

OUR LADY OF FATIMA SHRINE

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OFFICE STAFF:

Aurora Fraginal - Secretary

Patrick Callahan - Property Manager Jack Tobin - Custodian



**MAY THE SPIRIT OF GOD
LEAD YOU THROUGH
THE NEW YEAR**



Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK 

Sunday, December 24

- 9:00 a.m. Balallo & Tan Family (I) Thanksgiving
- 10:30 a.m. People of the Parish
- 12:15 p.m. No Mass

Christmas Eve Masses

- 6:00 p.m. Reginald Adams (I) Thanksgiving
- 9:00 p.m. Eduardo Banawa (I) Thanksgiving
- 12:00 (Midnight) +Fe Alconaba

Monday, December 25 Christmas Day

- 9:00 a.m. Fe Alconaba
- 10:30 a.m. +Elaine Veronica Jackson

Tuesday, December 26

- 8:00 a.m. +Anna Maria Doti

Wednesday, December 27

- 7:00 p.m. +Felix Pingol

Thursday, December 28

- 8:00 a.m. +Perlita Punzalan

Friday, December 29

- 8:00 a.m. +Josita & Reginald Kavanagh

Saturday, December 30

- 9:00 a.m. +Peter Penfold
- 4:30 p.m. +Stella Silva

4th Sunday of Advent - December 24, 2023

From the angel Gabriel, Mary heard God’s plan for her life and she said “Yes!”...and so the Saviour came into the world. Pray to know God’s Will for your life, so as to help bring Jesus to our world. If you think God is calling you to do this as a priest, religious or deacon, call **Rev. Fr. Matthew McCarthy, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997**; email vocations@archtoronto.org or call **Rev. Alan Glass** at 416-757-2806 or at olfatimasc@archtoronto.org for more information.



Guest post by Br. Andrew Edirimanasinghe:

Entrance Antiphon for 4th Sunday of Advent.

“Drop down dew from above you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour” – Is. 45.8

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ (Philippians 1.2). This Sunday, we celebrate the 4th Sunday of Advent, which coincides with the eve of Christmas. The candle that is lit this week, and the theme which Mother Church calls us to reflect upon, is peace.

Let us reflect on the meaning of peace. The word peace comes from the Greek word *Eirene*, which comes from the verb *Eiro*, which means to bind and to join together what has been broken, divided, or separated.

One can see from observing the world around us that it desperately needs peace. The physical conflict of the world reflects the troubled reality of human society. But why is there war? Because there is no peace within the human heart to be manifested in the world. As Pope Pius XII said, “If there is war in the world, it is because there is war in the heart of man.” One can see this to be true at the “ground level” by looking at the divided families and households and strife of the mind (mental illness) plaguing society today.

There is but only one remedy for the world: the peace brought forth by Christ, the Prince of Peace. Recall the words of greeting of the angels to shepherds in the fields, “Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord ... Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased! (Lk. 2.9,14)”. Only Christ can bring peace to the world and peace to the human heart. We implore this in the entrance antiphon: that God look down from heaven and see the dry, broken land of our heart and rain down the showers of peace of the Just One, Jesus Christ. It is only when each of us experiences the birth of Christ in our lives that we may find Christian peace. This is what we celebrate at Christmas, not simply the birthday of Christ, but the birth of Christ in the heart of the Christian.

And so, as we eve on the celebration of Christmas, let us come to Christ in our brokenness, that Christ may transform the war within us into peace and give us rest in him, “Come unto me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest (Mat. 11. 28).” As Pope Benedict XV once wrote, “The present-day calamities will not cease to exist until the human race has returned to God.” Only then will there be peace within the human heart and peace in the world. I wish you all a Blessed Christmas filled with the peace and joy of the awaited Christ.

**Wishing a Blessed Christmas
& Peaceful New Year to you all!**



Next Week Readings

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
Creating Countless Holy Families

1st Reading: Sirach 3.2-6, 12-14

2nd Reading: Colossians 3.12-21

Gospel: Luke 2.22-40

The Presentation

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

Christmas Blessings

The PASTORAL TEAM at Fatima Parish and the Parish FINANCE COUNCIL extend wishes for God's peace, joy and every blessing on all our parishioners and friends or family visiting them this Christmas season and throughout the New Year. Thank you all for your help and support. We are so blessed to have you and very proud of all of you.



INFANT JESUS NOVENA 2024

The Feast of the Infant Jesus of Prague Will this year be Celebrated within the evening Mass Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. .



DONATION ENVELOPES BOXES FOR 2024

The boxes with your donation envelopes for 2024 are ready for pick up at the back of the church. They are sorted in trays in alphabetical order according to the family's last name and will come in use as of Sunday, January 1st 2024.



Registered parishioners are kindly asked to inform the office of any changes to their personal data. *New Parishioners* are encouraged to register and get their personal box number so that at the end of the year their contributions will be acknowledged in a tax receipt. *Thank you for your support throughout the year.*

Jesus is the Reason for the Season.

Wishing You a Very Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year!



A SPECIAL

★CHRISTMAS COLLECTION★

in all Masses, on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day ... *your Christmas Gift to the Parish!* Thank you!



Christmas Day 2023 & New Year's 2024 Schedules

Sunday, December 24

9:00 am & 10:30 am, No 12:15 pm Mass

Family Mass at 6:00 pm Holy Mass

Christmas Eve at 9:00 pm Holy Mass

Midnight Mass at 12:00 am Holy Mass

Monday, December 25 at

9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:15 pm Holy Mass

December 26 Regular Scheduled is followed

Tuesday to Saturday, December 30

Regular Scheduled is followed.

Sunday, December 31 New Year's Eve at

9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:15 pm Holy Mass

Monday, January 01 New Year's Day at

9:00 am & 10:30 Holy Mass

Tuesday, January 02, 2024

Regular Scheduled is followed

The Parish Office is closed on all

Statutory holidays!

December 26th, 27th & January 2nd in observance of Christmas Day, Boxing Day & New Year's Day

falling on Sunday's.

ShareLife wishes you a blessed Christmas



As we shelter from the winter cold, the ShareLife team thanks you for your faithful support. We wish you a warm and safe Christmas season, grateful for the enduring compassion you extend to those less fortunate. You are igniting hope for a better future. If you wish to share your blessings this Christmas, your contribution will double in value. Your year-end gift to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be matched up to \$500,000. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope or at sharelife.org/donate.

Thank you and Merry Christmas!

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