

St. Joseph's Church, Highland Creek

Ministered by the Spiritans - Congregation of the Holy Ghost

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Pastor: Fr. Francis Folleh, CSSp pastor@stjosephstoronto.org

Associate Pastor: Fr. Arinze Onwuzulike, CSSp aonwuzulike@archtoronto.org

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Office Administrator: Marla Tanuan MTanuan@archtoronto.org

Temporary Admin Assistant: Cecilia Nguyen CNguyen@archtoronto.org

Custodian: Vince Dumael **Weekend Custodian:** Monica Meharchand

Music Directors: Saturday 5:00 p.m. Baya Arts Sunday 9:00 a.m. Isis Rebello

Sunday 11:00 a.m. Jason Gotera Sunday 7:00 p.m. Barbara Sullivan

Organist: Gerard Johnston



*Father, You revealed Your Son to the nations
by the guidance of a star. Lead us to
Your Glory in Heaven by the Light of Faith.*



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Jan 07, 2024

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Week of Jan 06 to Jan 13

Jan 06	Sat	9:00 AM	† Florie Vegas D'Souza
		5:00 PM	† Liam Traynor
Jan 07	Sun	9:00 AM	† Deceased members of the D'Abreo family
		11:00 AM	- People of the Parish
		7:00 PM	† Tomislav (Tom) Ledvinka
Jan 08	Mon	9:00 AM	- Intention of Jonathan Parucha
Jan 09	Tue	9:00 AM	† Gerard Sherrer
Jan 10	Wed	9:00 AM	- Intention of Alicia Santos
Jan 11	Thu	9:00 AM	- Intention of Esteban & Milgaros Jovellanos
Jan 12	Fri	9:00 AM	† Segundo Tumulak
			† Eusebia Bensi
			† Devasia Poovelil
			† Thomas Lee
			† Antoonita Antonio
			† Alexandro Macatangay
Jan 13	Sat	9:00 AM	- Intention of Joshlene Nimalraaj
		5:00 PM	† Lean Hinds

PASTORAL LETTER FROM THE MOST REV. FRANCIS LEO:

“Seeking The Kingdom of God Above & Beyond All Other Things”

Archbishop Francis Leo has released a Pastoral Letter to the Church of God in the Archdiocese of Toronto, entitled, “Seeking The Kingdom of God Above and Beyond All Other Things”. This significant reflection from our spiritual shepherd is intended to offer a theological, spiritual, and pastoral meditation as we embark upon a New Year and our collective efforts to build and strengthen the Kingdom of God throughout our archdiocese.

The Pastoral Letter can be accessed by visiting the archdiocesan website at: www.archtoronto.org.

REFLECTION

Today’s feast, older than Christmas, marks the showing (epiphany) of Jesus to the world. Once revelation had been limited to the chosen people of Israel; now it extends to all nations. In the persons of the wise men the world comes bearing gifts to worship its King. The magi responded to signs, even to that most surprising sign of God’s presence in the world, a little child cared for by its mother. God manifests who he is in the weakness and simplicity rather than in power. The psalm brings to mind Jesus’ ministry to the needy; one day all humankind will worship and serve him as rising over the city of Jerusalem, drawing peoples from all over the earth out of their darkness. God’s presence makes his people radiant, and praise to him wells up spontaneously, God’s revelation of himself to the world is the great mystery of which Ephesians speaks; all of us without exception are called to be members of Christ’s body and radiant signs of his glory. *(Sunday Mass Book for Canada)*

PARISH MINISTRY CONTACTS

Phone Number: (416) 282-0370

Ministry	Contact	EXT
CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE <i>General meetings: 2nd Mon of the month 7 PM (the Hall)</i>	Therese Baduria	251
FAITH ENRICHMENT <i>Meetings: every Thursday 9:30 AM – 10:45 AM (Room 2)</i>	Bonnie Washer	252
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS <i>General meetings: 3rd Thursday of the month 7:30 PM (Room 2)</i>	Bryan Noble	253
LEGION OF MARY	Dawne Williams	254
PRAYER GROUP <i>Meetings: every other Thurs 7:30 PM</i>	Patricia Furtado/ Michael McManus	255
REFUGEE OUTREACH <i>Meetings: every last Saturday of the month</i>	Carmela Gaudet	218
SENIORS 50+ CLUB <i>Refreshments, coffee, cards & companionship: every Wed, 12 PM – 3:30 PM (the Hall)</i> <i>Seniors Mass: 1st Wed of the month 11 AM</i>	Joe Van Pinxteren	256
SOCIAL COMMITTEE <i>Email: bryannoble1967@gmail.com</i>	Bryan Noble	215
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY		217
SUNDAY SCHOOL <i>Email: Abernard@archtoronto.org</i>	Angie Bernard	212
TECHNOLOGY MINISTRY	Isis Rebello	214
YOUTH MINISTRY <i>Email: JTanuan@archtoronto.org</i>	Jeremy Tanuan	213

The Epiphany of the Lord

“On entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (Matthew 2:11)



“Epiphany” means manifestation. And the “Epiphany of the Lord” is Jesus’ manifestation not only to these three Magi from the East, but it’s also a symbolic but real manifestation of the Christ to the whole world. These Magi, traveling from a foreign and non-Jewish nation, reveal that Jesus came for all people and all are called to adore Him.

These Magi were “wise men” who studied the stars and were aware of the Jewish belief that a Messiah was coming. They would have been versed in much of the wisdom of the day and would have been intrigued by the Jewish belief in the Messiah.

God used what they were familiar with to call them to adore the Christ. He used a star. They understood the stars and when they saw this new and unique star over Bethlehem they realized that something special was happening. So the first lesson we take from this for our own lives is that God will use what is familiar to us to call us to Himself. Look for the “star” that God is using to call you. It’s closer than you may think.

A second thing to note is that the Magi fell prostrate before the Christ Child. They laid their lives down before Him in complete surrender and adoration. They set a perfect example for us. If these astrologers from a foreign land could come and adore Christ in such a profound way, we must do the same. Perhaps you could try literally lying down prostrate in prayer this day, in imitation of the Magi, or at least do so in your heart through prayer. Adore Him with a complete surrender of your life.

Lastly, the Magi bring gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These three gifts, presented to our Lord, show that they acknowledged this Child as the Divine King who would die to save us from sin. Gold is for a King, frankincense is a burnt offering to God, and myrrh is used for one who would die. Thus, their adoration is grounded in the truths of who this Child is. If we are to adore Christ properly, we must also honor Him in this threefold way.

Reflect, today, upon these Magi and see them as a symbol of what you are called to do. You are called from the foreign place of this world to seek out the Messiah. What is God using to call you to Himself? When you discover Him, do not hesitate to acknowledge the full truth of who He is, lying prostrate before Him in complete and humble submission.

Excerpt from Thomas, J. P. (2020, January 4). The Epiphany of the Lord. Catholic Daily Reflections. <https://catholic-daily-reflections.com/2020/01/04/the-epiphany-of-the-lord/>

2024 DONATION ENVELOPES



The 2024 donation envelopes are available for pick up in the Narthex. **They are alphabetized within each tray.**

Please be patient and ensure you are taking your own box. Please help us return those boxes that are not yours to their original spots to save everyone’s time.

We thank you for your generosity and for following and respecting this guideline.

Do you feel called? The Son of God was first manifested to the world through the visit of the magi. Today, God's Son is brought into the world and is present to the world through His Church.

If you think that God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call

Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto
at (416) 968-0997 or email vocations@archtoronto.org.



This year our Christmas appeal was a great success. For 66 families their Christmas was a little brighter. We wish to express our appreciation and thanks to all of you for your generous response to the families in need in our midst. Blessings to each and every one of you in this New Year!

*‘The beauty of life is found in people who care
And the goods of life are given only to share
And we who are blest with the ability to give
Just remember, not doing so ‘may our gods forgive’
– Author Unknown*

**Let us Pray! For the sick members of our parish
& for those who love and minister to them.**

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JTanuan@archtoronto.org or 416-282-0370 ex. 213.

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