

# Parish Week † Sunday, 24 Dec. 2023

## Saturday, 23 December

- 8.00 am Mass: † Jane Evoy (family)  
5.00 pm Mass: Int. Norna Revil Barbon

## SUNDAY, 24 DEC. / ADVENT 4-B

■ *Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati*

- 7.00 pm Mass: Int. Patricia Hynes (Tina & family)  
9.00 pm Mass: Int. Linda Lainey (Tina & family)  
12.00 pm Mass: † Clem D'Cunha (Victor)

## CHRISTMAS EVE

■ *Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galea (Christmas Eve & Day)*  
■ *2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Christmas*

- 7.00 pm Mass: Int. Victor D'Cunha (Esme)  
9.00 pm Mass: Antonia Pe Benito (family)  
11.30 pm Choir Caroling  
12.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving for Baby Lily Kim Kamath (Grandma & D'Souza family)

## CHRISTMAS DAY

### Monday, 25 Dec. / The Nativity of the Lord

- 9.00 am Mass: † Maurice & Carmine Pereira (Precy & family)  
10.30 am Mass: † Ernesto, Lydia, & Justino Rodas (family)  
12.00 pm Mass: † Francesco & Teresa Di Michele (family)  
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

### Tuesday, 26 Dec.

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Victor D'Cunha (friends)

### Wednesday, 27 Dec. / St. John, apostle & evangelist

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving to the Holy Spirit (The Rebello family)

### Wednesday, 28 Dec. / The Holy Innocents

- 8.00 am Mass: † Marilou Macalalad Rivera (Diosdado)

### Friday, 29 Dec. / St. Thomas Becket, bishop & martyr

- 8.00 am Mass: † Fernando & Beatriz Remedios (Jose)

## Saturday, 30 December

- 8.00 am Mass: † Teresita Del Castillo (family)  
5.00 pm Mass: Int. Racquel Diaz on her Birthday (Maria Rodas)

## SUNDAY, 31 DECEMBER / THE HOLY FAMILY

■ *Homilist: Deacon Ranon Villaedo*

- 9.00 am Mass: † Robert Pereira (Precy & Family)  
10.30 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving Our Lady of Vailanki (Elizabeth Vaz)  
12.00 pm Mass: † Isabella Pereira (Precy & Family)

## NEW YEAR EVE, 2023

■ *Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati (New Year Eve & Day)*  
■ *Collection: New Year*

- 5.00 pm Mass: † All the Faithful Departed of 2023  
11.00 pm Holy Hour  
12.00 am Mass: Pro Populo

## NEW YEAR DAY, 2024

### Sunday, 1 Jan. / Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

- 9.00 am Mass: † Charles D'Silva (Lydia & family)  
10.30 am Mass: † Ernesto, Lydia & Justino Rodas (family)  
12.00 pm Mass: † Erlinda Deleon (family)  
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

## The Advent Wreath Fourth Sunday of Advent

*At the beginning of Mass, the Priest will call a family to light the Advent Candle. At the end, the congregation prays:*

**Father, You called Mary to be the mother of Your Son, so that the world could be saved and brought to a new birth. Help us also to bring the light and peace of Christ where there is gloom and despair.**

**We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*Today's Candle lighters are:*

- 5.00 pm: **Michelle Desiato**  
9.00 am: **Lillian D'Souza**  
10.30 am: **Vanessa Sentilli**  
12.00 pm: **Victor D'Cunha & Esme D'Mello**  
7.00 pm: **Grace Destefane**

## Christmas Collections

### 23 / 24 December: Offertory

On 23/24 December, the collection taken by the Greeters at the Preparation of the Gifts will be for the *Regular Sunday Offertory*.

### 24 / 25 December: Offertory & Christmas

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Christmas collection for our Special Church Needs will be taken after Communion at our Christmas Eve & Day Masses, 24/25 December.

### 30 / 31 December: Offertory & Maintenance

On 30/31 December, the collection taken by the Greeters at the Preparation of the Gifts will be for the *Regular Sunday Offertory*. The 2<sup>nd</sup> collection taken by the Greeters (after Communion) will be for the support of our major parish projects through the *Maintenance Collection*.

### 31 December / 1 January: New Year

At our New Year's Eve and Day Masses, 31 December & 1 January, the collection taken by the Greeters during the Preparation of the Gifts will be for the *New Year Collection*.

## COMING UP

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- 31 Dec. Feast of the **Holy Family**;  
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: *Maintenance*;  
- New Year Eve Masses begin at 7.00 pm

## 2024

- 1 Jan. The Solemnity of **Mary, Mother of God**;  
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: *New Year*  
2 Jan. Memorial Mass – Milagros Tabora (11.00 am)  
7 Jan. Feast of the **Epiphany of Our Lord**  
8 Jan. Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)  
14 Jan. Infant Baptism (1.30 pm)

## Christmas Flowers

Many thanks to all Parishioners who sponsored this year's display of CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS in our Sanctuary.

Due to publication deadlines during the holidays, the list of *dedications* will be published in the first edition of the bulletin after the New Year. As it stood at Christmas, it has been posted on the Parish Information Board in the Vestibule.

Many thanks also to our friends who contributed to the flower display without specific dedications. We appreciate your consideration in helping to make our Church a blooming place.

## Financial Advisors: January-June 2024

The schedule for January-June 2024 for our *Sunday Financial Advisors* is ready for pickup at the Parish Office.

## RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* (RCIA) is the process by which adults become Catholic. It is a journey of faith which takes place in the midst of a Parish, the worshipping community.

While each person's journey is unique, the group process involves three initial stages:

1. The interested person is invited to pray sincerely, and to join us at **Mass** for worship, to discern where God is leading them.
2. Then begins a period of **Inquiry**, when the Candidate is invited to join the weekly RCIA meetings. A Sponsor will be delegated to assist with one-on-one discernment.
3. After a suitable period of Inquiry, the Candidate is invited to enter into the **Catechumenate**, which is a more structured period of preparation involving group study, discussion, reflection and participation in parish life.

Call the Pastor, **Fr. Edwin**, for more information: 416-261-0076.

## The Ten Commandments

1. I am the Lord your God; you shall not have strange gods before me. (Idolatry) (\*1)
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain. (Blasphemy, False oaths)
3. Remember to keep Holy the Sabbath Day. (A day to honor God)
4. Honour your Father and Mother. (\*2)
5. You shall not kill. (Suicide, Abortions, Euthanasia, War)
6. You shall not commit adultery. (Fornication, Pornography, Rape)
7. You shall not steal. (Theft, Enslavement of Human Beings)
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. (False Witness, Perjury, Lying)
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife. (Lust, Carnal concupiscence)
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods. (Envy, Avarice)

*Notes:*

- (1) Items in (brackets) are sins against God's commandments.
- (2) Marriage is a Sacrament, and is for life. Its primary goals are the love and sanctification of the husband and wife, and the passing on of life through a natural family.
- (3) *You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*

## Christmas Message

To all the members of St. Maria Goretti Parish:

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that all who believe in him may not perish, but may have eternal life."*



Let us celebrate the gift of the Father, and share with one another a Joyful, Holy and Happy Christmas!

**Fr. Edwin Galea**, *Pastor*

**Fr. Elias Chachati**, *Associate*

**Rev. Mr. Ramon Villardo**, *Deacon*

## Stewardship: 2024 Sunday Envelopes

Parishioners are invited to pick up their *2024 Sunday Offertory Envelopes* in the Vestibule after Mass. The envelopes are for registered parishioners only; if you are new to the neighbourhood and have not yet registered, *welcome!* Introduce yourself to the pastor or to one of our greeters, and fill out a *registration form* at the Office window.

Many thanks to all our faithful parishioners for your generous support of our wonderful parish through your weekly stewardship! This is an act of honour to God, our Creator.

Please ensure that you have your own box: *the number on the label and on the envelopes* must be the same. If there is any discrepancy, advise the parish office. If you use someone else's envelopes, your donation would be credited to the other person.

### Donation amounts

For the benefit of new parishioners: Please ensure that your *donation amount* is written in the space provided on the front of the envelope. If this is not done, our financial advisors must stop to do so when the collection is counted, and this really slows down the process.

### Make sure to use your tax receipts

The government rarely gives any tax dollars back, except for charitable donations. Everyone gets a credit of 17% on the first \$200.00 donated and 29% on any amount over that. Here's an example: if you give \$10.00 a week to the church (which means \$520.00 per year) you will wind up with a tax credit of \$128.80! So, if you are not using the envelopes, you are not taking advantage of the tax break our government is offering. To get your own envelopes, and an official tax receipt next year, fill in the form in the front of this bulletin and give it to an usher.

## Parish Memorials

*A lasting legacy:* Remember **St. Maria Goretti Church** in your will. Such a gift would enable you to express your affection for your Parish in a tangible way. By leaving a bequest, you help to ensure the vitality of our ministries and the work we do for God's Kingdom in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

Parishioners may also make a special gift to the Church as a *Memorial* in honour of a loved family member. Speak privately to the Pastor for details: 416-261-0076.





*Top:* Louis and Philomena Vedanayagam, 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary, 15 December.

*Middle:* Anjali Molinaro with Dad & Mom, 30 November.

*Top:* Emma Allair, with our Parish Choir Singers.

*Lower:* The family of Marilou Macalalad Rivera at her Memorial Prayers 9 December.



Top (Left and right): Fr. Peter Marr checks messages during a break at the Reconciliation celebration at St. Albert School, 5 December.

Middle: Fr. Elias, Fr. Fraser MacLaren and Fr. Dominic Borg during a break at the Reconciliation celebration for St. Maria Goretti School.

Lower (left and right): Catholic Children's Aid Society staff at their Advent Mass, 6 December.

Middle: Marlene and Joseph Martin celebrate their 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary, 8 December.

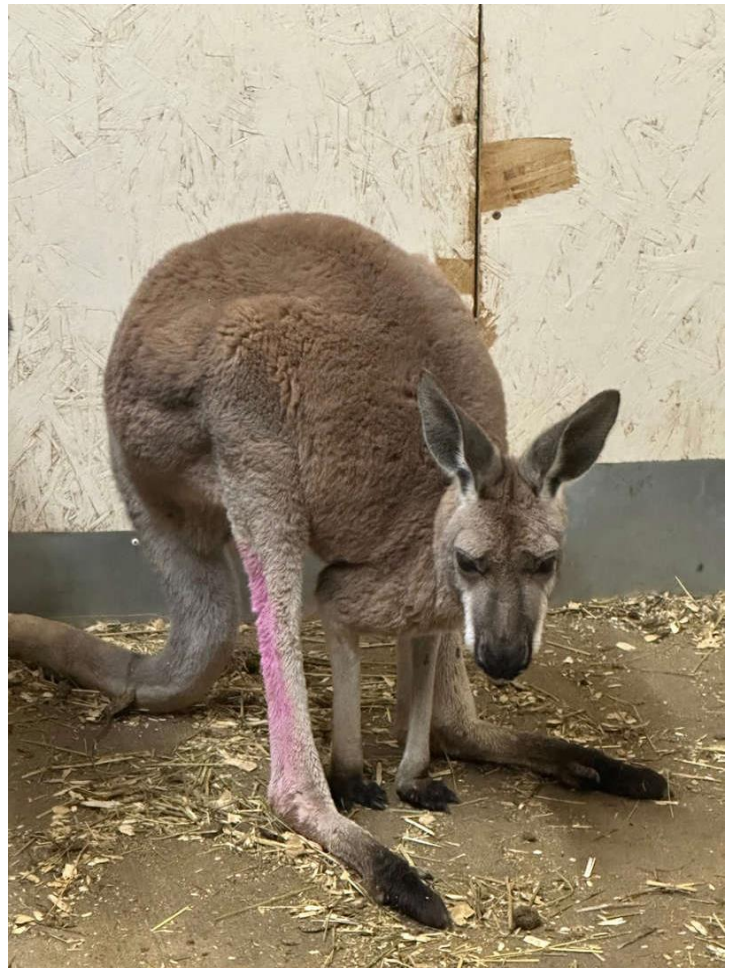


Top (left and right) Herminia Garcia and Steven Burr on their Wedding Day, 8 December.

Middle: Mable Cyrus and Esme D'Mello light the Advent Wreath candles, 9 December.

Middle: Al Lacosse collects a Certificate for his buddy Carl Leroux.

Lower: Elizabeth Lalicon and family and friends at the Memorial Prayers for her father Johnny's death anniversary, 9 December.



Above: The Durham Kangaroo, found safe & sound, 4 December.





[Above] George Cohon, 19 April 1937 – 24 November 2023.

[Below] Trapped Indian tunnel workers finally rescued.

