

# OUR LADY OF FATIMA SHRINE

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PASTOR: Rev. Fr. Alan Glass

## OFFICE STAFF:

Aurora Fraginal - Secretary

Patrick Callahan - Property Manager Jack Tobin - Custodian



*Feast of the Holy Family*



Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 29

- 9:00 a.m. People of the Parish
10:30 a.m. All Volunteers of OLF (I) Thanksgiving
12:15 p.m. +Stella Silva

Monday, December 30 No Mass

Tuesday, December 31

- 8:00 a.m. Vincenzo & Carmela Martino
7:00 pm Vigil Mass + Alfonso Tan

Wednesday, January 01

- 9:00 a.m. +Joseph D'Cruz
10:30 a.m. People of the Parish
12:15 p.m. +Roseline Zarzeki

Thursday, January 02

- 8:00 a.m. +Willy Findlay

Friday, January 03 - First Friday

- 7:00 p.m. Pat Hawkins (Healing)

Saturday, January 04

- 9:00 a.m. +Aiden Smith
4:30 p.m. People of the Parish

Guest post by Br. Andrew Edirimanasinghe:

The Holy Family

Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them, and his mother treasured all these things in her heart. — Luke 2:51

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ (Philippians 1:2), and a blessed Christmas season! This Sunday, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. On this day the Church calls us to reflect on the relationship of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. This feast day highlights the importance of family: God sanctified the family by choosing to have an earthly mother and (foster) father. As Pope Benedict XVI said in an Angelus reflection: "In the Gospel, we do not find discourses on the family but an event which is worth more than any words: God wanted to be born and to grow up in a human family. In this way, he consecrated the family as the first and ordinary means of his encounter with humanity".

The Gospel today gives insight into each family member's primary role: to accompany one another in discovering and journeying on the path the Father has destined for us.

At the age of twelve, Jesus was left behind in the Temple, and it took His parents three days to find him. Any parent will know how terrible the feeling is of not knowing whether your child is safe; how distraught Mary and Joseph must have been! When they finally find Jesus in the Temple, Mary expresses her anxiety, to which Jesus replies, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" At first sight, this response may be seen as lacking in sensitivity, but Pope Benedict notes it showed Mary and Joseph that their child was called to a greater mission, beyond their understanding.

Each member of the Holy Family leads and accompanies the others to do God's Will through their example. Mary obeyed Gabriel's Message, and Joseph obeyed the angel he encountered in his dreams. Jesus recognized that the Father's will must be done and that he must be obedient to his parents: "Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them." Though perplexed by her son, Mary shows a contemplative recognition of her child's greater calling and destiny: "His mother treasured all these things in her heart."

Let us conclude with Pope Benedict's invocation of the Holy Family: "Let us now invoke for every family, especially families in difficulty, the protection of Mary Most Holy and of St. Joseph. May they sustain such families so that they can resist the disintegrating forces of a certain contemporary culture which undermines the very foundations of the family institution. May they help Christian families be living images of God's love in every part of the world."

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph



- Dec. 29, 2024

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 to be a priest, religious or deacon, 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.

Next Week Readings

Being a Visible Witness

1st Reading: Isaiah 60.1-6

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2.1-12

The Visit of the Wise Men

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



The PASTORAL TEAM at Fatima Parish, and the FINANCE COUNCIL wish to extend to parishioners, their families and visitors heartfelt wishes for a blessed, peaceful and prosperous 2024. Thank you all for your help and support. We are really proud and privileged to be with you in the service of the Lord.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

at all Masses on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Your Gift to the Parish on the Octave Day of Christmas Thank you!



New Year's 2025 Schedule

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!

January 02nd and 3rd, 2025

NEW YEAR'S DAY - Mary, Mother of God

Wednesday, January 01, 2025



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!

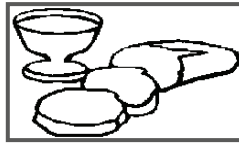
Pope's Prayer Intention for January 2025



For the right to an education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES & CHILDREN'S LITURGY



classes will resume on, Sunday January 12, 2025 at 10:30 am in the church hall. Thursday,

January 14 communicant will have their First confession at 6:00 pm in the church. Parents and candidate are ask to attend weekly Mass. Parents are encourage to teach your children the basic prayers.

CONFIRMATION 2024-2025

Classes start on Saturday, January 11, 2025 at 1:15 pm. Candidates are to participate Holy Mass after each sessions. Thank you.



R.C.I.A. Program: Oct. 2024 - Apr. 2025



This year's Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) are on Sundays in the church hall from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm. For more info call the office.

The Program continues on Sunday's January 12, 2025.

INFANT JESUS NOVENA-2024



The Feast of the Infant Jesus of Prague is celebrated on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at 6:00 pm.

Lord Jesus, may I always trust in your generous mercy and love. I want to honour and praise you now and forever. Amen.



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