



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: **Lillian, Gina, Narisa & Wilma**

9.00 am: **The Rebello Family**

10.30 am: **SVDP Conference**

12.00 pm: **The Diaz & Carla Family**

7.00 pm: **J.N. Albert & Family**

Parish Week ❖ Sunday, 18 Dec. 2022

Saturday, 17 Dec.

■ *Birthday of Pope Francis (1936)*

8.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Caroline)

5.00 pm Mass: † Lalita D'Souza (Joseph)

SUNDAY, 18 DEC. / ADVENT 4-A

■ *Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati*

■ *2nd Collection: Maintenance*

■ *Religious Articles Sale*

9.00 am Mass: † Fe Alconabo (P. Edirisingha)

10.30 am Mass: Int. Lorna & Lancy Gomes
Thanksgiving 25th Wedding Anniversary

12.00 pm Mass: † Mary Roberts (Kathleen Ryan)

7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday, 19 Dec.

8.00 am Mass: Int. Amalia Haddad (Maria Rodas)

7.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Brendan Serpes)

Tuesday, 20 Dec.

8.00 am Mass: † Luigi DeCicco (Emma)

7.00 pm Mass: † Charlotte Wijesingha (family)

Wednesday, 21 Dec. / St. Peter Canisius, priest & doctor

8.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Caroline)

7.00 pm Mass: Int. Lillian D'Souza (friends)

Thursday, 22 Dec.

8.00 am Mass: † Roman Banlaygas (Rebecca)

7.00 pm Mass: Int. Mary Weerasingha (family)

Friday, 23 Dec. / St. John of Kanty, priest

8.00 am Mass: Stephanie - Int. & Thanksgiving (Jenny Lee)

7.00 pm Mass: † Frederick Little John (Cynthia Bowering)

Saturday, 24 December

8.00 am Mass: † Frederick Little John (Cynthia Bowering)

CHRISTMAS EVE

■ *Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galea (Christmas Eve & Day)*

■ *2nd Collection: Christmas*

7.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving
Arnold, Jyen & Baby Lily (Lillian)

9.00 pm Mass: † Antonio Pisciola (Irma & family)

11.30 pm Choir Caroling

12.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving for Baby Lily Kim Kamath
(Grandma & D'Souza family)

CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday, 25 Dec. / The Nativity of the Lord

9.00 am Mass: † Charles D'Silva (Lydia & family)

10.30 am Mass: † Ernesto, Lydia, & Justino Rodas (family)

12.00 pm Mass: † Francisco & Teresa Di Michele (family)

7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Pray for the Deceased

Oliver Hans Kraus

The **31** victims of **Hurricane Fiona** in **Puerto Rico** and **Canada** in **October**



Christmas Collections

17 / 18 December: Offertory & Maintenance

On 23/24 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*.

24 / 25 December: Offertory & Christmas

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

31 December / 1 January: Offertory & New Year

On 31 December / 1 January, the collection taken by the Greeters at the Preparation of the Gifts will be for the *Regular Sunday Offertory*. The 2nd collection (after Communion) will be the *New Year Collection*.

COMING UP

14a22

30 Dec.

Feast of the **Holy Family**
- 2nd Collection: *Maintenance*

31 Dec.

NEW YEAR EVE Masses:
5.00 pm: For all the Faithful Departed of 2022;
11.00 pm: Holy Hour, followed by Mass at Midnight

2023

1 Jan.

The Solemn Feast of **Mary, Mother of God**;
- Collection: *New Year*

7 Apr.

► **Depeche Mode** (Scotiabank Arena)

5 May

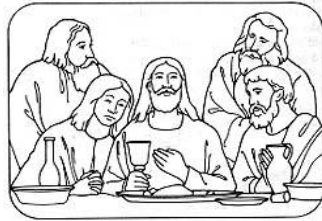
Cardinal Thomas Collins: 50th Anniversary
of Ordination to the Priesthood

Website stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org

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

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 enrolled students 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 receive Confirmation in Grade 7. The Information packages are available, and were distributed to students in St. Maria Goretti and St. Albert Schools.



Congratulations to the Candidates who presented themselves at the Enrolment Masses in October (St. Maria Goretti School) and 11 December (St. Albert, Virtual and Saturday Class). If any students missed due to illness or urgent family matters, they may speak to Fr. Edwin at the make-up Masses: 9 & 10.30 am, on 18 December 2022 and 8 January 2023. Candidates are called up to the Altar after Communion to offer their *Enrolment Prayer*.

A Special Gift ALTAR FLOWERS

Thank you to **Jerrett Funeral Home** for the gift of three beautiful Chrysanthemum plants in our Sanctuary in late September.

Fragrance Irritation and Allergies

The chemicals used in many cosmetics may cause allergic reactions in some people, including breathing problems, asthma and dermatitis (itchy rash). Please refrain from wearing cosmetics with discernable fragrances to Church.

Knights of Columbus

1.30 pm, 18 December

The next *Knights of Columbus* Meeting will be held at 1.30 pm on 18 December. All members are asked to Assemble in the North Classroom.



☺ Your sabbath smile

My wife and I were sitting at a table at my high school reunion, and I kept staring at a drunken lady swigging her drink as she sat alone at a nearby table.

My wife asked, "Do you know her?"

"Yes," I sighed, "she's my old girlfriend. I understand that she took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago. I hear she hasn't been sober since."

"My goodness," said my wife, "Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?"

ADVENT PREPARATIONS

Christmas Flowers



Parishioners are invited to sponsor this year's display of CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS in our Sanctuary. Donation envelopes are at the Office window.

If you wish to *dedicate* your flowers, please fill out the "Christmas Flower" form in the donation envelope. Dedications will be accepted until noon on Monday, 19 December.

The forms are intended to remember *one person* for each pot donated. If you wish to honour more than one person, you may submit the name of a pair who share a common family name; or, for many persons, "For the members of the _____ Family."

St. Vincent de Paul Advent Appeal

During Advent, as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior, we recall many in our community who are less fortunate and who could benefit from our prayers and almsgiving.

Our parish St. Vincent de Paul Society seeks your support for the help we provide to the poor. Envelopes will be made available at the doors of the Church so that you can help us to extend Christ's love to our neighbors who are in need.

Finance Council Report 18 December

The annual FINANCE COUNCIL Report will be presented at all Masses on 17 & 18 December.

Stewardship

2023 Sunday Envelopes

Parishioners are invited to pick up their 2023 *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!* Come to the Office window, fill out a *registration form*, and join our parish.

Many thanks to all our faithful parishioners for your generous support of our wonderful parish through your weekly stewardship!

Donation amounts

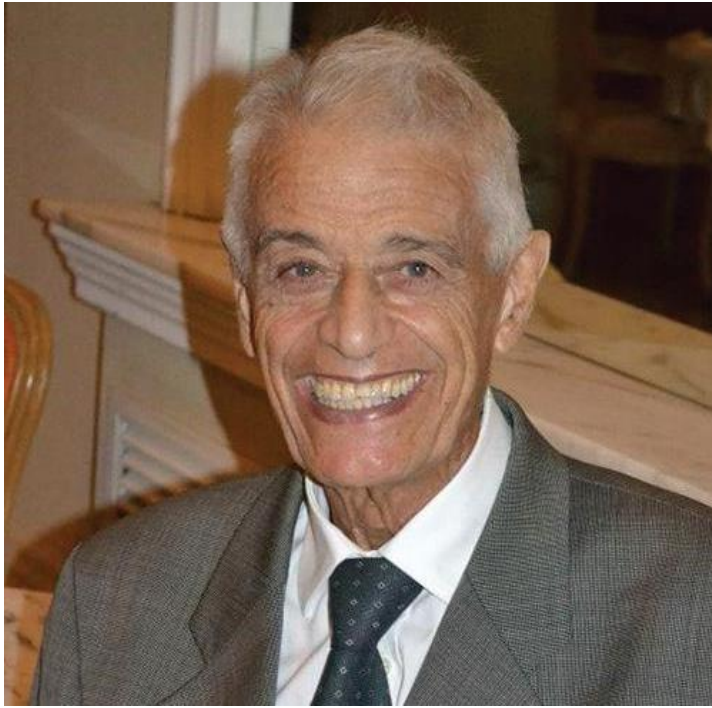
For the benefit of *new Parishioners*: Welcome to our Parish! kindly ensure that the *donation amount* is written in the space provided on the front of the envelope. If this is not done, our financial advisors must stop to do so when the collection is counted, and this really slows down the process.

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.

<i>Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.</i> <small>Mat 6:21</small>	My Offering	
	Name: _____	Address: _____
	Amount: _____	



Dr. Daniel Micallef, 8 June 1928 – 9 December 2022

Uncle of Fr. Edwin

In Malta, former Speaker of the House **Dr. Daniel Micallef**, died on 9 December 2022 at the age of 94. A well-known and respected doctor, Dr. Micallef was seen as a moderate voice in some tough years when the political situation in Malta was tense.

He was first elected to parliament with the *Christian Workers' Party* in 1962 but resigned in 1966. He was later elected on the *Labour Party* ticket in 1971, 1976, 1981 and 1987. His years as Speaker, from 1982 to 1986, saw him dealing with Malta's biggest constitutional crisis, sparked by the Nationalists' boycott of the opening of parliament in February 1982. They reassumed their seats 11 months later. Dr. Micallef was appointed Minister of Education and the Environment in 1986 and was the Labour Party's spokesman on Education and the Environment until 1987.

His political life also saw him serving as acting president in April 1982 and later, in January 1997, he was appointed Malta's ambassador to the Holy See and to the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem, posts he held until 1999.

Dr. Micallef was also well known in the medical field and was a member of the Royal College of General Practitioners in London. His interest in alternative medicine became his daily mantra in recent years. He also set up the Institute of Design for Environmental Action. He was married to Pauline Farrugia; they had seven children: Marika, Denise, Isabelle, Bernardette, Mark, Paul, and Daniel. His sister Mary, *r.i.p.*, wife of Paul C. Galea, was Fr. Edwin's mother.

Mass *praesente cadavere* was offered on 11 December at St Dominic Church, Rabat, Malta, followed by burial at St Margherita Cemetery. ✠ *May God grant him eternal rest.* ✠



St. Dominic Church, Rabat; Christmas in Malta.





CWL Advent Reflection, 10 December.





Memorial Prayers for Suzanne Fernandes, 4 December.



1st year death anniversary, Romeo Barrion Dulce, 6 December.



Church decoration for Christmas, Monday, 12 December 2022.





St. Maria Goretti School

