



[1-r: Wedding at Cana ✦ Epiphany of the Magi ✦ Baptism at the Jordan]

Focus on the Word

The Baptism of the Lord, Year C

Isaiah 40.1-11; Titus 2.11-14; 3.4-7; Luke 3.15-22

Almighty ever-living God, who, when Christ had been baptized in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, grant that your children by adoption, reborn of water and Holy Spirit, may always be well pleasing to you. Amen.

Parish Week † Sunday, 12 Jan. 2025

Saturday, 11 Jan.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Andres Bustamante (family)
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Roberto Poblete (Nerissa P. Espiritu Santo)
- RCIA Separate Initiation Rite

SUNDAY, 12 JAN. / BAPTISM OF THE LORD

■ Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galea

- 9.00 am Mass: † Lydia Marquez (family)
- 10.30 am Mass: † Venustiano Ypil (Aida Tonks)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Cerelina Velasco (family & friend)
- 1.30 pm Infant Baptisms
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday, 13 Jan. / St. Hilary, bishop & doctor

■ Bishop Vincent Nguyen: Episcopal Ordination Anniversary (2010)

- 8.00 am Mass: † Caroline & Cyril Bastiampillai (family)
- 10.30 am funeral: † Magdalena Lamila
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Therese Fernandes (Maria Rodas)

Tuesday, 14 Jan.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Cyrilda Nagaratnam (Shirani & Leslie)

Wednesday, 15 Jan.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Cecilyammah Santhiapillai (Juliet)

Thursday, 16 Jan.

■ Cardinal Thomas Collins: Birthday (1947)

- 8.00 am Mass: † Camila Maulion (Corine)
- 1.00 pm ► St. Albert School Mass

Friday, 17 Jan. / St. Anthony, abbot

- 8.00 am Mass: † Gabriel & George Gomes (family)

Saturday, 18 Jan.

■ Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

- 8.00 am Mass: † Gomes family members (family)
- 5.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving Emilio & Aurora Go on their 44th Wedding Anniversary (family)

SUNDAY, 19 JAN. / 2 - C

■ Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati

- 9.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Fely and family)
- 10.30 am Mass: † Alex Abeyasekara (Samanthi)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Vito & Joanne Internicola (family)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Pray for the Deceased



Bunny & Luke Chanderbhan, Cecil Mendonca

Valdemar & Fatima Avila, who died when their vehicle was struck at high speed by an intoxicated driver on Parkside Drive.

Ordinary Time



The day following the Feast of the *Baptism of the Lord* marks the resumption of the liturgical season called ORDINARY TIME. There is nothing “ordinary” about Ordinary Time. Its name refers simply to the fact that weeks are listed by *ordinal* numbers; 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.

During Ordinary Time, we examine the ordinary ways in which we celebrate the mysteries of God’s Kingdom in our lives. Ordinary Time begins after Christmas season. It is interrupted a few weeks later by Lent and Easter; it resumes on the day after Pentecost, and continues until the beginning of a new Liturgical Year on the 1st Sunday of Advent.

During this longest of the liturgical season (34 weeks altogether) we reflect on the message of Christ and on our role as a Christian community, in helping to bring about the *Kingdom of God* in the world. We focus on the work of being the Church: sharing the mission of Jesus to proclaim God’s love.

COMING UP

26c25

20 Jan.	1 st Communion Family Information Night [A] (7 pm)
21 Jan.	1 st Communion Family Information Night [B] (7 pm)
22 Jan.	St. Maria Goretti School Mass (9 am)
26 Jan.	2 nd Collection: Maintenance
3 Feb.	Infant Baptism Parent Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
5 Feb.	St. Albert School 1 st Reconciliation & School Rec. (9.30 am)
6 Feb.	St. Maria Goretti School 1 st Reconciliation (9.00 am)
7 Feb.	St. Maria Goretti School Reconciliation (9.00 am)
9 Feb.	Infant Baptism (1:30 pm)
10 Feb.	Confirmation Family Information Night [A] (7 pm)
11 Feb.	Confirmation Family Information Night [B] (7 pm)
23 Feb.	2 nd Collection: Maintenance
5 Mar.	Ash Wednesday; - Lent begins; Day of Fast and Abstinence

Website smariagoretti.archtoronto.org

For more information on Parish activities, check pages 3 and following in the website bulletin.

Renewal of Baptism Promises



Priest: *Do you reject Satan, and all his works, and all his empty promises?*

All: "I DO."

Priest: *Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth?*

All: "I DO."

Priest: *Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?*

All: "I DO."

Priest: *Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?*

All: "I DO."

A Special Gift ALTAR FLOWERS

We thank the **El Shaddai Prayer Group** for their gift of the three beautiful flower arrangement in our Sanctuary on 29 July 2023.

RCIA, RCIC

Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults & Children



The RCIA (*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*), also called the CATECHUMENATE, is a process of initiation into the Catholic Church for persons who are experiencing a conversion in their lives and seek Baptism or (if already Baptized) *full Communion* with the Church, including Eucharist and Confirmation. The RCIA meets Friday evenings at 7.30 pm; the next meetings are on 10 & 17 January 2025. The RCIC meets Saturday mornings; the next meetings are 11 & 18 January.

Sponsors needed

We are currently seeking sponsors for the RCIA and RCIC. Your willingness to act as a sponsor will help another person to move closer to Jesus, and closer to the Salvation he won for us.

Separate Initiation Rite 5 pm Mass, 11 January

Please remember in your prayers the Candidates in our RCIA and RCIC processes who will celebrate their Initiation at the 5.00 pm Mass on 11 January. May God bless them and their families.

1st Reconciliation, 1st Communion Information Meetings

Parents with children enrolled as Candidates for

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION are invited to attend one of two Information Meetings:

FOR ST. ALBERT AND ST. MARIA GORETTI SCHOOLS:

Monday or Tuesday - 20 or 21 January

Mass will be celebrated at 7.00 pm, and the *meeting* will follow immediately in the Church.

This invitation is extended to all families who have:

- Children in Grade 2 in our Catholic Schools;
- Children in private and public schools who have been enrolled in the Saturday Sacramental Preparation classes, which begin each year in September.

We also welcome:

- Families with children enrolled in Catholic schools in Grade 3 or above, and who have not yet received these Sacraments;
- Families with children in private and public schools who have just moved into our parish and would like information on enrolling the children in our Saturday classes *next* September, to prepare for these Sacraments in 2026.

The Lectionary

The *Lectionary* is the book that contains the collection of Scripture readings appointed for worship throughout the Liturgical Year, which begins on the *1st Sunday of Advent*, and concludes with the week following the Feast of *Christ the King* the following year.

The Sunday Lectionary, which is organized in a three-year cycle of readings, is based on the three *Synoptic Gospels*. These are the Gospels which use a common three-year calendar for the public ministry of Jesus Christ. The years are designated A, B, or C. The year of the cycle does not change on 1 January, but on the First Sunday of Advent (usually late November) which is the beginning of the Liturgical Year.

Year A is based on the Gospel of **Matthew**

Year B is based on the Gospel of **Mark**

Year C is based on the Gospel of **Luke**

In Canada, the Bible translation from which the Scripture texts are taken is the NRSV – the *New Revised Standard Version*.

Stewardship 2024 Receipts, 2025 Envelopes

Soon, the Charitable *Tax Receipts* for all recorded donations during 2024 will be in the Vestibule, for pick up after Mass.

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.

Parishioners who have not yet picked up their *Sunday Offertory Envelopes* for this year are invited to do so in the Vestibule. They are for *registered* parishioners; if you are new to the parish and are not registered, *welcome to our neighbourhood!* Go to the Office window, introduce yourself, and complete a *registration form*.

Mass for the Faithful Departed of 2024

At the 7 pm Mass on New Year Eve, 31 December 2024, we will pray for all the *Faithful Departed of 2024*. Those whose names were included in our Sunday intercessions (up to publication time) are noted below:

The Faithful Departed of 2024

Prayers for 2023

December

(24) Chinnamma Abrahan, Margarita Pinlac, Fr. Patrick Joseph Fitzpatrick, Fr. William Henry Irwin, The 2 Swedish soccer fans killed in an Islamic attack in Brussels; (31) Isidra Calma De Guzman, Fr. Russell Ralph Sampson, Fr. John Szkodzinski, The 55 victims of the flash floods in Haiti in June

Prayers for 2024:

January

(7) Josie Nosan, Annette Hynes, Sесilia Sunami, Fr. James Kelsey McConica, The 14 victims of the mass shooting in Prague; (14) Manuel Basa, Anton Emmanuel, Severina Mamaril, Cristobel Ventura, The 2 victims of the multi vehicle crash involving a school bus in Caledon in December; (21) Fr. Jon Bromley, The 16 victims of the earthquake in Japan on New Year's Day; (28) Ida Glass, The 5 victims of the Coast Guard plane and passengers jet crash in Japan

February

(4) Fr. Fred Schmid, Roberto DiCicco, Cardinal Telesphore Placidus Toppo, The 40 victims of the recent flooding in Kenya Somalia; (11) Eduardo Gotera Sr., Fr. Noel Whelan, Deacon Brian Du Quesnay, Ranelia Richards, the 19 year old innocent bystander shot in Mississauga on New Year's Eve; (18) Alexander Donar, The 10 victims of the landslide in Davao, Philippines in January; (25) Josefina Tupa Macatangga, Bridget Martha Nusca, The 137 victims of the earthquake in Gansu, China in December

March

(3) Father Joseph Kwok Cheung Ho, The 15 victims of the school dormitory fire in Henan, China in January; (10) Satendra Kumar Ganjoo,

Norma Hearty, Raymond Mark Navarro, Michael Scheibli, (17) The 30,000 victims of the Israel-Hamas war since Oct. 2023; (24) The 47 victims of the landslide in Yunnan, China in January; (31) Romeo Cueto, Ruby Yang He Chen, The 39 victims of the retail fire in Jiangxi, China in January

April

(7) The 28 victims of the terrorist bombing in Balochistan, Pakistan in February; (14) Josephine Rayappu Lucia, Fr. Clarence Ervin Watrin, The 50,000 casualties since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022; (21) The 5 victims of the mass murder in Ottawa in March; (28) The 6 victims of the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore, Maryland in March

May

(5) The 53,186 victims of the Covid 19 pandemic in Canada from 2020 to now; (12) Mary Bombina Bernard, Lucille Delaney, Alwyn D'Souza, Fr. Edilberto Gabales, The 17 victims of the flash flooding in Oman in April; (19) Yesudasan Kutty, Theresita Lobo, Myrna Soriano, Isabelita Roda, Praxedes Tolentino, The 6 victims of the mass stabbing in Sydney, Australia in April; (26) Beltecezar Flores, Monica Hynes, Brent Casiman Quanguay, The 155 victims of the flooding in Tanzania in April

June

(2) The 10 victims of the earthquake in Taiwan in April; (9) Fr. Fred Foley, Albert Pandagani, Ronald Reyes, The 177 victims of the flooding in Brazil since April; (16) Victor Calvar, Marina Renosa Co, Eufemia Apostol Racadio, The 23 victims of the volcano eruption in Indonesia in December; (23) Vilma Sordilla, Rolando Quinkela, The 5 victims of the flooding in Ethiopia in May; (30) The 14 victims of the billboard collapse in Mumbai in May

July

(7) Severina D'Mello, William Kreppner, Gloria Moniz, The 9 victims of the stage collapse in Nuevo Leon, Mexico in May; (14) The 2,000 victims of the landslide in Papua, New Guinea in May; (21) Chris De Jesus, The 21 victims of the storms in the US Midwest in May; (28) The 27 victims of the amusement park fire in Gujarat, India

August

(4) Mayli Go, Matteo, the 6 year old boy killed by a school bus in Vaughan on 19 June; (11) Gloria Moniz, The 9 pedestrians killed in the car tragedy in downtown Seoul, Korea in July; (18) Helen Match, Irene Pais, Kyung Sup Monich Park, Fr. Leo August Ramsperger, Jose Reyes, The 117 victims of the Hindu festival stampede in Uttar Pradesh, India in July; (25) Salvatore Murgia, Istvan Szakaczki, Matthew Rumble, the father of seven children who was murdered by a stranger at the Jane Subway Station in June

September

(1) Fr. Andrew Macbeth, The 37 candidates for public office who were assassinated prior to the June elections in Mexico; (8) The 11 victims of the fire in Manila's Chinatown in August; (15) Eden Dalisay, The 300 victims of the flooding in China & India at the end of July; (22) Bernadiaiah Addagatla, Mimi De Asis Borg, Bianca Fernando, Fr. Bernard Cryer, Fernando Babuyo, Nithiya Sagayaratnam Soosaipillai, The 200 victims of the recent flooding in Vietnam; (29) John Choi, Profetiza Diaz, The 4 victims of the mass shooting in New York at the end of August, due to a dispute over a family will.

October

(6) Bianca Fernando, The 4 homeless persons shot on a commuter train in Chicago at the beginning of September; (13) The 26 victims of storm Boris in Europe in September; (20) Edymar Apasan, Daniel Niamat, Geraldine Piza, The 1,200 victims of the flooding in sub-Saharan Africa in September; (27) Sharon Vernon, The 20 victims of the flooding in Morocco & Algeria in September

November

(3) Rose Usha Biswas, Delfina Boila, Father William Michael Comerford, Carmella Rustico, Maria Easter Soriano-Zabala, The 140 victims of the flooding in India & Pakistan in August; (10) Father Keith Langstaff, Cora Elizabeth de Nully, The 55 Chinese sailors who died in their submarine in the Yellow Sea in October; (17) Martha Niguel Fernandes, Matilda Naddaf, George Xuereb, The 4 victims of the high school shooting near Atlanta in September; (24) Esperanza & Victor Bautista, The 107 victims of typhoon Gaemi in the Philippines & Taiwan in July

December

(1) The 250 victims of Hurricane Helene in the US Southeast; (8) Frances Colaco, Edwin Tauro, The 250 victims of the flooding in Nepal in September; (15) Cresencia Gomes, Marianna Ramulu Naddi, The 115 victims of the gang massacre in Point-Sonde, Haiti in October; (22) Orland Duigan, The 3,502 victims of Israel's bombing in Lebanon since October.

Other Friends

Bill Buchanan, Simeon Cruz Castillo, Lino Christie, Antoinette Dias, Joyce Durban, Thelma John, Bunny & Alison Chanderbhan, Luke Jordan, Yolande Hirardimani, Father Rodolfo Imperial, Barbara Meecham, Cecil Mendonca, Hartmut Nissen, June Nobrega, Father Daniel Palillo, Palmira Pereira, Samantha Tsirbas, Donna Marlene Turner, Gabriel Micah Zapanta

REQUIEM AETERNAM

dona eis, Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Requiescant in pace. Amen.

ETERNAL REST grant to them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace. Amen.



Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.



O Lord, Creator and Redeemer of all the faithful, grant to the souls of Your departed servants, the remission of all their sins, that through pious supplications they may obtain that pardon which they have always desired. You who live and reign with the Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity



The WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY Prayer Service will be held at 4.00 pm on Sunday, 19 January 2025, at North City Church, which is located in Toronto District Christian High School, 377 Woodbridge Ave., Woodbridge, Ontario.

The theme this year is: “*Do you believe this?*” (John 11:26).

This year, we commemorate the 1,700th anniversary of the first **Christian Ecumenical Council** in **Nicaea**, offering a unique opportunity to reflect on and celebrate our shared faith as expressed in the Creed established during that council. Prayers and texts were drafted by the Monastic Community of Bose in northern Italy, and prepared by an international team selected by the Vatican and the World Council of Churches. Drawing on these global resources, the Office for Promoting Christian Unity and Relations with Judaism, in collaboration with the Greater Toronto Area Council of Christian Churches, have organized an ecumenical prayer service to celebrate this Week.

Parishioners are invited to join Bishop John A. Boissonneau (*Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto, Northern Region*), alongside a wide representation of Christian leaders, to pray for the full visible unity willed by Jesus Christ for his Church.



The Council of Nicaea

The *Council of Nicaea* (325), the 1st Ecumenical Council of the Church, met in ancient Nicaea (now İznik, Turkey). It was organized by the Roman Emperor **Constantine I**, who presided over the opening session and took part in the discussions. He hoped a general council of the Church would solve the problem created in the Eastern Church by **Arius** of Alexandria that claimed that Christ is not divine but a created being.

The council condemned Arius and issued decrees on other matters, such as the proper method to consecrate bishops. It also confirmed the primacy of *Alexandria* and *Jerusalem* over other sees in their respective areas.

Fr. Haig Chahinian, new CEO of Salt + Light Catholic Media



SALT + LIGHT MEDIA is pleased to announce the appointment of **Fr. Haig Chahinian** as its new Chief Executive Officer on 1 December 2024. Fr. Chahinian brings a deep commitment to pastoral ministry as an Armenian Catholic priest. He serves Catholics with unique pastoral reach. His spiritual leadership and comprehensive understanding of both Eastern and Western Catholic traditions are supported by his extensive background in marketing, digital media and leadership of the Armenian Catholic television channel for **Telepace** in Rome.

He is multilingual in English, French, Italian, and Armenian. Fr. Chahinian holds a BA from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, and he also holds a degree in International Relations and Economics from prior to entering the seminary. Currently, he is completing his graduate dissertation at Regis College, U. of T., focusing on bridging Western and Eastern Catholic Fundamental Theology.

The Board of Directors welcomes Fr. Chahinian’s spiritual leadership and vision, which align with the mission of **Salt + Light** to inspire & nurture faith by modern communications. He will be supported by an experienced senior management team, a passionate and faith-filled staff and vast network of partners and benefactors in advancing the charity’s mission of spreading the light and hope of Christ to the world.



ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

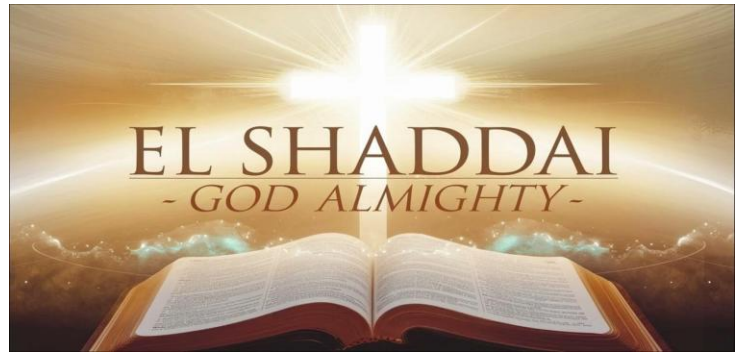
Tips to avoid frozen pipes



Tips from Sidath Wijegunawardana, Catholic Pastoral Centre.

It's extremely important to take the time to make sure you prepare all of your buildings to reduce the chance of loss.

- ▶ **Turn up the heat!** This is the most important step. It is important to maintain adequate building temperature during extreme cold, especially for buildings with minimal use or staff. The recommended heat should be 15 degrees during these unusually cold periods.
- ▶ **Sprinkler Pipes** in attic, crawl Spaces Ensure water pipes and sprinkler pipes in attics and crawl spaces are insulated.
- ▶ **Insulate exterior faucets, pipes** Avoid freezing.
- ▶ **Faucet drip** Run a steady stream of water (low pressure) especially on faucets that are located on outside walls.
- ▶ **Freeze alarms** Consider installing freeze alarms to thermostats in seldom used buildings with water still connected. These alarms are inexpensive and provide added protection in the event your heat fails.
- ▶ **Cabinet doors** Open cabinet doors and closets on outside walls to increase heat transfer to those areas and allow heat to any pipes located under sinks.
- ▶ **Space heaters** If you choose to utilize space heaters, they should be continuously monitored to avoid fires. Be sure to remove all combustibles and storage from within three feet of the space heater.
- ▶ **Water lines in ceiling** If you have water pipes in ceilings, remember to open some ceiling tiles for the coldest nights to help ensure that some warm air circulates in the ceiling to help prevent the pipes from freezing.
- ▶ **Boiler/Furnace** Have a plan in place in the event the boiler or furnace malfunctions. Call a technician immediately. Water may need to be turned off to prevent rupture.
- ▶ **Sprinkler systems** Check pressures daily during cold weather, especially at night when temperatures are lowest.
- ▶ **Frozen pipes** Know the signs of frost on the surface of pipes, or unusual odours coming from a drain, or no water running. Should you determine that you have frozen pipes, it is very important to properly thaw them; incorrect methods could result in the pipe bursting and flooding the space. Do not try to thaw pipes with blow torches or other flame generating devices; many fires have occurred due to improper use.
- ▶ **In case of freezing**, first and foremost, *the water supply should be shut off*. Immediately contact your plumber or mechanical contractor as it may be necessary for a qualified technician to properly thaw frozen water pipes. Another common winter woe is the increase in slip & fall injuries. Some of these injuries can be reduced with a snow removal program.



Scarborough Cell Group

21 Kenmark Boulevard, Toronto ON M1K 3N8

Fellowship every Saturday: 1:00 to 5:00 pm. (Mass every First Saturday of the Month at St. Maria Goretti Parish)
Contact: Elsa Macapagal, 647-205-6479; Marijoy Cablar, 416-509-1578; Angelina Subardiaga - 647-888-7032.

EL SHADDAI is one of the covenant names through which God the Father, creator of heaven and earth revealed Himself to Israel. He is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13.8). In Hebrew, **EL SHADDAI** means "The God who is more than enough." "The Most Sufficient One." "The Breasted One." Jerusalem Bible translated **EL SHADDAI** as the "Almighty God" (Genesis 17.1; 35.11). **EL SHADDAI** DWXI-PPFI -Prayer Partners Fellowship International is a Worldwide Catholic Charismatic movement helping the mother church in fulfilling the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ - "to seek and save the lost." The biggest Catholic Charismatic Renewal group in the Philippines since 1984 and it has grown to over 10 million members worldwide! The mission of this fellowship is to proclaim to the world the greatness, faithfulness, power, goodness and the love of God; to provide relief to people whose hearts and minds are burdened with problems; to heal the spiritual afflictions of men in our time through the infallible Word of God. And to preach the Good News of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. Our vision is to bring about a revival of the true Christian spirit in our Catholic faith, particularly among the **EL SHADDAI** DWXI-PPFI members and followers. To raise up a true Christian family and a community of Spirit-filled, generous, loving, victorious, joyful, and united believers of God who care and share each other's burdens and blessings for the glory of God, our Heavenly Father, El Shaddai as described in Acts 2.42-47. Jesus said: "Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest." Matthew 11.28

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EL SHADDAI Toronto Chapter

/ Delta Broadcasting System Inc.



New Year Eve 7.00 pm Mass
for the faithful Departed of 2024.



