

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



Feast of the Holy Family



*From the
Pastor's
Desk*



Christmas A New Beginning

Life as we know it is on a trajectory; that is, it is going somewhere. However, it also consists of changing moments and seasons that bring variety, colour and purpose to its existence at each of these moments. One of the prominent components of that reality is the need, from time to time, for new beginnings.

Christmas is that time of year which, par excellence, represents a new beginning - one with a universal dimension. What therefore is its significance for the human community? It is the story of human redemption. When the hope for ultimate human fulfillment had grown dim, God sent his Son Jesus into the world in order to make possible that complete human-divine experience, so that, "anyone who believes in him will not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). St. Paul in his Second Letter to the Corinthians 5:17 attests to that when it says: "So for anyone who is in Christ there is a new creation: the old order is gone and a new being is there to see." This is the positive nature that emanates from this Christ event.

Christmas has that effect on people, Christian and non-Christians alike. The preparation that goes into its celebration on both the religious and social levels is indicative of the value that is placed on the significance of the event for the human community. One of the dispositions conveyed through the period of preparation is newness. We know what it is like when a child comes into a family, all attention is turned towards that new born.

Christmas therefore signifies new birth. Just as it ushered in the new Christian era over two thousand years ago, so it stands as a model of newness for all cultures and experiences. Ultimately, the newness which Christmas signifies is essentially life in Christ. It helps us find new perspectives in our everyday life.

Moreover, this season, which is characterized by sentiments of peace, is a right time to work assiduously for the re-establishment of peace among ourselves. I pray that you would remember the favour that God has bestowed on you because of Jesus. Are there any areas in your life that you would like to see greater favour in? Are there people that you know that you could unite with to make a greater difference? Take a few moments to pray to ask the Holy Spirit for His help to make greater glory come to others this Christmas.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2022

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 26: Memorial: Holy Family Jesus, Mary & Joseph
- Dec.27: Memorial: St. John, Apostle & Evangelist
- Dec 28: Memorial: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
- Dec 29: Memorial: St. Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr
- Dec 31: Memorial: St. Sylvester 1, Pope
- Jan 01: memorial: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

New Year's Day

World Day of Prayer for Peace

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:

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

The Synod on Synodality:

Pope Francis has launched the Synod on Synodality, an ambitious two-year global process of listening to the faithful.

"Synod" comes from an ancient Greek word meaning "walking together on the road." There have been many synods in the history of the Church, but these have traditionally been opportunities for bishops to come together to determine the path forward for the Church.

With the Synod on Synodality, Pope Francis is asking every Catholic to help discern what the Holy Spirit is telling us at this moment as the Church enters its third millennium.

The first phase of the Synod on Synodality will last through the first half of 2022 and will see the world's faithful sharing their thoughts at a diocesan level. All those diocesan-level responses will be collected and summarized. Then the bishops of Canada will meet to discuss what they heard in their respective dioceses, followed by larger multinational meetings and, ultimately, culminating in a synod of bishops in the Vatican in 2023.

✝ MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 26

10:00 am † **Eduardo Del Rosario**

Req. Nimpha Del Rosario

† **Antonio Ordon**

Req. Julie Ordon

Thanksgiving Intentions

Req. Angie & Nicolas Blanco

Monday, December 27

No mass

Tuesday, December 28

09:00 am † **Bryan Hamer**

Req. Maria Teves & Gloria Gomes

Wednesday December 29

7:00 pm **Weekday Mass**

Thursday, December 30

9:00 am **For the Intention of Good Health to**

Dorothy Hamer

Req. Maria Teves & Gloria Gomes

† **Justina Foronda**

Req. Julie Ordon

Friday, December 31

7:00 pm † **Sr. Catherine Hughes, CND**

Req. Donor

Saturday, January 01

10:00 am **For the Intentions of St. Joseph Parish Community**



Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

**GOD LOVES A
CHEERFUL
GIVER**

WEEKEND COLLECTION:

December 18-19, 2021

Total Amount: \$

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.

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