





December 6, 2020

#### E- NEWSLETTER





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Save the Day:
Christmas Help Project
December 11, 2020

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!

**CWL Food Drive** Wednesday, December 9th from 1:00pm to 2:00pm and December 12th from 10:00am to noon in the church parking lot

Christmas Help Project - New Deadline Dec. 11th

Kindly drop them off at the rectory door



<u>Video</u> from Fr. Liborio Regarding First Communion and Confirmation

#### Fr Liborio's Reflection .....

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On this second week of Advent we continue to be on second lockdown and I know that many of you are extremely upset that we are not able to practice our faith as we would like to. I understand your frustration because I feel the same way.

We are a Sacramental people and we need our Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, to strengthen us so that we may get through this pandemic. Oh if only those in authority understood the importance of the Eucharist – I am sure that they would be insisting that practicing Catholics "go" to church and not stay away from our churches. If they truly understood what the Eucharist is (or should I say "WHO" the Eucharist is) then they would clearly understand that our health ultimately depends on Jesus Christ. To be healthy is not just understood in the physical sense of the human body.

We are both physical and spiritual beings and we need to be healthy in both. But if we were to prioritize which of these two was the most important then we know in faith that it is our spiritual well-being that is the "key" to our greater health.

From the Eucharist we gain strength to carry this cross of Covid-19. The Church has always claimed correctly that "The Eucharist is the Source and Summit of the Christian Life," and by and through the Eucharist we can hold strong even in the time of a pandemic.

During this Advent let us spend time therefore to reflect on the importance of the Eucharist (and all our Sacraments) and how we are made healthy by living them fully.

Blessings,

Fr. Liborio

# Faith Formation



#### 8 Astounding Facts About **Our Lady of Guadalupe**

The appearance of Our Lady of Guadalupe to Saint Juan Diego in December of 1531 is one of the most amazing and powerful events in human history. The miraculous image she left behind continues to confound scientists and inspire believers nearly 500 years later.

On this Episode of the Catholic Talk Show, the guys share 8 astounding facts about Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Learn More

#### Kids Pick



Juan Diego: Messenger of Guadalupe

Is the true story of how the Blessed Mother chose a hero for a key role in a beautiful miracle that would unite diverse peoples and change the course of history. In the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in

Mexico City, the miracle of the tilma of Juan Diego may still be seen, just as it was seen by the bishop in 1531.

Register for Free to watch Picks of Week & More

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

<u>Español</u>

Click to watch

#### Pick of the Week



Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message

Is the history of this transformative event from the 16th century to the present. Featuring interviews with leading theologians, historians, and experts on the scientific

inquiries into the miraculous image, this gripping film explores both the inexplicable mysteries behind the image, and the continued relevance of the Guadalupe apparition to the modern world.

**Español** 

Click to watch

#### Bible Verses



"Peace be with you" - John 20:21

"The Lord gives His people strength. The Lord blesses them with Peace" - Psalm 29:11

"God does not want us to be in disorder but in harmony and peace" - 1 Corinthians 14-33

"May God bless you and keep you. May his face shine upon your face. May He be gracious to you. May you find favor in His eyes. May you have peace all of your days." - Numbers 6:24-26

#### Vatican News: Vatican launches "A Light Has Shone" initiative for Christmas



Starting Tuesday, the Pontifical Academy for Life will publish short videos of Christmas greetings made by the Academicians themselves with their smartphones to wish the world a Christmas of peace and hope.

The videos are part of the "A Light

Has Shone" initiative promoted by the Pontifical Academy. They will be published on Twitter, YouTube and on the website of the Pontifical Academy for Life.

Bringing Christmas hope amid the health crisis Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, President of the Pontifical Academy of Life explained that "it is a simple initiative in its conception and realization that is meant to bring a message of hope, peace, brotherhood in

this time of pandemic."

Learn More

# Advent

**Day of Confessions** Prepare the Way of the Lord... December 14<sup>th</sup> to December 19<sup>th</sup>

Monday December 14<sup>th</sup> From 9:45pm to 12:00noon From 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Tuesday December 15<sup>th</sup> From 9:45pm to 12:00noon From 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Wednesday December 16th From 9:45pm to 12:00noon From 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Friday December 18th From 9:45pm to 12:00noon From 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Saturday December 19th From 9:45am to 12:00noon

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

## Live Your Faith



#### The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

If you were given a saint's name at Baptism, that saint is your patron saint. Countries also have patron saints.

If you answered, "Mary, the mother of Jesus," you are correct

The title of the Immaculate Conception recognizes Mary's privilege of coming into the world free from sin. Through the power of Jesus' Death and Resurrection, every human being can be freed from sin at Baptism. Through that same power, Mary was always free from sin, even from that very first moment of life.

**On December 8,** the Church celebrates this special privilege given to Mary. At the liturgy we thank God for all his blessings he has given to the people of our country. And we can thank Mary for watching over and protecting our people.

Collect prayer from the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception:

O God, who by the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin prepared a worthy dwelling for your Son, grant, we pray, that as you preserved her from very stain by virtue of the Death of your Son, which you foresaw so through her intercession, we, too, may be cleansed and admitted to your presence.

through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

**AMEN** 

Loyola Press

#### Without Prayer There is not Inward Peace- Mahatma Gandhi

# Advent Prayer

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe.

You sent your Son to be the Light of the world and to spread his light of love to all.

As we light the candles of this wreath, may its growing brightness remind us of the approaching nearness of your Son, so that the day of His coming may find us prepared and filled with hope and Peace.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Loyola Press

Ame

# Spe peace and words on People of Peace

Speaking about peace brings truth and love into the words we speak to one another.

English

Español

#### Sacramental Programs 2020/2021

#### CONFIRMATION

#### FIRST COMMUNION

If your child is a baptized Catholic and you would like him/her to receive **the Sacrament of First Communion** 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 program and expectations will be outlined.

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

If your child is a baptized Catholic and you would like him/her to receive **the Sacrament of Confirmation** this year, then go to St. Mary's church website,

https://stmarysbr.archtoronto.org and you will find an Information video. On this video the Confirmation program and expectations will be outlined.

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

Fr. Liborio's Video

## Live Your Faith

#### **SCATTERED SEEDS**

#### **Pray for Vocations**



"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."

Could God be calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister in order to help our world of today to truly "prepare the way of the Lord"? 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

#### Thank you! - Kids Program and Birthright

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank the Parishioners of St. Mary's for their exceptional generosity in supporting both *Birthright and the Coats for Kids program* this past weekend.

Through your generosity \$1,600.00 and four tables of baby items were collected for Birthright and 41 coats were provided to children in need at 3 of our Parish schools.

For pictures please click on **PHOTOS**.

#### Christmas Help Project - New Deadline Dec. 11<sup>™</sup>



God Is Victorious Everyday

Each year St. Mary's Parish is generous in support to families in need of our community at Christmas time.

If you are able to support a family we ask that you purchase *Walmart gift cards* and Kindly drop them off at *the rectory door by Friday December 11<sup>th</sup>*.

Typically a \$50.00 gift card supports the purchase of a Childs gift and a \$150 gift card will support the purchase of groceries for a family. The gift cards will then be distributed to families in need.

**Thank you** in advance for your kindness and generosity in supporting a family of St. Mary's Parish this Christmas season.

#### CWL Food Drive - Dec 9th and 12th

In response to a need at the Knights Table, St. Mary's CWL will be conducting a food drive on *Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm to 2:00pm and again on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to noon in the church parking lot. Just drive by and drop off your donation.* 



They require food to accompany the donated turkeys that will provide Christmas dinner for needy families. The trimmings include: *instant mashed potatoes, canned vegetables, gravy-can or package, cranberry sauce, packaged stuffing, canned fruit, soup-can or package.* 

Can't shop? Just drive by with a cash donation and we will shop for you.

"Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food..."

#### **BAZAAR**

In place of our normal November Bazaar, this year we will be offering one-of-a-kind items for sale. You will see sewn, crafted, and knitted/crochets goods for the home and family. (See samples) The inventory will change frequently. Click HERE to see inventory.

If you wish **to purchase items from the Bazaar Collection** please call Fran at 905-867-7595 or email her at <u>fern0@rogers.com</u> for assistance or delivery.

**\$40.00**, Quilted Victorian Table Topper, 39" X 26"

**\$12.00** Toddler Girl's 18 mos. – 2 yrs.

**\$12.00**Toddler's 18 mos.

**\$5.00**Baby Reversible











All masses below are private and can be seen via Live-Stream at 9:00am via our YouTube or Facebook channels.

Monday - December 7<sup>th</sup>
St. Ambrose

9:00 a.m. - Mass

Special Intention for

• Guilherme Galvao

Tuesday - December 8<sup>th</sup>
The Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary

9:00 a.m. - Mass

Wednesday - December 9<sup>th</sup>
St. Juan Diego

9:00 a.m. - Mass Special Intention for

- Joseph Rak
- Rolando Gurmendi

Thursday - December 10<sup>th</sup>

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

- Jorge Calderon
- Eugenio Calderon †

Friday - December 11<sup>th</sup>
St. Damasus I

9:00 a.m. - Mass

• Mimi Law †

7:00 p.m. - NO Mass

Saturday - December 12<sup>th</sup>
Our Lady of Guadalupe

9:00 a.m. - Mass

• Genevieve T. Chudzynski †

#### "Tearful Smiles"

On my way home one day, I stopped to watch a Little League baseball game that was being played in a park near my home. As I sat down behind the bench on the first-base line, I asked one of the boys what the score was 'We're behind 14 to nothing,' he answered With a smile.

'Really,' I said. 'I have to say you don't look very discouraged.'

'Discouraged?', the boy asked with a Puzzled look on his face...

'Why should we be discouraged? We haven't Been up to bat yet.'

#### **FAMILY CORNER**

#### Reflections for the II Sunday of Advent

Fr. Antony Kadavil reflects and comments on the readings at Mass for the second Sunday of Advent. He says that John the Baptist in today's Gospel summons us to play our essential part by leading lives of repentance, conversion, and renewal, thus preparing the way for the Lord's second coming

On the one hand, salvation is God's doing, and we cannot earn His blessings. We are saved by His grace. On the other hand, we must cooperate with God's grace because God cannot force his bounty upon us. That is why John the Baptist in today's Gospel summons us to play our essential part by leading lives of repentance, conversion, and renewal, thus preparing the way for the Lord's second coming. We start this process by spiritually preparing for the annual celebration of Christmas, the Lord's first coming, as we reform and renew our lives by repentance and works of charity.

Learn More

- The Vatican

#### The Jesse Tree: 1st Week of Advent



The Jesse tree was created to help people link the custom of decorating Christmas trees to the events leading up to Jesus birth.

The tradition of decorating Christmas trees actually predates the arrival of Christianity in western Europe and was adopted by the early Church. In order to associate the custom more clearly with Christianity, people made Jesse trees—Christmas trees with decorations related to the events of Jesus' birth and the prophecies about him in the Old Testament.

Many parishes and families make Jesse trees during Advent to remind them of these events as they prepare for Christmas.

Activities



**Learn More** 

- Do Catholics Worship Mary?
- Did Catholics Change The Bible?
- Do Catholics Worship Statues?
- Can Catholics "Buy Heaven" With Indulgences?
- Does The Catholic Church Hate Gay People?
- Did Priestly Celibacy Cause The Abuse Scandal? And Much More!

#### Office Schedule

**Closed Until Further Noticed** 

#### **Church Schedule**

# **Church Open for Private Prayer**

Monday to Friday	9:30am to 8:00pm
Saturdays	9:30am to 11:00am
Sundays	12:30pm to 4:00pm

#### **Livestream Masses**

Monday to Sat.	9:00am Mass
	9:30am Spanish
	11:00am English

#### **Confession Times**

Fridays 6:00pm to 7:00pm

Saturdays 9:45am to 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.).

# The only way to peace is forgiveness.

If you no longer wish to receive our E-Newsletter please Click <u>UNSUBSCRIBE</u>

# Thank You for your Offering!

November 29, 2020 Regular Collection 3,095.00