

The Parish Community of St. Leonard

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OUR PARISH TEAM:

Pastor - Fr. P. John Nosan

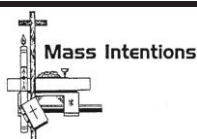
Associate Pastor - Fr. Ravi Tete, HGN

Deacon - James Bell



The Nativity of the Lord

NATIVITY OF THE LORD



Saturday, Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve

No 9:00 a.m. Mass

- 5:00 p.m. - JOSEPH BORG R.I.P.
- 7:00 p.m. - FLORENCE ACE R.I.P.
- 9:00 p.m. - BRUNO DEFINA R.I.P.
- 12:00 Midnight- FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

Sunday, Dec. 25 - Christmas Day

No 9:00 a.m. Mass

- 10:30 a.m. - THANKSGIVING INT.OF THE RIVAS FAMILY
- 12:00 a.m. - FR. ANTONI MENDRELA R.I.P.

Monday, Dec. 26 - St Stephen, The First Martyr

- 9:00 a.m. - MARCELLE ARSENAULT R.I.P.

Tuesday, Dec. 27 - St. John the Apostle

- 7:00 p.m. - DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE DEFINA & FIGLIANO FAMILIES R.I.P.

Wednesday, Dec. 28 - Holy Innocents

- 7:00 p.m. - CONSTANZA & GIUSEPPE SCHIRALLI R.I.P.

Thursday, Dec. 29

- 7:00 p.m. - THANSKIVING INT. OF NOEL RIVAS

Friday, Dec. 30 - Holy Family

- 9:00 a.m. - VICTOR BELLUOMINI R.I.P.
- 7:00 p.m. - WILLIAM HARRIS R.I.P.

Saturday, Dec. 31

- 9:00 a.m. - JENNIFER MOHABIR R.I.P.
- 5:00 p.m. - (Still available)

Sunday, Jan. 1 - Mary, Holy Mother of God

- 9:00 a.m. - RORY & ANNETTA McGUCKIN R.I.P.
- 10:30 a.m.- FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
- 12:00 noon- (Still available)

Readings for December 25

Isaiah 62.11-12 Titus 3.4-7
 Luke 2.15-20



Friday, December 30th is the Feast of the Holy Family. There will be a Mass at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. that day.

Please note that the office will be closed between December 24th to January 2nd

Pondering the Birth of Christ

So, they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Luke 2:16-19



How well do you understand the awe-inspiring mystery of Christmas? How fully do you comprehend the significance of God becoming a human, born of a virgin?

Notice the last line of the Gospel passage quoted above: "And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." What a beautiful line to ponder this Christmas day. Mother Mary was the one person who would have understood the mystery of the birth of her Son, the Son of God, the Saviour of the World, far more deeply than anyone else. It was to her that the Archangel Gabriel appeared, announcing her pregnancy and His birth. It was her who carried her Son, the Son of God, in her Immaculate womb for nine months. It was to her that Elizabeth, her cousin, cried out, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb" (Luke 1:42). It was Mary who was the Immaculate Conception, the one who was preserved from all sin throughout her life. And it was her who gave birth to this Child, carried Him in her arms and nursed Him at her breast. Our Blessed Mother, more than any other, understood the incredible event that had taken place in her life.

But, again, the Gospel above says that "Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." One thing this tells us is that even Mary, the Mother of Jesus and the Mother of God, needed time to ponder, reflect and savor this most holy mystery. She never doubted, but her faith continually deepened, and her heart pondered the unfathomable and incomprehensible mystery of the Incarnation.

Reflect, today, with our Blessed Mother. Ponder the Incarnation. Place yourself into the scene that first Christmas. Hear the sounds of the town. Smell the smells of the stable. Watch as the shepherds come forth in adoration. And enter the mystery more fully, acknowledging that the more you know about the mystery of Christmas, the more you know how little you actually know and understand. But that humble realization is the first step to a deeper understanding of what we celebrate this day.

(Source of content: mycatholic.life)



NEW YEAR'S MASS
SCHEDULE
FEAST OF MARY,
MOTHER OF GOD

Saturday, December 31
5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 1
9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:00noon



Confirmation Enrollment forms for students **not** attending schools one of our seven parish schools are available on our website or contact the office. Please return the form, along with a copy of the student's Roman Catholic baptism certificate. Classes will begin in February 2023.

**Celebration of Marriage Mass with Bishop Nguyen –
February 12, 2023 at 2:30 p.m.**

As part of Marriage Sunday 2023 celebrations, Bishop Vincent Nguyen will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, especially those celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+) in 2023. The Mass will take place at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 12 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto). All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their vows and milestone anniversary celebrants will be honoured with a special blessing.

The Mass is open to all, but due to space restrictions those wishing to attend are asked to register online: <http://www.archtoronto.org/marriage>

Milestone anniversary celebrants will be assured of reserved seating. All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Those who are unable to attend at the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass here: <https://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live/>

The broadcast will begin at 2:15 p.m.



Fr. John, Fr. Ravi, and Deacon James would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very Happy and Blessed Christmas.



***Glory to God in the
highest!***

My precious Lord, Jesus, I adore You with profound love and rejoice in the celebration of Your birth. Your love for us is unfathomable, it is glorious, transforming, awe-inspiring, and deeply personal. You chose to come and dwell among us, being born into poverty, rejection, and humility. Yet Your mother knew whom she bore, Her heart was filled with the tenderest love as she adored her Child and her God. Help me, dear Lord to come to love You with the heart of Your mother. Invite me to adore You with St. Joseph and the poor shepherds. Reveal to me the glorious power of Your birth and change my life on account of this perfect gift of Yourself. I love You, dear Lord Jesus. Help me to love you with all my heart. Newborn Saviour of the World, I trust in You. Mother Mary and St. Joseph, pray for me and for all. Amen.

(Source of content: mycatholic.life)



Offertory envelopes for **2023** are available downstairs in the first room. If you used 2022 envelopes, you will find a box with your name on it. If you would like to begin using envelopes in 2023, **unlabelled** boxes are available in the sacristy upon request. Please write the name to be used for your tax receipt and full address on the first few envelopes that you use. Please don't start using the envelopes until January 1st.

Tax receipts for 2022 will be issued by the end of January. **The final deposit is on December 26th for this year. Any donations received after this date, will be included in the 2023 tax year.**



We celebrate the birth of our Lord into our world; however, many have not received the birth of our Lord into their hearts. If Christ lives in your heart and you would like to help others discover the Lord, you may be called to be a priest, deacon, brother, or sister. Contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email: vocations@archtoronto.org

Website: vocationstoronto.ca

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