

# St. Joseph Parish

*Established in 1878*

*Served by the Holy Cross Fathers*

162 Leslie St. Toronto, ON M4M 3C7

**Tel:** 416-466-7815 or 416-518-0276

**Email:** [stjosephparishtoronto@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephparishtoronto@gmail.com) / [stjosephTO@archtoronto.org](mailto:stjosephTO@archtoronto.org)

**Website:** [www.stjosephTO@archtoronto.org](http://www.stjosephTO@archtoronto.org)

## **Pastoral Staff**

**Pastor:** Fr. Roshan Loy D'Souza, CSC

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



## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT : DECEMBER 21, 2025



As Advent reaches its final days, our journey of waiting and preparation leads us to the heart of the season: love. On the Fourth Sunday of Advent, we are invited to contemplate a love that is not merely spoken but embodied—a love so deep that God chooses to enter human history and dwell among us. This is the love that transforms ordinary lives and invites us into a relationship of trust and surrender.

The Gospel presents us with Mary, a young woman whose life is forever changed by God's unexpected invitation. Faced with uncertainty and potential risk, Mary responds not with fear but with faith. Her words, "Let it be done to me according to your word," reveal the essence of love: a willingness to place oneself completely in God's hands. Mary does not fully understand how God's plan will unfold, yet she believes in the God who calls her. Love, in its truest form, requires such trust—a readiness to say yes even when the path ahead is unclear.

Through Mary's yes, divine love takes flesh. God does not remain distant or detached from human suffering but enters our world in humility. The child she carries is not born into comfort or power, but into vulnerability. This reveals a powerful truth: God's love is gentle, self-giving, and deeply compassionate. It challenges the world's understanding of love as dominance or self-interest and replaces it with a love that serves and sacrifices.

Advent love also calls us to action. After accepting God's will, Mary goes in haste to visit Elizabeth. Her love moves her outward, toward service and compassion. In Mary, we see that love is never passive. It responds to the needs of others with generosity and attentiveness. As we prepare for Christmas, we are reminded that love is best expressed not in words alone but in concrete acts of kindness—especially toward those who are lonely, struggling, or forgotten.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent invites us to examine how love is present in our own lives. In a season often filled with busyness and expectation, it can be easy to overlook the quiet opportunities to love. Yet love is found in the small, faithful moments: in patience with family members, in forgiveness offered where wounds still exist, and in time given to those who need our presence more than our gifts. These everyday acts of love prepare our hearts to receive Christ. As Christmas draws near, Advent reminds us that preparing for the Lord means making room within ourselves. We are called to clear away fear, pride, and indifference so that love may dwell in us more fully. Like Mary, we are invited to trust God's plan and allow His love to work through us. When we open our hearts in this way, Christ is born anew in our lives. May this Fourth Sunday of Advent inspire us to live love more deeply and authentically. As we await the celebration of Christ's birth, may we echo Mary's yes with our own lives, becoming bearers of God's love.

**God Bless: 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, Contact:  
**St. Joseph Church office : 416 466 7815 / 416 518 0276.**



## Archdiocese of Toronto

### Men Silent Retreat: Pilgrims of Hope:

#### Guided by the Past, Inspired by the Future.

**Friday, January 23, 2026 6:30 PM - Sunday, January 25, 2026  
1:30 PM Manresa Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre**

Men Ignatian Retreat: As people of faith, we journey together as pilgrims—rooted in God's faithfulness, strengthened by hope, and called to witness in love. This year's theme, "Pilgrims of Hope: Guided by the Past, Inspired by the Future," invites us to reflect on where we have come from, where God is leading us, and how we are called to live today. Come and journey with us as we discover anew what it means to be pilgrims of hope—grateful for the past, trusting for the future, and faithful in the present. This SILENT retreat begins on Friday evening and runs to Sunday with lunch. The suggested offering is \$270 per person which includes two nights' accommodation, meals, spiritual direction and retreat program. **Facilitated by: Fr. Dexter Gray, SJ**

**REGISTER:** Via email at [manresaregistration@outlook.com](mailto:manresaregistration@outlook.com),  
online at <https://manresa-canada.ca> or call 905-839-2864.



### Day of Reflection for Men/Women:

Monday, January 26, 2026 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM .We will reflect and pray on the different movements and parts of the Eucharistic celebration.

Gathering of God's People. Listening to God's Word. Thanksgiving for God's deeds in history. Facilitated by Fr. Charles Pottie, SJ. The suggested offering is \$70 per person which includes lunch, coffee/tea break, program and Mass.

**REGISTER:** Email: [manresaregistration@outlook.com](mailto:manresaregistration@outlook.com) or  
visit <https://manresa-canada.ca> or call 905-839-2864.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT : DECEMBER 21, 2025



The Pope's Monthly Intentions for December 2025: For Christians in areas of conflict: Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.



### *Christmas 2025 & New Year 2026*

#### December 2025

- 21: Christmas Bake Sale at 11:00 am
- 24: Christmas Pageant & Carols at 6:15 pm
- 24: Christmas Eve Mass at 7:00 pm
- 25: Christmas Day Mass at 10:00 am
- 31: Thanksgiving Adoration at 6:00 pm
- 31: New Years Eve Mass at 7:00 pm

#### January 01, 2026:

New Years' Day Mass at 10:00 am  
[ Solemnity of Mary, Mother Of God ]



#### WEEKEND COLLECTION:

December 13-14, 2025: \$ 788.50

Thank you for your constant support and generous contribution.

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 21:**

10:00 am : † **Rebecca De Sagun**

Req. Nimpha Del Rosario

† **Dora Digiovanni**

Req. Luana Digiovanni

**Birthday Blessings to Katherine,  
Mathew & family Intentions**

Req. Maria Carmo Oliveira

**Monday, December 22: NO MASS**

**Tuesday, December 23:**

9:00 am : † **Vicky Montifar**

Req. Myrna Montifar

**Wednesday, December 24:**

7:00 pm : **Thanksgiving Intentions**

Req. Jocelyn Salvador

**Thanksgiving Intentions**

Req. Paez-Blanco Family

**Delfina & Beatriz D'Sousa**

Req. Olga Oliveira

**Thursday, December 25 :**

10:00 am : † **Joe Arruda**

Req. Fatima Arruda

† **Cipriano & Estela Casballido**

Req. Marilene Casballido

† **Christopher & Frederick Cruz**

Req. Teresita Cruz

**Friday, December 26:**

7:00 pm: † **Anthony Cornista**

Req. Andrea & Salvador Cornista

**Saturday, December 27:**

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

† **Valerie Monis**

Req. Monis Family

## Leslie Grove Pharmacy

*Serving the Community since 1950's*

10% discount to Seniors

*Prescription Services & Delivery*

1176 Queen St. E. (near Jones Ave.)

**416-465-2637**



## CATHOLIC CEMETERIES & FUNERAL SERVICES

ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

In keeping with your Catholic faith

[www.catholic-cemeteries.com](http://www.catholic-cemeteries.com)

Mount Hope Cemetery 416-483-4944

Holy Cross Cemetery & Funeral Home 905-889-7467



**Simple Cures**  
Integrative Medicine Clinic

### Treatment For:

Shoulder & Back Pain  
IBS  
Insomnia

### Services we offer:

Acupuncture  
Herbal Medicine  
Massage Therapy  
Naturopath

2010 Queen St E, 2nd Floor  
647-726-1696  
[simplecures.ca](http://simplecures.ca)

*Come in for a Free Consult!*



**GREAT MINDS**

DON'T  
THINK  
ALIKE

Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow

APPLY NOW  
[northmount.com](http://northmount.com)



**THE ARTISANS**

Imported Giftware  
& Silver Jewellery

1974A Queen St. East  
**416-690-1663**

**THE PERFECT SPOT**  
TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS!



TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SPACE PLEASE CALL  
**905-624-4422**



**Don't leave our  
advertisers HANGING!**

**Please patronize and  
tell them that you  
appreciate their  
support**

**Your advertisers make  
this bulletin possible**

**EAT LOCAL  
SHOP LOCAL  
ENJOY LOCAL**



**Shopping  
Locally  
Saves Gas**