



Parish Week

Sunday, 16 December 2018

Saturday, 15 Dec.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Kevin Anthony Pierre (mom)
- 10:30 am Memorial Mass: † Eduardo Villanueva
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Eddie Juan (Shirley & children)

SUNDAY, 16 DEC. / ADVENT 3-C

■ *Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galea*

- 9.00 am Mass: † Petra Zulueta (Rosalina Mopas)
- 10.30 am Mass: Int. Birthday Peter Joseph (Mom, Agnes)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Gary Lynn Faulkner (Justin & Joey Saturno)
- *Altar Servers Novice Installation*
- 1.30 pm Greeters' Advent Lunch
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday, 17 Dec.

■ *Pope Francis, birthday (1936)*

- 8.00 am Mass: † Charles D`Silva (Lydia & family)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Int. Ray & Dolly Aglipay (family)

Tuesday, 18 Dec.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Helen Kafun (Helen Hillier)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Nancy Bayer (Helen Hillier)

Wednesday, 19 Dec.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Nancy Bayer (Eileen Egan)
- 6.30 pm St. Maria Goretti School Christmas Caroling
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Mary & Paul Galea (Fr. Edwin)
- St. Maria Goretti School Family Advent Mass

Thursday, 20 Dec.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Luigi Di Cicco (Emma, mom)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Ernesto & Lydia Rodas (family)

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

- 8.00 am Mass: † Nancy Bayer (Helen Hillier)
- 11.00 am ▶ Ina Grafton Nursing Home Mass
- 7.00 pm Mass: Int. Lillian D`Souza (friends)

Saturday, 22 Dec.

■ *Fr. Armand Joseph Desaulniers: death anniversary (1988)*

- 8.00 am Mass: † For the Unborn (Audrey)
- 11.00 am Memorial Mass: James Samadhin
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Melquiadis Cesar Deangkinay (Carmelo & family)

SUNDAY, 23 DEC. / ADVENT 4-C

■ *Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati*

- 9.00 am Mass: † William Woods (Alice Larkin)
- 10.30 am Mass: † Fernando Narvaez (family)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Eduardo Villanueva (Cristeta & family)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

The Advent Wreath

Third 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 us to share Christ's ministry to a troubled world. Fill us with Your Spirit, so that we may faithfully proclaim Your Word in all we say and do, until Your Kingdom comes on Earth.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Today's Candle lighters are:

- 5.00 pm: **Ondine Almeida**
- 9.00 am: **Rosalina Mopas & Zainy Dacanay**
- 10.30 am: **Catholic Women's League. SMG Council**
- 12.00 pm: **Maleka & Worrick Russell**
- 7.00 pm: **Lorenzo Berardinetti & Family**

Pray for the Deceased

Maria Cuellar Amado Mutuc

The 11 Victims of the shooting in the Synagogue in Pittsburg



Christmas Collections

22 / 23 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 2nd Christmas collection for our Special Church Needs will be taken after Communion at our Christmas Eve & Day Masses, 24/25 December.

29 / 30 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

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- 24 Dec. **Christmas Eve Masses** begin at 7.00 pm
- 25 Dec. Christmas: Feast of the **Nativity of Our Lord**
2nd Collection: Christmas
- 31 Dec. Feast of the **Holy Family**;
- *2nd Collection: Maintenance*;
- New Year Eve Masses begin at 5.00 pm

2019

- 1 Jan. The Solemnity of **Mary, Mother of God**;
- *2nd Collection: New Year's*
- 5 Jan. 40th Wedding Anniversary, Dolly & Manuel (11:00 am)
- 6 Jan. Feast of the **Epiphany of Our Lord**

Family of Faith

Implementing the Pastoral Plan

Many thanks to all parishioners who are participating in our diocesan *Family of Faith* campaign, to implement the Pastoral Plan developed by **Cardinal Collins**.



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 Friday, 21 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."

Stewardship

Putting Christ at the Centre

Putting Christ at the Centre means looking at the life of Jesus, and living as he teaches us. While each of us will follow in our own way, based on our talents and life circumstances, we will all respond with our faith.



We have an urgent call. It is a call to live as a disciple and as a steward. Jesus' call is urgent. He does not tell people to follow him at some time in the future, but here and now, at this moment, in these circumstances. There can be no delay.

Christmas Pageant 6.15 pm, 24 December

Parents of children who would like to participate in the Christmas Pageant at 6.15 pm on 24 December are invited to call: **Anastasia Williams**, 416-285-5303. Rehearsals are underway.

ShareLife 2018

You can work wonders!

ShareLife has released its annual REPORT TO DONORS, sharing the results of the 2018 Campaign and detailing how your generosity is making a difference in the lives of those in need. Copies of the report have been distributed through the Parish Office. If you missed receiving one, it can be read online at: www.sharelife.org



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.

Children's Choir

Concert, 6:30 pm, 29 December

The St. Maria Goretti Children's Choir, founded in 1997, welcomes all parishioners to join in celebrating its 21 year anniversary, with a concert:



"Singing the Joy of the Gospel in Songs"

Featuring all the music ministries in the parish, with guest appearances, steel pan & more. Refreshments to follow.

Sunday School Christmas/New Year break

The last *Sunday School for Kids* before Christmas: at the 10.30 Mass on **16 December 2018**.

The Sunday School will resume: at the 10.30 Mass on **6 January 2019**.

Pope Francis

Birthday: 17 December 1936

Let us remember in our prayers our Holy Father, **Pope Francis**, who celebrates his birthday on 17 December.

May God bless and protect him, and guide his ministry as Vicar of Christ and Shepherd of the faithful in the Church on earth.



Stewardship

2019 Sunday Envelopes

Parishioners are invited to pick up their *2019 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 community of faith.

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



Altar Servers Novice Installation, 16 December

Would you like to be an Altar Server? Applicants must be members of registered parish families, and have made their 1st Communion. For servers who have completed the Fall Training series, the installation of Novices will be held on 16 December, at the 12.00 noon Mass.

Website stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org

For more information on *Stewardship*, and particularly the issue of Greed and Inequality, see page 3 in the bulletin on our website.

Greed and Inequality

Greed and Inequality. Catholics are familiar with the following verse from Luke 12.15:

Then Jesus said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

Mr. Mohandas K. Gandhi also warned us when he stated that the world has enough for everyone’s need, but not enough for everyone’s greed. The statistics support his comments.

According to a *Credit Suisse* report, we now live in a world where the richest one percent of the population owns more than half of the total wealth. How did we end up this way? It was not always like this. For most of human history, we were *hunter-gatherers*. During this period, humans were relatively equal, each having a limited number of possessions. We only took what we needed to survive. Hoarding items was not an option because we were constantly on the move. We lived a nomadic existence.

But things changed approximately 12,000 years ago when we started domesticating plants and animals. This made our food supply more accessible and predictable. Farming enabled families to collect wealth and pass it on.

The region with the first agricultural communities is known as the FERTILE CRESCENT, a narrow strip of land between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. The Greeks called this area MESOPOTAMIA, which means “between the rivers.” In addition to agriculture and irrigation, technological advances in this region included the development of writing, glass, and the wheel. It should be noted, however, that the more technologically advanced a society was, the less equal it tended to be.

Cities started to form. Mesopotamian cities included Eridu, Uruk, and Ur. Early cities arose in the Indus Valley and ancient China, as well.



Growth of these urban areas further widened the gap between the rich and poor. Large cities are places that disproportionately reward the most talented people, while fail the least skilled [*World Economic Forum*]. Fast-forward to today: the inequality crisis is at a tipping point.

After 12,000 years of “progress,” the most recent statistics show that 82% of the wealth created in 2017 went to the richest one percent of the global population, while the 3.7 billion people who make up the poorest half of humanity received nothing [*Oxfam*]. Clearly, this inequality is driven by greed. It is also obvious that the answer to most of the world’s problems is a fair allocation of the world’s wealth. Pope Francis summed it up as follows:

“Once capital becomes an idol and guides people’s decisions, once greed for money presides over the entire socio-economic system, it ruins society, it condemns and enslaves men and women, it destroys human fraternity, it sets people against one another, and it even puts at risk our common home.”



References

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