

St. Joseph Parish

Established in 1878

Served by the Holy Cross Fathers

162 Leslie St. Toronto, ON M4M 3C7

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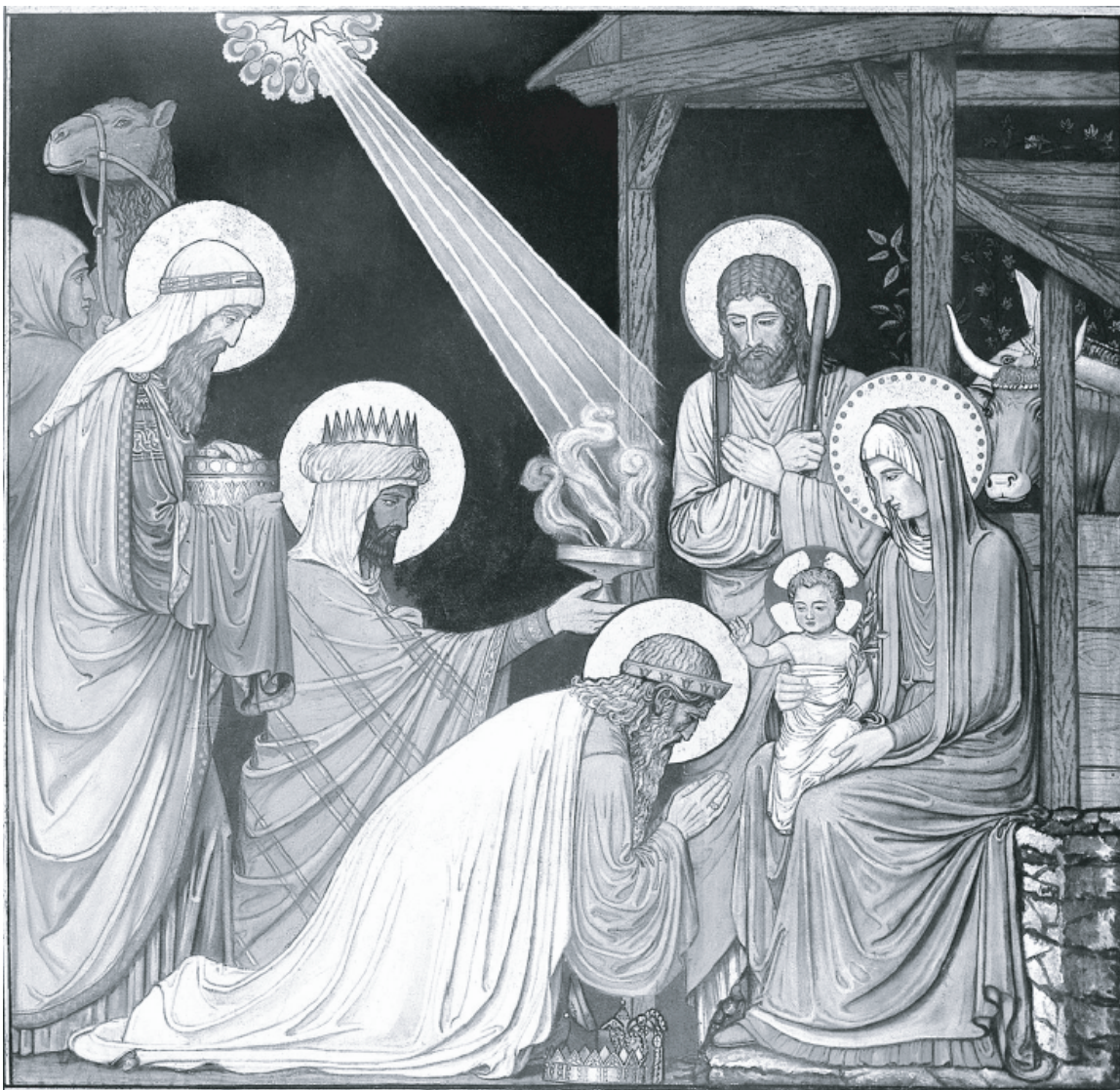
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Pastoral Staff

Pastor: Fr. Roshan Loy D'Souza, CSC

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



Feast of the Holy Family



ST. JOSEPH PARISH
The Holy Family Of
Jesus, Mary & Joseph

My friends, Holy Family Sunday, referring mainly to Mary and Joseph and Jesus is a wonderful time to consider what “family” means to each of us—the families that we grew out of, and perhaps the families that we helped to establish and maintain as adults, and into the present. And, from a certain viewpoint, to consider how each family is a “holy” family. The original “holy” family is a good example for all of us to follow in our own “holy” families. We know from their actions that Mary and Joseph loved each other—always the best place to start when forming a family. Now, you might be asking, how do I know that Mary and Joseph loved each other? –as the Scriptures don’t tell us that.

If we take the Christmas story at face value, and accept the fact that Joseph had nothing to do with the conception of Jesus in Mary’s womb, then his action of taking her as his wife was indeed a loving thing to do. In the times that Joseph and Mary lived, a man in his position could either divorce a woman with child—not his own, make the “sin” known publicly, and open her up to the possibility of death by stoning, or he could do what Joseph did. It only makes sense that Joseph loved Mary before she “was found to be with child.”

On Holy Family Sunday, as well as any time during our Church Year, really, it is most important, in my mind, at least, to remember, and never forget, that our loving God chose to become one-with-us, in our humanity, living life, as each of us does, attempting to be our own, “best selves.” As we look around our own personal “world”—life, we might say, it is clear that most of us don’t accomplish that task as well as we might like to. A further look around the world-at-large shows us the same. So, having a model like Jesus to follow, in living to be our best selves is truly important. Also, in moving into a loving relationship with another human being, Mary and Joseph are good models to follow. We see from the gospel story that this couple was faithful to the Jewish laws and precepts that they grew up believing in, by presenting Jesus at the temple, even though they were, “on the run” from Roman authorities—but to Mary and Joseph, this was an important action that they must do! So, we could say, with quite a bit of assurance, that Joseph and Mary were people of character, as well as a couple who loved each other. *Happy Feast Day. God Bless your families.*

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 29: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
- Dec 31: St. Silvester I, Pope;
- Jan 01 : Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
- Jan 02: St. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctor of the Church
- Jan 04: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious



Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity
and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen

Franciscus

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH : DECEMBER 29, 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.

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. More resources and ideas are available at <https://www.archtoronto.org/en/offices-and-ministries/sub-sites/marriage/marriage/for-parishes/>.



WEEKEND COLLECTION:

Dec. 21-22, 2024: \$

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 29:

10:00 am : † **Victoria Montifar**
Req. Montifar Family

Monday, December 30: NO MASS

Tuesday, December 31:

7:00 am : **Thanksgiving for the Gift of Life —
Josie Foster**
Req. Montifar Family

Wednesday, January 01:

10:00 am : **Thanksgiving Intentions**
Req. Angie & Nick Blanco

Thursday, January 02:

9:00 pm :
Req.

Friday, January 03:

7:00 pm:
Req.

Saturday, January 04:

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

PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH



Saint Joseph, foster father of Jesus and faithful guardian of the Holy Family, we turn to you with trust and gratitude. Through your humble obedience and steadfast faith, you exemplified true virtue and devotion.

Intercede for us in our journey of faith, that we may follow your example of selflessness and service. Help us to discern God's will in our lives and to respond with openness and courage. Protect our families, guide our steps, and lead us closer to Jesus, your Son, and our Savior.

Amen.

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