

St. Joseph Parish

Served by the Holy Cross Fathers

162 Leslie St. Toronto, ON M4M 3C7

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

Email: stjosephparishtoronto@gmail.com Website: <https://stjosephsto.archtoronto.org>

Pastoral Staff

Pastor: Fr. Francis Noronha, C.S.C.

Secretary & Finance: Erma Relunia

Custodian: Allan Cobham



MAY THE SPIRIT OF GOD
LEAD YOU THROUGH THE NEW YEAR

Pope Francis has a wonderful message for the world day of peace for New Year. The title of his message is *Migrants and refugees: men and women in search of peace*. In his message the Pope wishes “Peace to all people and to all nations on earth! Peace, which the angels proclaimed to the shepherds on Christmas night, is a profound aspiration for everyone, for each individual and all peoples, and especially for those who most keenly suffer its absence. Among these whom I constantly keep in my thoughts and prayers, I would once again mention the over 250 million migrants worldwide, of whom 22.5 million are refugees. In a spirit of compassion, let us embrace all those fleeing from war and hunger, or forced by discrimination, persecution, poverty and environmental degradation to leave their homelands”.

Pope notes in his message that all of us “belong to one family, migrants and the local populations that welcome them, and all have the same right to enjoy the goods of the earth, whose destination is universal, as the social doctrine of the Church teaches. When we turn that gaze to migrants and they do not arrive empty-handed. They bring their aspirations, as well as the treasures of their own cultures; and in this way, they enrich the lives of the nations that receive them.”

In his message...Pope Francis calls for action to help migrants and some to reflect on them and our own context as we meet migrants in our city and mileposts are as follows...

“**Welcoming**” calls for entry and no longer displaced people towards persecution and violence. It gives Four mileposts for refugees... Let us take our concerns about national security with concern for fundamental human rights. Scripture reminds us: “Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.”



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expanding legal pathways pushing migrants and countries where they face also demands balancing

“**Protecting**” has to do with our duty to recognize and defend the inviolable dignity of those who flee real dangers in search of asylum and security, and to prevent their being exploited. I think in particular of women and children who find themselves in situations that expose them to risks and abuses that can even amount to enslavement. God does not discriminate: “The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the orphan and the widow.”

“**Promoting**” entails supporting the integral human development of migrants and refugees. Among many possible means of doing so, I would stress the importance of ensuring access to all levels of education for children and young people. This will enable them not only to cultivate and realize their potential, but also better equip them to encounter others and to foster a spirit of dialogue rather than rejection or confrontation. The Bible teaches that God “loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt.”

“**Integrating**”, lastly, means allowing refugees and migrants to participate fully in the life of the society that welcomes them, as part of a process of mutual enrichment and fruitful cooperation in service of the integral human development of the local community. Saint Paul expresses it in these words: “You are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people.”

You can read pope’s full message at...https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/papa-francesco_20171113_messaggio-51giornatamondiale-pace2018.html

New Year day Mass will be at 10:00am.
There will no New Year's Eve Mass.


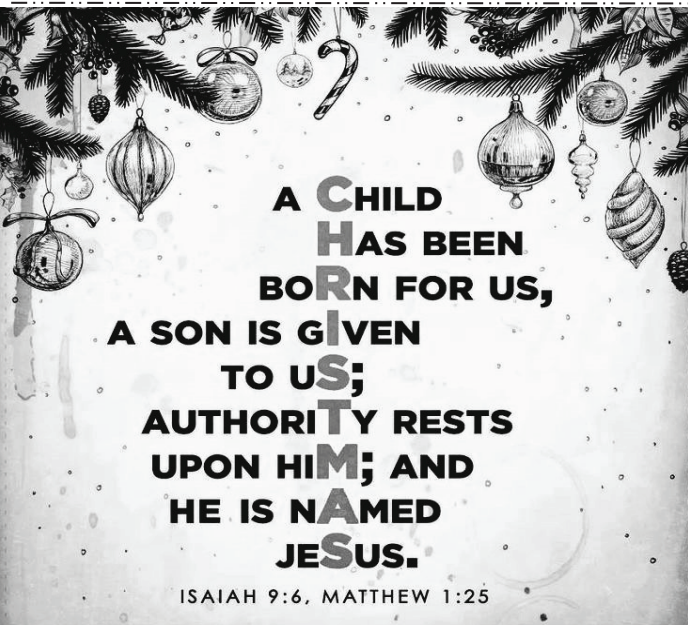
NEW ENVELOPES Please start using the new envelopes starting January 1, 2018. Please write your full information in the first two or three envelopes for tax receipts purposes. There are still boxes of envelopes at the entrance of the Church. If you wish to have a box, please pick them up at the entrance of the Church. If you wish to consider Pre-authorized giving, please talk to Fr. Francis. God bless your generosity.

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.

2017 TAX RECEIPTS

Last day of Offertory/Donations to be included in the 2017 Tax Receipts is on Dec 31 Holy Family Sunday. All envelopes received on January 1st will be considered a 2018 Offertory. Please call the office if you want us to make adjustments for your 2017 tax receipts.



New Year's resolutions:
the pope Francis list:

1. Don't gossip.
2. Finish your meals.
3. Make time for others.
4. Choose the 'more humble' purchase
5. Meet the poor 'in the flesh.'
6. Stop judging others.
7. Befriend those who disagree.
8. Make commitments, such as marriage.
9. Make it a habit to 'ask the Lord.'
10. Be happy: (The Joy of the Gospel).

A blissful New Year to all...

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 31

10:00am St. Joseph Parish Community

Monday, January 1

10:00am St Joseph and all who are dying
Req. Alfredo Costa

Tuesday, January 2

9:00am Thanksgiving Mass
Req. Linda Bharara

Wednesday, January 3

7:00pm † Teodocia Perez
Req. Laura & Allan Selman

Thursday, January 4

9:00 am Christmas Weekday

Friday, January 5

7:00pm Christmas Weekday

Saturday, January 6

5:00pm † Augustine & Laura Deveau
Req. Toni Muise



Wishing you all a happy New Year. May God bless you with peace and happiness throughout this New Year. Have a wonderful year-2018.

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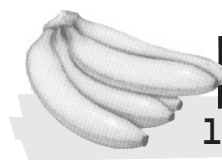
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