

OUR LADY OF FATIMA SHRINE

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

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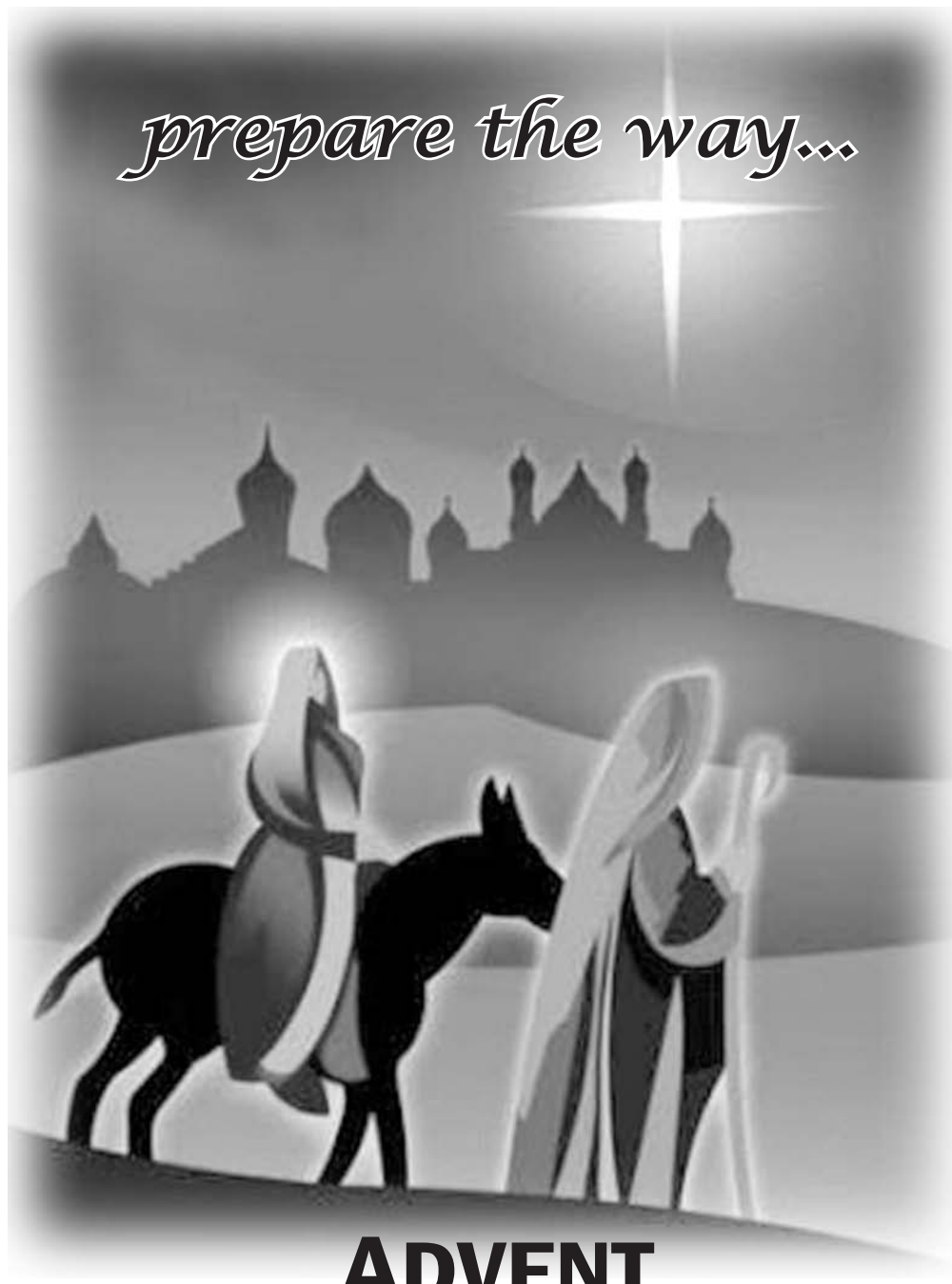
Email: olfatimasc@archtoronto.org Website: www.olfatimasc.archtoronto.org

PASTOR: Rev. Fr. Alan Glass

OFFICE STAFF:

Aurora Fraginal - Secretary

Patrick Callahan - Property Manager Jack Tobin - Custodian





Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 22

- 9:00 a.m. People of the Parish
10:30 a.m. + Edwin & Salvacion Alconaba
12:15 p.m. Reginald Adams (I) Thanksgiving + Novena 8

Monday, December 23

7:00 p.m. Final Day Novena 9

Tuesday, December 24 No Morning Mass

- 6:00 p.m. +Danny & Agnes Gomes
9:00 p.m. Balallo & Tan Family (I) Thanksgiving
12:00 p.m. +Fe Alconaba

Wednesday, 25 Christmas Day

- 9:00 a.m. +Glenda McGuire
10:30 a.m. +Fe Alconaba
12:15 p.m. +Mike DiCarlantonio

Thursday, December 26

8:00 a.m. +Felix Pingol

Friday, December 27

8:00 a.m. +Ana Maria Doti

Saturday, December 28

- 9:00 a.m. +Miguel & Gail Rodriquez
4:30 p.m. +Domingo, Edwin & Salvacion Alconaba

Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 22, 2024

Are you called to follow in the footsteps of Mary as a priest, deacon or religious to carry the Good News of God's great Love? contact Rev. Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997 email vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca or call Fr. Alan Glass at 416-757-2806 or email ofatimasc@archtoronto.org for information.



FROM THE DESK OF FR. GLASS:

Tidings of great joy

For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. — Nicene Creed

Some years ago, when the English version of the Roman Missal was updated, the words of the Nicene Creed were changed. In the phrase "was born of the Virgin Mary and became man" the word 'born' was replaced by 'incarnate.'

This apparently minor change has important theological implications. We celebrate Christmas as the coming of the Messiah, but on that winter night in Bethlehem the Messiah had already been in the world for nine months. When the Angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she had been chosen to be the mother of the Messiah, and when Mary spoke her fiat — 'let it be done to me according to your word' — at that moment the second person of the Trinity took on the fullness of our human nature, both body and soul. The Feast of the Annunciation, celebrated on March 25th, is also the Feast of the Incarnation.

When Mary visited Elizabeth, then in her sixth month of pregnancy, Elizabeth's child 'leapt in her womb' for joy at the presence of the Messiah, and Elizabeth addressed Mary as "the mother of my Lord." At this time Mary was not yet 'showing', yet the "true light that enlightens every man" had come into the world.

There is an ancient tradition that the Incarnation and the Crucifixion occurred on the same date. Indeed, a few years ago Good Friday coincided with the Feast of the Annunciation. The celebration of the Incarnation therefore is overshadowed by the observances of Holy Week and Easter. It is perfectly understandable, therefore, that the birth of Jesus should take on greater prominence, especially as it occurs at a significant time of the year so close to the winter solstice.

For nine months the Messiah lay hidden from the world in the womb of his virgin mother. He was like a Christmas present still in its gift wrap. In the stable in Bethlehem the present was finally unwrapped. On Christmas night the coming of God as man is made manifest and proclaimed.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."

A SPECIAL

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

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Next Week Readings

Feast of the Holy Family

Building Families on Prayer

1st Reading: 1Samuel 20-22, 24-28

2nd Reading: 1John 3.1-2, 21-24

Gospel: Luke 3.2.41-52

The Finding of Jesus in the Temple

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 here 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.

DONATION ENVELOPES BOXES FOR 2025



The boxes with your donation envelopes for 2025 are prepared for pick up! Over the past year

we have been cleaning up our parish register. We have ordered 750 boxes of envelopes for this year, which is more than enough for our currently registered parishioners and the expected number of new parishioners. This means that if your current envelope number is greater than 750, you will be assigned a new number. Registered parishioners are encouraged to notify the Church office of any changes to their contact information. New parishioners are encouraged to register and request donations envelopes so that they can receive a tax receipt for their Sunday offering. Thank you for your co-operation on this matter.

Attention: Our Lady of Fatima Parish Volunteers!

We are inviting all volunteers to join us for a Mass Service on Sunday, January 29, at 10:30 AM. This mass is offered to all volunteers & lay ministers. To give thanks & praise to our Lord Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit & through the intercession of our Blessed Mother for the generous hearts of our volunteers & ministers in sharing their God-given talent, time & resources in service to the community for God's glory & honor. We invite parishioners to join us in praying to strengthen our active volunteers. Let's come together in faith and gratitude to celebrate your dedication and service. We look forward to seeing you there!

Christmas Day 2024 & New Year's 2025 Schedules

Tuesday, December 24

No morning 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

Wednesday, December 25 at

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

December 26 Regular Scheduled is followed

Friday to Monday, December 30

Tuesday, December 31 New Year's Eve at

8:00 am & 7:00 pm Holy Mass

Wednesday, January 01 New Year's Day at

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

Thursday, January 02, 2025

Regular Scheduled is followed

The Parish Office is closed on all Statutory holidays!

December 26th & January 02nd .



Christmas Eve Prayer

Loving Father,

Help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world.

Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings,

and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.



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