

OUR LADY OF FATIMA SHRINE

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Patrick Callahan - Property Manager Jack Tobin - Custodian





Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 28

4:30 pm (vigil) Cora & Alex Parucha Family (I)
 9:00 am + Ester Stots
 10:30 am People of the Parish
 12:15 pm + Stella Silva

Monday, December 29

No Mass

Tuesday, December 30

8:00 am + Julito Sarabia

Wednesday, December 31

7:00 pm New Year's Eve Mass (People of the Parish)
 12:00 am Midnight - End of the Year Mass

Thursday, January 01

9:00 am Carol Morra (I)
 10:30 am Ramal & Diana De Mel (I)
 12:15 pm Adams Family (Thanksgiving)

Friday, January 02

7:00 pm +Filomena Brienza

Saturday, January 03

9:00 am +Carmine Abbatangelo

Guest post by Br. Andrew Edirimanasinghe

The chaos of the Holy Family

Even the Holy Family of Nazareth experienced the problems of an every family: unexpected events, daily concerns, and anxiety about the future. Yet, despite these difficulties, they placed their trust in God. — Pope Francis

When we think of the Holy Family we often imagine them as the perfect family — with piety, quiet obedience, and gentle holiness — as in a work of art. Scripture, however, presents a more honest picture. Their perfection and holiness did not stem from the absence of chaos but from faithfulness amid it. Their lives were filled with uncertainty, fear, displacement, and suffering, showing that holiness is not achieved in ideal conditions but through trustful obedience to God during disorder.

This is clear from the start. Mary conceives through the Holy Spirit. Joseph is initially confused and distressed, unsure how to reconcile his righteousness with a situation that defies logic. Mary, too, in her submission to God, risks misunderstanding, shame, or even death. Their peace is not a given; it is a choice. St. Joseph listens to God's voice in dreams, teaching us that holiness often requires quiet courage in the face of unanswered questions.

The birth of Christ unfolds in chaos — no inn, no comfort, just a manger. St. Bernard of Clairvaux notes, "The Son of God had no place to lay His head, and His Mother scarcely found a place to give Him birth." Soon, the family flees to Egypt, escaping a violent ruler. The Son of God enters the world not sheltered from danger but immersed in it. St. Teresa of Ávila reminds us, "Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you; all things pass, God never changes." The Holy Family demonstrates this reality — not by avoiding turmoil, but by anchoring their trust in God even as uncertainty surrounds them.

Disruption strikes again when twelve-year-old Jesus is lost in Jerusalem. Mary and Joseph search anxiously for three days, experiencing every parent's fear and helplessness. When they find Him in the Temple, they do not fully understand His words — but they continue to trust. St. John Paul II says, "Faith does not remove difficulties; it gives us the strength to face them." The Holy Family's faith does not eliminate confusion; it sustains them through it.

The chaos surrounding the Holy Family speaks to families today. Their lives remind us that sanctity is not reserved for those with perfect routines and peaceful homes. Holiness grows amid stress, in decisions made under pressure, in perseverance when plans fall apart. Yet even the most chaotic moments can become sacred ground when we entrust our uncertainty to God. The Holy Family shows us that God is not offended by disorder: He enters it and transforms it into moments of grace and deeper faith.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph



December 28, 2025

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, religious, or permanent deacon.

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. Mary treasured all that God had done for her, and pondered these things in her heart. Do you treasure God's gifts and ponder what He wants from you? You may have a vocation to a life in the Church serving Christ. If God is calling you contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416 968-0997. Email: vocations@archtoronto.org or www.vocationstoronto.ca or call Rev. A. Glass at 416-727-2806 or email at olfatimasc@archtoronto.org.

Next Week Readings – 04 January 2026

The Epiphany of the Lord

The glory of the Lord has risen upon you

1st Reading: Isaiah 60.1-6

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3.2-30a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2.1-12

We have come from East to pay
homage to the king.

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

**New Year's 2026 Schedule**

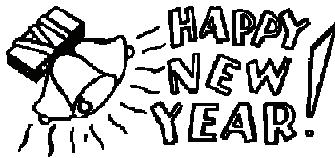
Wed., December 31 New Year's Eve
 Vigil Mass is at 7:00 pm Holy Mass
 12:00 am Midnight Year End Mass

 Thurs, January 01 New Year's Day
 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:15 pm Holy Mass

 First Friday of the year January 02, 2026
Regular Scheduled is followed
 The Parish Office is closed on
 Friday, January 02nd.

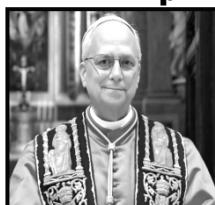
SPECIAL COLLECTION

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!

Our Lady of Fatima Parish, and the FINANCE
 COUNCIL wish to
 extend to parishioners,
 their families and
 visitors heartfelt wishes
 for a blessed, peaceful
 and prosperous 2026.
 HAPPY NEW YEAR
 2026
 Thank you all for your help and support. We are
 really proud and privileged to be with you in the
 service of the Lord.

**Pope Leo's 2026 Monthly Intentions****JANUARY****For Prayer With The Word Of God**

Let us pray that praying with the
 Word of God be nourishment for our
 lives and a source of hope in our
 communities, helping us build a more
 fraternal and missionary Church.

St. Vincent De Paul Collection for 2026

We wish to inform parishioners that we
 will commence a monthly collection in
 support of the St. Vincent de Paul
 Society first collection will be on
Sunday, January 18, 2026. These
 contributions will assist the poor and
 vulnerable within our community. We
 sincerely thank you for your continued generosity and
 support of this important outreach.

**First Holy Communion & Children's Liturgy**

Classes will resume on *Sunday January 11, 2026 at 10:30 am in the church hall*.

Parents' Reminder: We kindly encourage you to guide your children in learning the basic prayers, especially the *Act of Contrition*, as part of their growing faith. *Parents and candidate are invited to take part in weekly Mass as part of the program*. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY will also continue meetings *Sunday, January 11*, during the **10:30 am Mass**. All children – from 6 to 10 years old – are welcome to participate.

Confirmation 2025-2026

Classes start on *Saturday, January 10, 2026 at 1:15 pm* in the church hall. Also, confession schedule on *Thursday, January 15, 2026 at 7:00 pm*. Candidates are to participate the 4:30 pm Holy Mass after each sessions. Please follow given schedule.

**R.C.I.A. Program: Oct. 2025 – Apr. 2026**

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 – classes continues in our parish this *Sunday, January 11, 2026 at 1:30 pm after the 12:15 pm Mass*. Thank you

**INFANT JESUS NOVENA-2025**

The Feast of the Infant Jesus of Prague is celebrated on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 6:00 pm.



"Divine Infant Jesus, I trust in Your love and mercy. Bless me with peace, guide my steps, and keep me always in Your care. Amen."

Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Prayer Service 2026 *Sunday, January 18, 2026, 4:00 p.m. EST* Venue: Runnymede United Church, 432 Runnymede Rd, Toronto, ON M6S 2Y8 Theme: *"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the hope of your calling" (Ephesians 4:4)*. Join Bishop John A. Boissonneau 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 Ecumenical & Interfaith Relations and the GTA Council of Christian Churches.



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