

Parish Week † Sunday, 31 Dec. 2023

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 Ramon Villardo

■ 2nd Collection: Maintenance

- 9.00 am Mass: † Robert Pereira (Precy & Family)
10.30 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving Our Lady of Vailankani
(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

- 7.00 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

Tues., 2 Jan. / Ss. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, bishops & doctors

- 8.00 am Mass: † Carmen & Rosetta (Emma DeCicco)
11.00 am Memorial Mass: † Milagros Tabora

Wednesday, 3 Jan. / Most Holy Name of Jesus

- 8.00 am Mass: † Mary, Paul and Ellis Galea (Fr. Edwin)

Thursday, 4 Jan. / St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, religious

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Birthday & Anniversary Blessing
for Francis family

Friday, 5 Jan.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Louis Francis (family)
6.00 pm Holy Hour
7.00 pm Mass: † Aloysius Bastiampillai (family)

Saturday, 6 Jan. / St. André Bessette, / religious

- 8.00 am Mass: † Domingo Villasis (family)
5.00 pm Mass: † Lalata D'Souza (Joseph)

SUNDAY, 7 JANUARY / EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Homilist: Deacon Ranon Villardo

- 9.00 am Mass: † Gabriel & Francis Andreas
(Maria Subramaniam)
10.30 am Mass: † Lydia Marquez (family)
12.00 pm Mass: † Souls in Purgatory (Carol Morra)
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Focus on the Word

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Genesis 15.1-6; 17.3-16; 21.1-7 Hebrews 11.8-19; Luke 2.22-40

O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. Amen.

Mass for the Faithful Departed of 2023

At the 7 pm Mass on New Year Eve, 31 December 2023, we will pray for all the *Faithful Departed of 2023*. Those whose names were included in our Sunday intercessions (up to publication time) are noted in our website bulletin.

NEW YEAR EVE

Holy Hour

11.00 pm, 31 Dec. 2023

Bring in the New Year in a truly spiritual way: come to our *New Year Eve Holy Hour*: from 11.00 pm to Midnight, right before our New Year Midnight Mass. What a splendid way to thank God for the blessings of the past year, and to ask for His graces in the year to come.



New Year Collections

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 2nd 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

22c23

- 8 Jan. Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
14 Jan. Infant Baptism (1.30 pm)
22 Jan. ▶ St. Albert School Mass (1.00 pm)
23 Jan. St. Maria Goretti School Mass (9.00 am)
28 Jan. 2nd Collection: *Maintenance*
- 5 Feb. Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
7 Feb. ▶ St. Albert School 1st Reconciliation &
School Reconciliation (9.30 am)
- 8 Feb. St. Maria Goretti School 1st Reconciliation (9.00 am)
9 Feb. St. Maria Goretti School Reconciliation (9.30 am)
11 Feb. **Our Lady of Lourdes;**
- World Day of Prayer for the Sick;
- Infant Baptism (1.30 pm)

Sacramental Preparation

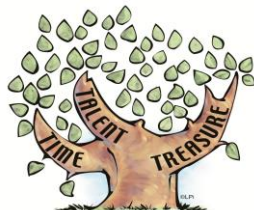
Reconciliation, 1st Communion



Students in our parish Catholic Schools receive RECONCILIATION and FIRST COMMUNION preparation in Grade 2. The parish will take care of the immediate instruction; families of students in our schools will be given a calendar at their Information Night early in the New Year. Watch the bulletin (& website) for the schedule.

Confirmation Enrolment

Students in our Catholic Schools will be prepared to receive Confirmation in Grade 7. The Information packages will soon be distributed through our schools.



Watch the bulletin (& website) for the schedule of meetings beginning in the New Year.

RCIA, RCIC

Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults & Children



The RCIA meets Friday evenings at 7.30 pm; their next meeting is on 5 January 2024. The RCIC meets Saturday mornings; their next meeting is on 6 January.

During the Christmas break, both the RCIA and RCIC will attend the Sunday and Christmas Season Masses that comprise the key spiritual highlights of this important liturgical season. This is a time of genuine spiritual growth.

Finance Council

Many thanks to the Parishioners who have helped the Parish by their service on our Finance Council. It is a requirement of the Archdiocese that such a Council work in collaboration with the Pastor to ensure that significant Parish projects are planned in a responsible and financially sustainable manner. A special word of thanks to the Readers of our 2023 Report (16/17 December):

Saturday, 5.00: Melchora Mulla

Sunday, 9.00: Cheryl Dalliday; 10.30: Robb Scherz;

12.00: Judel Villardo; 7.00: Jonathan Williams.

Do you feel called to help? The *Repair & Renewal* subcommittee can use more members with engineering or accounting experience. There are a few special jobs waiting to move forward, and it would be helpful if we had more input. Speak to Fr. Edwin for details.

Mass for the Faithful Departed of 2023

At the 5 pm Mass on New Year Eve, 31 December 2023, we will pray for all the *Faithful Departed of 2023*. Those whose names were included in our Sunday intercessions (up to publication time) are noted in our website bulletin.

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 website 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.

The Monthly Devotions of the Liturgical Year

If you read the PARISH WEEK column, and follow the FOCUS ON THE WORD and LITURGY NOTES, you can keep track of the feasts and devotional seasons of the Liturgical year, and be reminded to focus your prayer on a different aspect of our faith each month.

<i>January</i>	HOLY NAME OF JESUS
<i>February</i>	HOLY FAMILY
<i>March</i>	ST. JOSEPH
<i>April</i>	BLESSED SACRAMENT
<i>May</i>	BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
<i>June</i>	SACRED HEART OF JESUS
<i>July</i>	PRECIOUS BLOOD
<i>August</i>	IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY
<i>September</i>	SEVEN SORROWS OF MARY
<i>October</i>	HOLY ROSARY
<i>November</i>	POOR SOULS IN PURGATORY
<i>December</i>	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Stewardship

2023 Receipts, 2024 Envelopes

Soon, the Charitable *Tax Receipts* for all recorded donations during 2023 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 2024 *Sunday Offertory Envelopes* in the Vestibule are invited to do so. They are for *registered* parishioners; if you are new to the parish and have not registered, *welcome to our neighbourhood!* Go to the Office window, introduce yourself, and complete a *registration form*.

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.



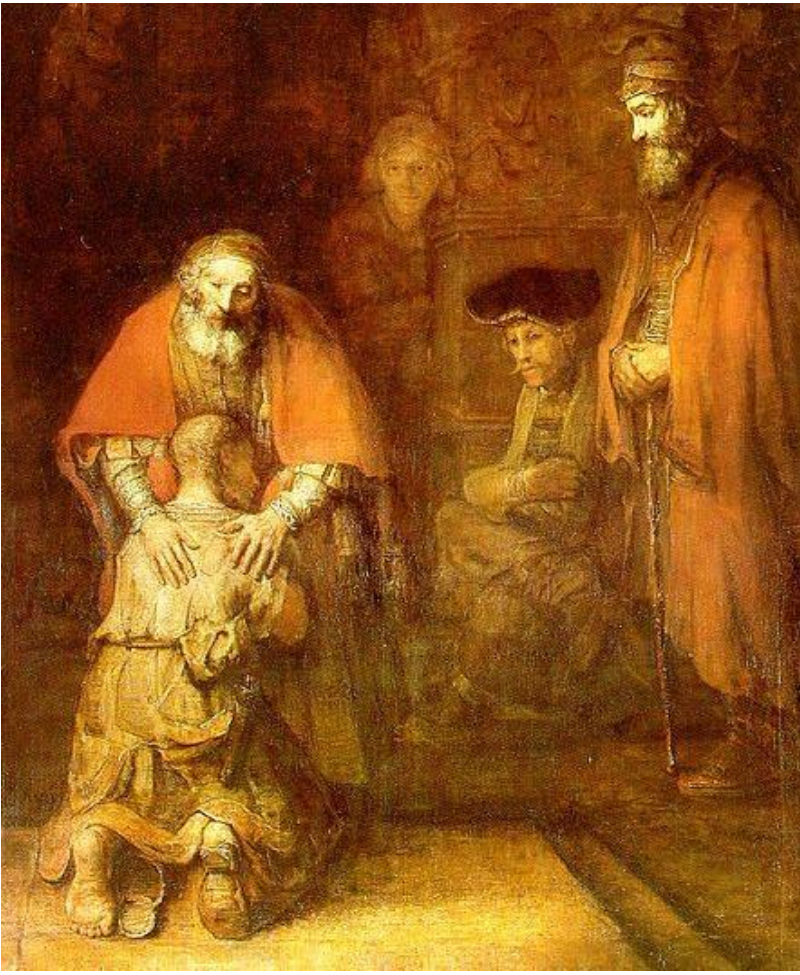




Previous page, upper left: The family of † **Eduardo Maglaya Lee** (27 August 1952 – 28 October 2023) gather for a Memorial Liturgy, 4.00 pm, 2 December, on the 40th day since his death.

Assembly of Nativity scene, 11 December. Leo Rashid and his parents Toshica and Raymond admire the set.

Advent Caroling Night: 2 December. Nine groups and individuals participated in an evening of music, prayer and community.



11 November: [above & right:] The **PRODIGAL SON** was the theme of the Spiritual Presentation hosted by the **Knights of Columbus** following the 5.00 pm Mass. Below: The Knights sponsored the Remembrance ceremony at the 5.00 pm Mass.





Funeral Mass for Fr. Phil Wiley, 9 November
November (Guardian Angels Church, Orillia.)



The family of Eduardo Lee arrive at Church for the blessing of his
cremated remains, 10 November.



St. Agatha School





