

Parish Week / Sunday, 26 Dec. 2021

Friday, 24 December

8.00 am Mass: Int. 50th Wedding Anniversary
Linus & Theresa Crasto (D'Cunha family)

CHRISTMAS EVE

- *Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galea (Christmas Eve & Day)*
- *2nd Collection: Christmas*

7.00 pm Mass: † Francesco & Teresa Di Michele (family)
 9.00 pm Mass: † Mervyn & Delicia Rajapakse (Samanthi)
 11.30 pm Choir Caroling
 12.00 am Mass: Int. Baby Lily Kim Kamath (Grandma)

CHRISTMAS DAY

Saturday, 25 Dec. / The Nativity of the Lord

9.00 am Mass: † Charles D'Silva (Lydia & family)
 10.30 am Mass: † Ernesto & Lydia Rodas (family)
 12.00 pm Mass: † Maria, Lawrence & Joseph D'Cruz
(Pereira family)

SUNDAY, 26 DEC. / HOLY FAMILY

- *Homilist: Deacon Ramon Villardo*
- *2nd Collection: Maintenance*

9.00 am Mass: † Charles D'Silva (family)
 10.30 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving to the Holy Spirit
(Rebello family)
 12.00 pm Mass: Int. Victor D'Cunha (friends)
 1.30 pm Infant Baptism
 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday, 27 Dec. / St. John, apostle & evangelist

8.00 am Mass: Int. Birthday of Esther Bobji (Preethi Benedict)
 7.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving Bridget Mattos
(Isabel Gracias)

Tuesday, 28 Dec. / Holy Innocents

8.00 am Mass: † Clare & Joseph Adamick (Michael)

Wednesday, 29 Dec. / St. Thomas Becket, bishop & martyr

8.00 am Mass: † Beatriz Remedios (family)

Thursday, 30 Dec.

8.00 am Mass: † Deceased Pereira family members

Friday, 31 December / St. Sylvester I, pope

8.00 am Mass: † Bernardo Villaron (family)

NEW YEAR EVE, 2021

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

5.00 pm Mass: † All the Faithful Departed of 2021
 11.00 pm Holy Hour
 12.00 am Mass: Int. Eric & Rufina Pinto (Lillian)

NEW YEAR DAY, 2022

Saturday, 1 Jan. / Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

9.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Caroline)
 10.30 am Mass: † Ernesto, Lydia & Justino Rodas (family)
 12.00 pm Mass: † Erlinda Deleon (family)

SUNDAY, 2 JAN. / EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

- *Homilist: Deacon Ramon Villardo*

9.00 am Mass: † Ciani Orlando (Irma Pisciola & family)
 10.30 am Mass: † Deceased members of Martyn Family (Jane)
 12.00 pm Mass: † Cecilio Saguisag (Gina Arroyo & family)
 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.

Christmas / New Year Collections

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.

26 December: Offertory & Maintenance

On 26 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

22c22

2022

1 Jan. The Solemn Feast of **Mary, Mother of God**
 2 Jan. Feast of the **Epiphany of Our Lord**
 3 Jan. Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
 9 Jan. Feast of the **Baptism of the Lord;**
 - Infant Baptism (1.30 pm)
 30 Jan. *2nd Collection: Maintenance*
 7 Feb. Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)

Website stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org

All must sign in at arrival, and wear a face mask inside the Church. Hand sanitization is recommended. For more information on Parish activities, such as the schedule of upcoming **Sacramental** celebrations, check pages 3 and following in the website bulletin.

Prayer for Families

God our Father, we thank You for the family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. It was at home with his parents that Jesus grew in wisdom, in age and in Your grace. There he learned to know the Law and the Prophets, and to do right and to love goodness. Bless with strength, patience and good humour all who would make such homes today.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.

Sacramental Preparation

The celebration of **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION** for the Grade 3 & 8 students in our Parish Schools has been completed. This is an extremely important time in their lives.

Shortly, our Office Team will work on reviewing the information from these celebrations, and begin the work of entering them into our Sacramental Registers, and preparing the proper Certificates.

In January 2022, we will focus our attention on scheduling the Sacrament of **1st Reconciliation** for all the students who made their First Communion in 2021.

We also need to complete the *Presentations* on the Sacraments for the newly-Confirmed Grade 8 youth (November–December 2021), and the students who recently made their 1st Communion in Grade 4 (April 2021) and Grade 3 (November 2021).

If there is no dramatic change in the public management of the current pandemic, the formal preparation for the Sacraments of **First Holy Communion** and **Confirmation** for the students currently in Grades 2 & 7 should start in February 2022. This would only be one month later than the traditional start time, so it is a sign that we are making progress in resuming a more normal pattern in attending to the spiritual needs of our Youth.

RCIA, RCIC



Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults & Children

The RCIA meets Friday evenings at 7.30 pm; their next meeting is on 7 January 2022. The RCIC meets Saturday mornings; their next meeting is on 8 January.

During the Christmas break, both the RCIA and RCIC will attend the Sunday and Christmas Masses that comprise the key spiritual highlights of this important liturgical season. The Candidates may attend any of the Masses scheduled on the bulletin cover.

A Special Gift FLOWERS, GREGORY DUNN FUNERAL

Our Parish gratefully thanks the families of † **Gregory Thomas Dunn**, who donated the *Altar Flowers* in our Church from his funeral on 5 November. Your kindness is sincerely appreciated.

Christmas Message

The Promise

What joy this mystery brings: remembering the promise made of old, believing in that promise, embracing the gift of life for all.

Mary wrapped the child with tenderness, gentle yet strong, rejoicing in this mystery of love.

(From a poem by Sr. Marie Clarkson, o.l.m.)

Let us celebrate this awesome 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*



Sunday Missals

The 2022 Sunday Missals are available at the Office.

Stewardship

2022 Sunday Envelopes

Parishioners are invited to pick up their *2022 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 and fill out a *registration form*.

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

My Offering	
Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Matt. 6:21	Name: _____
	Address: _____
	Amount: _____

Mass for the Faithful Departed of 2021

At the 5 pm Mass on New Year Eve, 31 December 2021, we will pray for all the *Faithful Departed of 2021*. Those whose names were included in our Sunday intercessions (up to publication time) are noted in our website bulletin.

Christmas Flowers

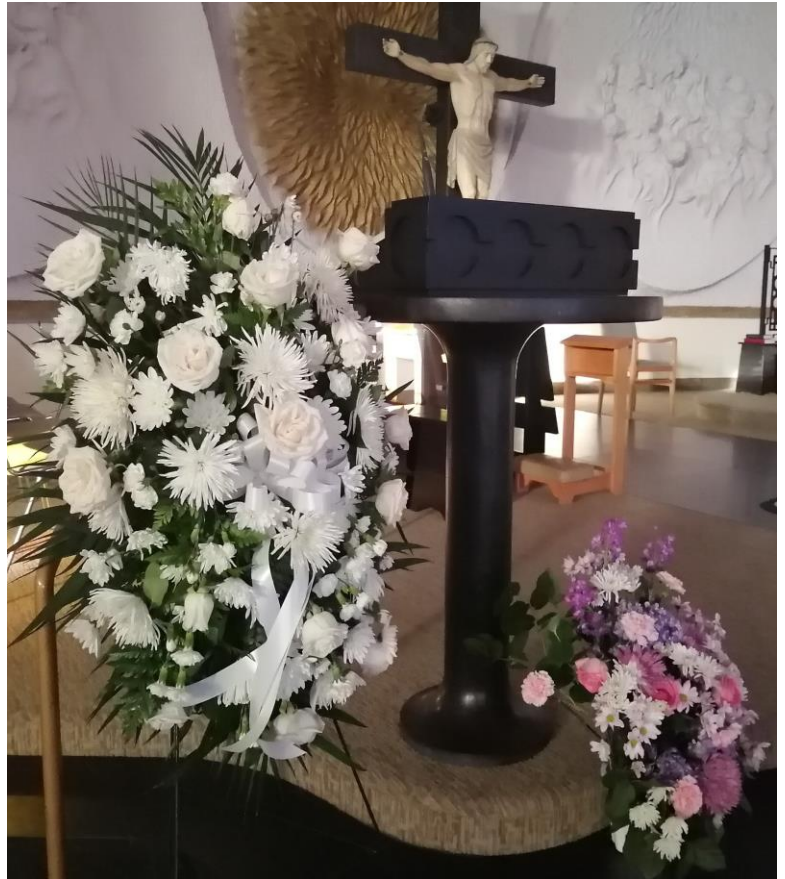
Many thanks to all Parishioners who sponsored this year's display of CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS in our Sanctuary.

Due to publication deadlines during the holidays, the list of *dedications* will be published in the first edition of the 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.



Students & Staff of St. Maria Goretti Sc hool bring donations for the Christmas Food Drive.





Christmas flowers for the Church: a welcome gift.







