

St. Joseph Parish

Established in 1878

Served by the Holy Cross Fathers

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Pastoral Staff

Pastor: Fr. Roshan Loy D'Souza, CSC

Secretary/Bookkeeper: Nerie Bernal **Custodian:** Allan Cobham

**JOY • PEACE •
LOVE**



HOPE • FAITH



*From the
Pastor's
Desk*



God Becomes Human To Show Us the Way

The simplicity of the story of Christ's birth reveals the depth of God's love and the mystery of His actions in our life. As we celebrate Christmas anew this year, once again Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and wise men, the angels and animals direct our attention to the Lord Jesus. He who is truly the 'way, the truth and the life" (Jn. 14:1) who reveals Himself in the humble circumstances of a cave in Bethlehem. All of time is centered upon his coming. All of creation surrounds Him who fashioned the creation!

The story of Christ's birth speaks to us about the mysterious ways of God. The Triune God acts in ways that we do not always expect! His ways are truly wonder-filled. For centuries, the Ancient Israelites had expected the Messiah. The prophets, especially Isaiah and Jeremiah, called the people to readiness and openness to God's actions. Their message provided the people with indications about the coming Messiah.

Yet, when 'the fullness of time had come' (Gal. 4:4), the Messiah did not arrive as a conquering hero in a golden chariot with pomp and splendor. He was not robed in expensive clothing. He did not appear in the capital city. Throngs of adoring followers did not accompany him. When the Messiah finally arrived, he came first as a baby. He was born to a young girl who was not formally married. The event occurred in the simple village of Bethlehem. He was sheltered in a place reserved for animals because the inn was full. There, in such simple circumstances, "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth..." (Jn.1: 14). This is the mysterious way of God!

Through the Christmas story, Our Lord reveals that God acts in ways that we do not always expect. We cannot shape the mighty acts of God to our limited understanding. The Triune God is greater than our limited perceptions of Him. He acts in mysterious and wondrous ways to draw us to Him and to one another in love. Let us seek the Lord with an open heart as the shepherds and wise men did. This means that we find opportunities for prayer and meditation, for reading the Scriptures related to Christ's coming. This means that we can make Christmas a special day by participating in the Divine Liturgy and by receiving Holy Communion with reverence for God, with faith and with love.

Fr. Roshan Loy D'Souza, CSC



REMEMBERING ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, THROUGH A BEQUEST

Having a properly made will is one of the best gifts anyone can leave their loved ones in the event of their passing. It also ensures that charities and causes closest to their hearts will be sustained. By putting the parish in their will, parishioners can help the Church faithfully carry out the pastoral mission entrusted to her by our Lord, for generations to come. For more information, please call the Parish office of St. Joseph Church : 416 466 7815 or 416 518 0276

The Week Ahead :

- Dec 21: Memorial: St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church
- Dec 23: Memorial: St. John of Kanty, Priest
- Dec 25: Memorial: The Nativity of the Lord Jesus Christ
- Dec 26: Memorial: Holy Family Jesus, Mary & Joseph
- Dec.27: Memorial: St. John, Apostle & Evangelist
- Dec 28: Memorial: Holy Innocents, Martyrs

St. Joseph, Pray For Us

Update on COVID-19 Policies in the Archdiocese of Toronto:

The Archdiocese of Toronto is not asking for proof of vaccination to worship in our churches. **Although the Archdiocese of Toronto encourages all Catholics to be vaccinated for the common good**, we are making every effort to ensure that our churches remain open to all. The Worship safe protocols have kept our parishioners safe throughout the pandemic and will continue to do so as COVID-19 restrictions are gradually removed throughout the province.

Pope Francis Prayer Intension for

December 2021: Catechists



Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule:

December 24: Friday: Christmas Eve

5:00 pm : Christmas Eve, Family Mass

7:00 pm : Christmas Eve Mass

9:30 pm : Christmas Carols

10:00 pm : Christmas Eve Mass

December 25: Saturday: Christmas Day

10:00 am : Christmas Day Mass

(NO 5:00 pm MASS)

December 26: Sunday : The Feast of The Holy Family

10:00 am : Sunday Feast Mass

December 31: Friday: New Year's Eve

6:00 pm : Thanksgiving Adoration

7:00 pm : New Year's Eve Mass

January 01, 2022: Saturday: New Year

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

10:00 am : New Year & Feast Mass

January 02, 2022: Sunday: Epiphany of the Lord

10:00 am : Sunday Solemnity Mass

Christmas Extravaganza:

1. Remembrance Christmas tree balls are on sale during all the weekend masses.

2. Raffle & Christmas Bake sale: On December 19, 2021 after the Sunday Mass.

3. Christmas Flower Donations: Envelopes are available in the foyer/pews.



**GOD LOVES A
CHEERFUL
GIVER**

WEEKEND COLLECTION:

December 11-12, 2021

Total Amount: \$1,539.75

Since all our fundraising events can't be held due to pandemic, kindly increase your donations towards our Building Fund. Kindly contribute through Pre Authorize Giving. Forms are available in the foyer.

Thank you for your constant support and generous contribution. A special thanks to our volunteers for your dedication during these unprecedented times.

+ MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 19

10:00 am † *Stella De France*

Req. *Diane De France*

Thanksgiving For the Gift of Life

Req. *Carmen Pascua*

Monday, December 20

No mass

Tuesday, December 21

09:00 am † *Blessings for Veronica Schimdt*

Req. *Donor*

Wednesday December 22

7:00 pm † *Francisco Buenevides*

Req. *Maria Carmo Oliviera*

For All the Souls in Purgatory especially deceased members of Foss Family

Req. *Donor*

Thursday, December 23

9:00 am *Birthday Intentions For Amy & Mathew*

Req. *Maria Carmo Oliviera*

† *Justina Foronda*

Req. *Julie Ordon*

Friday, December 24

7:00 pm † *Rev. Karl Schindleressr*

Req. *Donor*

10:00 pm † *Raymond Fernandes*

Req. *Fernandes Family*

† *Cipriano Casballido*

Req. *Marilene Casballido*

Saturday, December 25

5:00 pm **For the Intentions of St. Joseph Parish Community**

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