

# 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



# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT : DECEMBER 22, 2024

## ST. JOSEPH PARISH



### CANDLE OF LOVE

Since the first Sunday when I wrote about Hope, I have looked forward to writing about love on the fourth Sunday. After all, isn't that the culmination, the absolute best. The fullness of the Love of God is given to us in human form. The waiting is at an end. It just doesn't get any better than that.

But as the time of writing neared, I hesitated. One question nagging me." How do I capture in mere words the overwhelming love of God?" God's love is expressed through Incarnation, God becoming fully human, simple, unpretentious, and often powerless. God loved so much that He became one with us to show us, in human form, what love really is, and with whom and how we are to love.

How do we even begin to understand the power of God's love when the word love has become nearly meaningless in our society. We have but one word when we speak of love. We love popcorn, poetry, and people using the exact same name. Language fails us. God's love is not of the mind. It is not of language; it is of the heart. It is not to understand. It is to be steeped in until we become one with it, and we are changed.

As we light the fourth candle of Advent, we are called to abandon ourselves. We allow ourselves to be emptied that God, who breathed His life in us, can make us full. On this fourth Sunday of Advent, God gives the totality of Himself to us. He becomes the blood flowing in our veins, being pumped by our heart. His love animates us, provides us with the fullness of life and makes us whole. Do we have the courage to allow God to drain the weaknesses, selfishness, and sin that possess us and fill us full to overflowing with His own lifeblood? This Christmas, can we see beyond history and know Christmas as more than a remembrance? God is asking us today to be His Incarnation? Will we be God for our world?

Together we pray," Be it done according to your Word."  
*In God's Unending Love, Fr. Roshan Loy D'Souza, CSC*



## REMEMBERING ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, Making a charitable 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. Contact: 416 466 7815 / 416 518 0276.**

### The Week Ahead :

Dec 23: St. John of Kanty, Priest

Dec 25: Christmas Day

Dec 26: St. Stephen, First Martyr; Canada Boxing Day

Dec 27: St. John, Apostle & Evangelist

Dec 28: Holy Innocents, Martyrs



## Archdiocese of Toronto

### Marriage Sunday 2025 - Celebration of Marriage Mass with Bishop Ivan Camilleri

Marriage Sunday in 2025 will be held on the weekend of Feb. 8/9. As in previous years, we encourage parishes to celebrate locally, such as by offering an opportunity for couples to renew their marriage commitment, recognizing special anniversaries or offering a date night. More resources and ideas are available at <https://www.archtoronto.org/en/offices-and-ministries/sub-sites/marriage/marriage/for-parishes/>.

### Friars Student Writing Contest 2025:

Nov. 11, 2024 to Jan. 13, 2025: Theme: "Do you believe this?" (John 11:26) : High school students aged 13 to 19 from the Catholic School Boards in the Archdiocese of Toronto are invited to participate in this annual event, which honours the global Week of Prayer for Christian Unity taking place from January 18 to 25. Write a five-hundred-word essay that explores the 2025 theme. Great prizes await the top three submissions. Students are encouraged to explore the resources at <https://bit.ly/3zOVHly> to gain insight into the meaning and purpose of the theme.

They should also refer to the focus question available on the poster at <https://bit.ly/3XCGGgo>. Entries are to be submitted at <https://www.catholicregister.org/writingaward>.

Email [ecumenical@archtoronto.org](mailto:ecumenical@archtoronto.org) or call 416-934-3400 ext. 527 with any questions, or for more information.

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT : DECEMBER 22, 2024



## POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION

**For December 2024: Pilgrims of Hope:**

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.



**Be an ALTAR Server:** St. Joseph's Church provides young Catholics in grades 4 through 12 (ages 10 and up) with the opportunity to grow stronger in their faith and become more active in the celebration of the Mass by altar serving. There will be training for both new and returning altar servers and is required prior to being scheduled for Sunday Masses.



### Children's Liturgy:

During every Sunday 10:00 am Mass.  
Helping our children grow in faith.



### First Holy Communion & Reconciliation Sessions:

Every Sunday at 10.00 am. For us as Catholics, there is nothing greater than to receive Jesus, truly present in the Eucharist at Mass.



### Sacrament of Confirmation:

In Confirmation the Christian becomes more closely united with Christ. With the strengthening of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit the Christian is able to accept new responsibilities for witnessing Jesus to the world.



### Christmas Mass Schedule:

**December 24 :**

6pm: Christmas Pageant & Carols

7pm: Christmas Family Mass

**December 25 : 10am:** Christmas Day Mass



### WEEKEND COLLECTION:

**Dec.14-15, 2024: \$1,012.40**

Thank you for your constant support and generous contribution.

Thanks to all our volunteers for their commitment and to our benefactors for your continued support.

Kindly contribute through Pre - Authorized Giving.

Forms are available in the foyer.

**A Big thanks to Knights of Columbus, Council 9079.**



# † MASS INTENTIONS

**Sunday, December 22:**

10:00 am : † **Victoria Montifar**

Req. Montifar Family

**Thanksgiving Intentions for Paez Family & Gift of Life – Christian John Llamos**

Req. Elnora Paez & Sam Jacobo

**Maria Emilia Sousa Almeida**

Req. Maria Goulart

† **Gilda & Antonio Novo**

Req. Raposo Family

**Monday, December 23: NO MASS**

**Tuesday, December 24:**

7:00 pm : † **Delfina D'Souza**

Req. Olga Oliveira

† **Raymond Fernandes**

Req. Family

**Wednesday, December 25:**

10:00 am : **Thanksgiving Intentions**

Req. Angie & Nick Blanco

**Thanksgiving for all the Blessings Received**

Req. Jocelyn Salvador

**Thursday, December 26:**

9:00 pm :

Req.

**Friday, December 27:**

7:00 pm:

Req.

**Saturday, December 28:**

5:00 pm : **St. Joseph Parish Community**

† **Valerie Monis**

Req. Monis Family

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