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OUR LADY OF FATIMA SHRINE

3170 ST. CLAIR AVE. EAST, SCARBOROUGH, ON M1L 1V6

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Aurora Fraginal - Secretary
Patrick Callahan - Property Manager Jack Tobin - Custodian



Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD





Mass Intentions

Sunday, January 01

9:00 a.m. Jimmy Alamparambil (I)

10:30 a.m. Jiminez Family (I) Thanksgiving

12:15 p.m. People of the Parish

Monday, January 02

No Mass

Tuesday, January 03

8:00 a.m. +Marie Sealy

Wednesday, January 04

7:00 p.m. +James Heffernan

Thursday, January 05

8:00 a.m. +Manuel Magallanes

Friday, January 06

7:00 p.m. +Adelina De Franco

Saturday, January 07

9:00 a.m. +Chacko Alamparambil

4:30 p.m. +Danny & Agnes Gomes

New Year's Day - January 01, 2023



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 **Rev. Fr. Matthew McCarthy, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997;** email **vocations@archtoronto.org** or call **Rev. Fr. Glass** at 416-757-2806 or at olfatimasc@archtoronto.org for more information.

Next Week Readings

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Baptized into Stewardship

1st Reading: Isaiah 42.1-4.6-7 2nd Reading: Acts 10.34-38

Gospel: Matthew 3.13-17

The Baptism of Jesus Latin Songs: can be found on Catholic Book of Worship (Pages 299 A, D, E, F, & G).

FROM THE DESK OF FR. GLASS:

The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

I once heard a sermon in which the heretical statement was made that Our Lady was an ordinary fourteen-year-old girl whom God "happened to choose." Nothing could be further from the truth. No one who knew Our Lady would have ever described her as "an ordinary girl." Could you see yourself describing a perfectly sinless person as "oh yeah, she is just like the girl next door"? These kinds of heretical and sacrilegious statements only come from mouths of those who do not know Our Lady and who lack piety.

— Kennedy Hall, Terror of Demons

From the earliest days, the Church has honored Mary with her most glorious title, 'Mother of God.' Some grinches in the early Church grumbled: "No," they said, "let us call her the mother of *Christ*." St. Athanasius, however, soundly put them in their place: "Is Christ not God?" In the beautiful ancient hymn, *Alma Redemptoris Mater*, we sing: tu quae genuisti tuum sanctum genitorem: "you who gave birth to your Creator!"

Mary can never be described as an 'ordinary' person. She was a spectacularly holy person. She was given a measure of grace beyond what we can imagine, even being preserved from Original Sin. And her holiness increased throughout her life.

St. Bernardine of Siena says: "There is a general rule concerning all special graces granted to any person. Whenever the divine favor chooses someone to receive special grace, or to accept a lofty vocation, God adorns that chosen person with all the gifts of the Spirit needed to fulfill the task at hand." Mary was given grace proportionate to her sublime vocation as the mother of the Messiah. She was endowed with the supernatural 'gifts of the Holy Spirit' — wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord — to an eminent degree.

If devotion to Mary is not as warm as it ought to be, that is because there is today great confusion about who Jesus is. The honor we give to Mary is a reflection of the supreme honor that we owe to Jesus, her son.

St. Louis Grignon de Montfort, the great Apostle of the Rosary, reminds us:

When you follow Mary, you will not go astray; when you pray to her, you will not despair; when you think of her, you will not err; when she sustains you, you will not fall; when she protects you, you will not fear; when she leads you, you will not become tired; when she favors you, you will arrive safely.

As we celebrate the motherhood of Mary, at the beginning of this new year, may God deliver us from every affliction and give us abundant courage to face the challenges of the year ahead.





CHILDREN'S LITURGY 2022-2023



The Children's Liturgy meetings and First Holy Communion classes will resume next Sunday January 08, 15 & 22, 2023. All children – from 6 to 10 years old – are welcome. Details Confirmation

Sessions will be announced in. Thank you.

R.C.I.A. Program: Oct. 2022 - Apr. 2023

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) program



- a journey of prayer, reflection and instruction for anyone wishing to explore the beauty of the Catholic faith - in our church hall. Sessions will resume next Saturday, January 7, 14, & 21, If you or anyone you know are interested, contact the parish office, during office hours, pick up a form or phone us on (416) 757-2806. Email: olfatimasc@archtoronto.org

DONATION ENVELOPES BOXES FOR 2023



PARISH SUPPORT

Parishioners are reminded to pick up their box of donation envelopes for 2023 from the back of the

church. These are sorted in trays – in alphabetical order – according to the family's last name. We thank those who have already collected their box. Boxes still uncollected by mid-February will be recycled and registration restricted or cancelled. Families who have recently moved to our area are encouraged to register with us by calling the parish office at 416-757-2806 or email at olfatimasc@archtoronto.org.

Interested in a P.A.G. [Pre-Authorized Giving] Plan?

Get more information about what is the 'pre-authorized giving' plan and how parishioners can participate. Is your personal data as registered in our records



updated? Please inform the office (416-757-2806) about any changes to your information ... new address or new phone number or added members to your household! Without full and complete information the system is unable to issue a valid tax receipt.

New Year's 2023 Schedules Sunday, January 01 NEW YEAR's Day at 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:15 pm Holy Mass

The Parish Office is closed on all statutory holidays!

January 3rd in observance of New Year's Day falling on the weekend.



The PASTORAL TEAM at Fatima, the and the FINANCE COUNCIL wish to extend to parishioners, their families and visitors heartfelt wishes for a blessed, peaceful and prosperous 2023. Thank you all for your help and support. We are really proud and privileged to be with you in the service of the Lord.

Mary, Mother of God. January 01

Time and again the Old Testament considers the birth of a



child, especially a first-born son, to be God's greatest blessing. But a more pessimistic strain occurs also, for to be human is to know uncertainty, pain and death. None can avoid this law. In his letter to the Galatians this is Paul's starting point.

God's Son, a Jew born of Mary, knew the subjection of human life even to undergoing his people's custom of circumcision. His perfect acceptance of human life has filled it with glorious possibilities. Before we were slaves; now in the name of Jesus and through his Spirit we can call God Father. But what have these readings to do with Mary, mother of God? From the fifth century, January 1, was celebrated in Rome as her feast. The mother of this child must be remembered with him. Mary's assent to God's plan marks the new age of humanity allowing us to pass from slavery to the freedom of God's children. How blessed were we when God chose Mary to be the mother of his Son!

Pope's Worldwide Prayer for 2023 For educators

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service 2023

On Sunday, *January* 22, 2023 at 4:00 pm at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Simcoe St. (King St. West)



Toronto, Ontario M5J 1W9. This year's message of Isaiah 1:17, "Do good; seek justice" inspires all of us to pray and work together for the unity willed by Christ for the Join Cardinal Thomas Collins and a wide representation of Christian leaders to pray for the restoration of full visible unity willed by Jesus Christ for the Church. This event is jointly organized by the Office for Promoting Christian Unity and the Greater Toronto Area Council of Christian Churches. All are welcome to attend in person or watch the livestream Facebook on www.facebook.com/TorontoArmenianChurch. For details, please visit: https://bit.ly/3Gm0CZi

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