





December 27, 2020

E- NEWSLETTER

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Save the Day:

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God December 31st & January 1st

Pastor:

Rev. Liborio Amaral

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Patrick Ezimora CCE

Deacons:

Franciscus Sukardi Douglas Asselstine





Welcome and Quick Update

Welcome everyone and thank you for your great support

Where is the **Rectory DOOR?**Video



SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Our New Year's Live-stream Schedule

Thursday December 31 - New Year's Eve: 5:00 p.m. English Mass Live-streamed

Friday January 1 - New Year's Day: 9:30 a.m. Spanish Mass Live-streamed 11:00 a.m. English Mass Live-streamed

Our parish envelopes for 2021 are ready for pick-up at the back of the church. Please DO NOT USE 2020 ENVELOPES STARTING JANUARY 1ST, 2021 as the numbers have changed.

Fr Liborio's Reflection

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Today we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. In the world we live in we need more and more the example of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - we need to learn from this Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

The Holy Family did not have a perfect life without hardships; quite the contrary. From the moment that God entered the life of Mary and Joseph, theirs was the addition of suffering and separation. In today's gospel we hear the elderly Simeon announce to Mary that "a sword will pierce your own soul too." Families who are struggling with so many hardships can be confident that God understands their plight, because He too had many hardships. But the main difference that all families can learn from the Holy Family is that Jesus Mary and Joseph as a "family bobble" keep Hope, Peace, Joy and Love alive within them. Although there were divisions and conflict outside their Holy Family, yet within this group of three, there was no division or conflict. Grace filled their home

May all families experience a taste of the Hope, Peace, Joy and Love that the Holy Family lived out. And may our Catholic Church always hold a special place in its tender care for all Families.

Merry Christmas!

Fr. Liborio

p.s. I encourage Families to find time today to pray together – for "a family that prays together, stays together."

As a help aid, families may wish to pray together by reading this weekend's Gospel. Please see next page.







Gospel Passage

Today's Gospel Passage to meditate on:

- Luke 2 (22, 25-27, 34-35, 39-40):

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought the child Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed — and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

When Mary and Joseph had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.



The Holy Family

Faith Formation



How the Catholic Church invented New Year's Day: by the Catholic Talk Show

- In This Episode, You'll Learn:
- Why The New Year starts on January 1st because of a Renaissance Pope
- Why January 1st is a Holy Day of Obligation for every Catholic
- What Feast Day Catholics used to celebrate on New Year's day before Vatican II
- Why a Pope threatened excommunication to anyone who mentioned one particular part of Jesus' body
- And much more!

Learn More

Kids Pick



Saint Joseph and the Virtue of obedience

When things get off to a rough start as Anna, Agnes, Peter and Paul train for a baseball match, Noah shares the story of St. Joseph helping them to imitate his example and learn the Virtue of obedience.

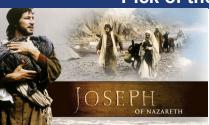
Register for Free to watch Picks of Week & More

- Click on the links
- Register using your email
 Enter St. Mary's Access Code: 8b36b3

Español

Click to watch

Pick of the Week



Joseph of Nazareth: The Story of the Man Closest to Christ

'The first feature film ever on the story of St. Joseph, who was a carpenter, the husband of Mary, and the foster father of Jesus Christ. Scripture tells us that St.

Joseph was a ""just man"" and that God gave him the most daunting task ever asked of a man-to be the husband of the woman who would give birth to the Messiah and the father and protector of this Holy Family. He would be the man closest to Christ.

Click Here

Bible Verses

"As for me and my family, we will serve the Lord" ... - Joshua 24:15

"Never forget these commands that I am giving you today. Teach them to your children. Repeat them when you are at home and when you are away, when you are resting and. .." - **Deuteronomy 6:6-7**

"Be always humble, gentle, and patient. Show your love by being tolerant with one another. Do your best to preserve the unity which the Spirit gives by means of the peace that binds you together . Ephesians 4:2-3



Vatican Museum: Come, let us worship #4

"Look upon us, eternal Son of God, who took flesh in the womb of the Virgin Mary! All humanity, with its burden of trials and troubles, stands in need of you. Stay with us, living Bread which came down from heaven for our salvation! Stay with us forever!"

> (Pope St. John Paul II - Midnight Mass, Christmas 2004)

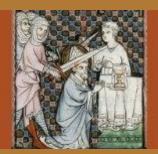
This painting depicts the amazing vision which Saint Bridget of Sweden had during her pilgrimage to Bethlehem: the miraculous, virginal birth of the Son of God. She saw Mary deep in prayer, as she prepared the swaddle, took off her mantle and shoes, and gave birth without pain. The Child, from whom an intense light shines forth, is placed on the ground with Mary kneeling in adoration. The birth of Christ was no longer a painful event. St. Bridget was mother to 8 children and knew the pangs of childbirth. In her writings she highlighted this prodigious aspect of the birth of the Son of God.



Niccolò di Tommaso, St. Bridget of Sweden's Vision of the Nativity

Live Your Faith

Learning from the Saints

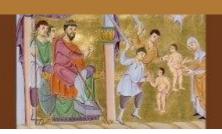


ST. THOMAS BECKET - December 29th

"For the name of Jesus and the protection of the Church, I am ready to embrace death." These were the words St. Thomas is reported to have uttered before his murder. He had been a man of power, accustomed to command. He died as a servant of Christ and a martyr: keeping the faith and to preserving the freedom of the Catholic Church.

From statesman to martyr: Thomas à Becket was Chancellor to his friend, the English King Henry II, who willed that he become Archbishop of Canterbury, opposed his friend the king to defend the rights and liberties of the Church. He was killed in Canterbury Cathedral on December 29.

STS. INNOCENTS, MARTYRS - December 28th



The Holy Innocents are the children of Bethlehem, put to death by order of King Herod, as part of his efforts to eliminate the child Jesus, whom prophecies announced as the Messiah and new King of Israel. They have been honored as martyrs since the early centuries.

Prayer should be the key of the day and the lock of the night - George Herbert

Praver

God, our loving Father, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, into this world to counter all the forces of evil: sin, suffering and death, and to overcome evil with the force of good; hatred with the power of love, your great love for us in Jesus.

Help us never to curse the darkness, but to join with you in bringing Your light into this world, the light that is your Son, born of the Virgin Mary, in Bethlehem.

Help us to be instruments of your light and love by doing one special act of kindness or by being your special instrument of reconciliation this New Year.

May the Christ Candle we light symbolize our desire to bring light into a world of darkness and hope into a world of despair.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

- My Catholic Life

Amen.

3 minute Prayer Retreat For he lowling from a general series. Holiness

English

For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed.

The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

- Luke 1:4-8-49

FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION

If your child is a baptized Catholic and you would like him/her to receive the Sacrament of First Communion or Confirmation next year, then go to St. Mary's church website, https://stmarysbr.archtoronto.org and you will find an Information video. On this video the First Communion and

Information video. On this video the First Communion and Confirmation program and expectations will be outlined.

The program will consist of two components – one will focus on

The program will consist of two components – one will focus or your child's preparation for the Sacraments and the second will involve a parental/guardian faith development session. This two pronged program approach will insure that parents/guardians will be able to speak the same faith language that the children will be learning.

Click here for 1st Communion Form

Click here for Confirmation form

Great News! St. Mary's Young Adult Ministry

Español



St. Mary's Church

We are starting, virtually for now, our St Mary's Young Adult ministry.

What's the goal? **To be on fire AGAIN with love for Jesus**, your untrodden pathway to HAPPINESS.

Who can join? **Young people between ages 19 and 35!** Those interested should contact Fr Patrick, our Associate Pastor: patrickezimoracce@gmail.com.

Live Your Faith

NEW BEGINNINGS

SCATTERED SEEDS

Pray for Vocations



By Baptism we are God's holy family.

Pray today for the grace to live faithfully your vocation as a single, married, ordained or consecrated person.

If God is calling you, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email: vocations@archtoronto.org

www.vocationstoronto.ca

Where is the **Rectory Door?**

In response to many requests that I have received from parishioners, I have decided to create a video with

instructions. Now you can find the **Rectory Door.** The door is white and has a mail slot.

Thank you for your generosity!

Video



Online Bereavement Introductory Program

The program provides 4 Weeks of psycho-education which assists and accompanies *the bereaved in exploring grief, experiencing healing and renewing faith.*

Program Goals • Understanding the fundamentals of grief and mourning • Explaining the transitional dynamics of loss • Developing skills for emotional management and practical care • Renewing faith and rediscovery of personal spirituality.

Program Access The ideal candidate is ready and able to participate in a group setting. Each candidate will be screened prior to being considered for admittance into the program.

Start date & time: Wednesday January 13, 2021 @ 7:00 pm Total cost: no charge

Contact: For more information and to register please contact: Arcangelo Limanni, MRE (416) 921-1163 ext. 2225 alimani@cfstoronto.com

We welcome people from all ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds.

Online Separated/Divorced Introductory Program

The program provides 4 Weeks of psycho-education which assists and accompanies the *separated/divorced in exploring grief, experiencing healing and renewing faith.*

Program Goals • Understanding the fundamentals of grief and mourning • Explaining the transitional dynamics of loss • Developing skills for emotional management and practical care • Renewing faith and rediscovery of personal spirituality.

Program Access: The ideal candidate is ready and able to participate in a group setting. Each candidate will be screened prior to being considered for admittance into the program.

Start date & time: Thursday January 14, 2021 @ 7:00 pm

Total cost: no charge

Contact: For more information and to register please contact: Arcangelo Limanni, MRE (416) 921-1163 ext. 2225 alimanni@cfstoronto.com

We welcome people from all ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds.

If You Are Struggling, Catholic Agencies Are Ready to Help



The Christmas season can be a difficult time for many people, but the COVID-19 pandemic will likely bring new challenges to what is supposed to be the happiest time of the year.

Catholic Family Services agencies are located throughout the archdiocese and provide a wide-range of counselling and wellness service, thanks in part to the support of ShareLife. To learn more about your local Catholic Family Services agency, please visit:

Catholic Family Services of Durham
Catholic Family Services of Peel-Dufferin
Catholic Family Services of Simcoe County
Catholic Family Services of Toronto

Learn more

BAZAAR

The St. Mary's CWL would like to thank all the parishioners who have taken the opportunity to check out and purchase items from our 'virtual' Bazaar over the last few months. This approach was a new experience for us and has been quite successful. We plan to take a little break over the Christmas holidays and will resume again sometime in January. Keep a lookout for new items and some 'themed' weeks.

Have a safe, happy and blessed Christmas season and New Year!

Fran Caldwell, Bazaar Chair



All masses below are private and can be seen via Live-Stream via our YouTube of Facebook channels

Monday - December 28th Sts. Innocents

9:00 a.m. - Mass

Mimi Law †

Tuesday - December 29th St. Thomas Becket

9:00 a.m. - Mass

Ben and Betty Hurley †

Wednesday - December 30th St. Felix I

9:00 a.m. - Mass **Mass Intention For**

Eucharistico Cassar

Thursday - December 31st St. Sylvester I

9:00 a.m. - Mass

Socorro Rivas †

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Friday - January 1st

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

9:30 a.m. - Spanish Live-Streamed Mass

11:00 a.m. - English Live-**Streamed Mass**

Saturday - January 2nd

Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

9:00 a.m. - Mass

"Tearful Smiles"

Teacher Debbie Moon's first graders were discussing a picture of a family.

One little boy in the picture had a different hair color than the other members. One of her students suggested that he was adopted. A little girl said, 'I know all about Adoption, I was adopted..'

'What does it mean to be adopted?', asked another child. 'It means', said the girl, 'that you grew in your mommy's heart instead of her tummy!'

FAMILY CORNER



The Holy Family

It's tempting to think that the Blessed Virgin was somehow different from the rest of usthat she knew exactly what would happen in her life and never had to work through difficult periods. Yet, she did. And in her, we see how certain trials in our lives fit perfectly within the bigger picture of God's work - and the graces that we obtained through them.

<u>Video</u>



Mental Health Leading into the Holidays

In this episode Dr. Tim Gray sits down with Drs. Tammy and Nick Tenaglia to speak about mental health and the holidays.

Learn More



Las familias de hoy están bajo un gran ataque por todos lados. Los sutiles engaños sembrados por el enemigo se están enraizando y están confundiendo a muchos al etiquetar el mal como "el nuevo bien," suplantando verdades eternas. En esta charla, el Hno. Ricardo Grzona avuda a los padres v las familias a recorrer el camino de regreso a la verdad, la salud y la vida . . . el camino de regreso a Cristo. Dios nos llama a dar un paso adelante en la fe. nos confía a la familia y pide que demos testimonio de Dios en la sociedad actual.

Español

Office Schedule

Closed Until Further Noticed

Church Schedule

Church Open for Private Praver

See Schedule in our next page

Livestream Masses

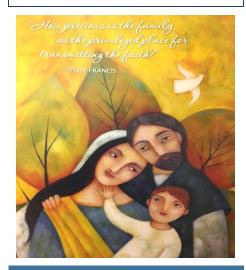
See Schedule in our next page

Confession Times

Sat. January 2^{nd.} 9:45am - 11:00am

Only 10 persons will be allowed at any one time - this will include the priests hearing Confessions.

Weddings, funerals and baptisms will now be restricted to 10 persons, including those who are involved in ministry (priest, cantor, etc.).



If you no longer wish to receive our E-Newsletter please Click **UNSUBSCRIBE**

> Thank You for your Offering!

December 20, 2020 Regular Collection 10,990.15



St. Mary's Christmas Schedule 2020-2021



Date	Feast	Time
Thursday Dec. 24 th Office Closed	Christmas Eve	9:00 a.m. Live-streamed Mass Church open for private prayer from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass Live-streamed Church open for private prayer from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Friday Dec.25 th Office Closed	Christmas Day	9:30 a.m Spanish Live-streamed Mass 11:00 a.m. English Live-streamed Mass Church open for private prayer from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday Dec. 26 th Office Closed	Christmas Weekday	9:00 a.m. Live-streamed Mass Confessions from 9:45 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Church open for private prayer from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sunday Dec. 27 th Office Closed	Holy Family Sunday	9:30 a.m Spanish Live-streamed Mass 11:00 a.m. English Live-streamed Mass Church open for private prayer from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Monday Dec. 28th Office Closed	Christmas Weekday	9:00 a.m. Live-streamed Mass Church open for private prayer from 9:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday Dec. 29 th Office Closed	Christmas Weekday	9:00 a.m. Li∨e-streamed Mass Church open for private prayer from 9:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday Dec. 30 th Office Closed	Christmas Weekday	9:00 a.m. Li∨e-streamed Mass Church open for private prayer from 9:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Thursday Dec. 31 st Office Closed	Solemnity of Mary Mother of God (New Year's Eve)	9:00 a.m. Live-streamed Mass Church open for private prayer from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. New Year's Eve Mass Live-streamed Church open for private prayer from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Friday Jan. 1 st Office Closed	Solemnity of Mary Mother of God (New Year)	9:30 a.m Spanish Live-streamed Mass 11:00 a.m. English Live-streamed Mass Church open for private prayer from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday Jan. 2 nd Office Closed	Christmas Weekday	9:00 a.m. Live-streamed Mass Confessions from 9:45 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Church open for private prayer from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sunday Jan. 3 rd Office Closed	Feast of the Holy Family	9:30 a.m Spanish Live-streamed Mass 11:00 a.m. English Live-streamed Mass Church open for private prayer from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Christmas season ends with the feast of the Baptism of the Lord on January 10th. We hope you are able to fill your heart with Hope, Love, Joy and Peace; gifts which only the King of Kings can give. Remember it is not only during this time we can encounter Jesus, we may do so daily in the Blessed Sacrament present always in the tabernacle.