

St. Joseph Catholic Church

5440 Durie Rd, Mississauga, ON, L5M 2J5

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PARISH TEAM

Fr Paul Dobson Parish Priest Fr Michael Corpus Associate Pastor

Lionel Gomes & George Jurenas Permanent Deacons



MASS INTENTIONS

SAT	19	Vigil Mass † Agnelo Lobo
SUN	20	† Marisa Cavallin <i>Pro Popolo</i> Special Intention † Tiberio Correia † Gatto Family
MON	21	In Thanksgiving to St. Joseph
TUES	22	† Walter Teodoro
WED	23	† Henryk Hojka
THUR	24	Christmas Eve
FRI	25	Nativity of Our Lord
SAT	26	Vigil Mass † Antonio Ricciardi
SUN	27	3rd Sunday of Advent † Ernesto Tagle <i>Pro Popolo</i> † Gabriel Teixeira † Henrique Lobo † Tiberio Correia
MON	28	The Holy Innocents † Basil Smith
TUES	29	† Agnelo Lobo
WED	30	† Filiberto & Vittoria Jannetta
THUR	31	† Tiberio Correia
FRI	01	The Solemnity of Mary
SAT	02	Sts. Basil & Gregory

~ FROM FATHER PAUL ~ GOD HAS BECOME A MAN

In today's Gospel we hear the account of the Annunciation to Our Lady. This is such a familiar story that we can run the risk of taking it for granted. But what a wonderful event it is—truly amazing, when one only begins to reflect even a little on it! Why else did God take such pains to prepare fallen humanity? It was because of His plan for the Incarnation of His Divine Son. The Incarnation is a fact which we cannot fully grasp. How can Almighty God, infinite and omnipotent spirit, become a part of His own creation? Without God's revelation of this, we could never have imagined it. God began to prepare us for this wonderful truth as far back as the Fall of our first parents, when He said to satan: "*I will make you enemies of each other; you and the woman, your offspring and her offspring. It will crush your head and you will strike its heel*" (Genesis 3:15).

In this way, however obscurely, God was promising both that rescue would come to us, and that it would come from one of Adam and Eve's own descendants. From this, the first announcement of the Saviour, the Church has ever since called Our Blessed Lady the "*New Eve*", for it is from her offspring that we have been rescued from eternal death. Throughout the many following centuries, God often spoke through those whom He chose to bear His message of salvation: Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Later still, God chose Moses to lead His people out of slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land. It was to be a long and painful journey in which God taught them patience and obedience, giving them the Commandments and the Ark of the Covenant as a sign of His favour.

The Ark of the Covenant was the most sacred sign of God's presence, containing as it did the original tablets of stone on which God had give His Law to the chosen people via Moses on Mount Sinai. Centuries later, King David wanted to build a permanent dwelling place for this sacred Ark, and planned a fitting Temple. But as we hear in today's First Reading, God sends the prophet Nathan to tell David that he cannot build such a place. God cannot live in a temple made by human hands. Yet God still shows great favour to David. Nathan tells him that there will always be a king among his descendants. The fulfillment of these two statements is found in Mary and Jesus. Mary becomes the living temple of God's dwelling-place, when the Son of God enters into her womb and becomes her Son. This is why we call her the "*Ark of the Covenant*", in whose most holy body Our Lord becomes man. This is the real heart of the Incarnation—that God actually became man. It is a mystery too great for us to grasp, but it is revealed to us by God Himself in the message brought by the Angel Gabriel to our Blessed Lady in today's Gospel. Moreover, Jesus is the "Son of David" and fulfils God's promise to King David, that his royal line would never fail.

**Please check for parish updates on our website:
stjosephmi.archtoronto.org | or our Facebook page.**



NOTICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Opening Times

All Mass intentions will be honoured by private Mass Up to 10 persons may be allowed in the church Monday – Saturday from 8 am – 10 am & Sundays 8 am – noon for private prayer and Eucharistic Adoration.

Christmas season hours may be different and will be posted on our website and Facebook Page.

During this time you may drop off offertory envelopes in the offertory basket in the front lobby.

2020 Tax Receipts

We are sincerely grateful to all parishioners who have continued to support our parish throughout this difficult year. 2020 donations must be received by 3:00 pm on December 30th or they will be considered for 2021. For changes to your name or address, please notify us by email or phone message on or before Dec 30th to ensure correct details.

Missals for new liturgical year

Are in the lobby - deposit \$5 in the box and take a missal.

SVDP Christmas Donations

All donations for the annual Christmas collection for St. Vincent de Paul provides funds to the group for the year to help with serving our neighbours in need. Please drop your SVDP Christmas envelopes in the box in the front lobby during the hours the church is open.

One of a Kind Christmas Tree Angel Sales

Email: cwlstjoseph.parish@gmail.com or call: Barbara: 905-466-5767 or Benny: 905-783-1330 (**from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm**). All Proceeds are to help support the HUMAN FAMILY in CHRIST Charity in Bolivia.

Marriage Sunday 2021

Cardinal Collins has designated the weekend of February 13/14, 2021 as Marriage Sunday in the Archdiocese of Toronto. Our parish is participating in a program to offer a personalized, special blessing certificate signed by Cardinal Thomas Collins to married couples celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th, or 60+ wedding anniversary in 2021.

To request a special milestone blessing certificate visit <https://bit.ly/2021MS-SpecialBlessing>.

The deadline to order is January 17, 2021.

The Office of Formation for Discipleship will be processing the orders. Our parish will be assisting in distributing the special blessing certificate to you.

EVENTS

AROUND THE ARCH

“Simbang Gabi” Online Advent Retreat

As part of the Toronto celebration of the 500th year Anniversary of the arrival of Christianity in the Philippines, and in preparation for the birth of our Savior, an online airing of a nine-day “*Simbang Gabi*” (Filipino for "Night Mass") and Novena from various participating parishes will be held from **Dec15 - 23 at 7 pm** and livestreamed at www.ph500toronto.com and at: www.facebook.com/500yocTO. Our own Fr Michael Corpus will be one of the celebrants. Details at: www.ph500toronto.com/events.html. The 9-day Novena and Mass is a much-revered Advent tradition in the Philippines but everyone is welcome to join virtually as we prepare for Christ’s joyous birth.

Tired of the news and social Media?

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PICK OF THE WEEK

December 20, 2020

WATCH

CHRISTMAS IN ROME: A CELEBRATION OF THE NATIVITY
Nowhere celebrates the birth of the Savior like Rome. This Christmas, marvel at the Holy City's festive celebration of the coming of the child Jesus in Bethlehem.



THE STORY OF THE NATIVITY: THE TRUTH OF CHRISTMAS

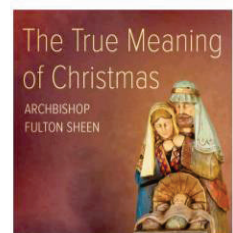
Christmas is so much more than a humdrum story we've heard since childhood. Join top scholars, speakers, and authors as they explain the gravity of Christ's miraculous birth.

LEARN

LISTEN

THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS BY FULTON SHEEN

This presentation combines recordings of Fulton Sheen's timeless reflections on the meaning of Christmas, mixed with Gregorian chant and seasonal music. It is sure to become a family favorite!



SMILE OF THE DAY What are Father Christmas' helpers called ?

Answer:
subordinate clauses

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