17

10:00am *St. Joseph Parish Community*

### Monday, December 18

9:00am † *All Souls in Purgatory*

Req. Alfredo Costa

### Tuesday, December 19

9:00am † *Gary Aruda Req. Family*

### Wednesday, December 20

7:00pm † *Maureen Daly*

Req. Pat Scannell

### Thursday, December 21

9:00 am † *Michael Romano*

Req. Marisa Romano

### Friday, December 22

7:00pm † *Francisco Benevides and Souls in Purgatory*

Req. Maria Carmo Oliveira

### Saturday, December 23

5:00pm † *Antonio Novo and Gilda*

Req. Lucia & Luis Raposo

† *Justina O Foronda*

Req. Julie Ordoña

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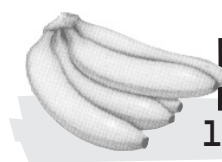
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