

St. Joseph The Worker Parish

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Oh Come
Let us Adore Him

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

My dear parishioners,

The wonder of God becoming man to be with us will always be a marvelous feat to ponder. Jesus takes human flesh, God lives with us, the word became flesh, Emmanuel!

The consequences are so enormous: we are not alone, we do not carry our burdens alone, we do not have a God who is far away from us, he is one of the brethren. He shares our life. As the evangelist John tells us, the Word “which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched” (1 John 1:1) is the one we celebrate at Christmas.

As we celebrate remember Jesus is the reason for the season. It is because of his birth that our story changes for good. In him we live and move and have our being. So celebrate him, give him your hearts, make him part of the family, proclaim him to the world. Get committed to your faith more than ever; be committed even more to your beloved community – the body of Christ at St. Joseph the Worker, Thornhill.

May he dwell in your heart and fill you, family and friends with so much joy. As we soon enter into a new year, 2024, may God bless us with his abundant graces. And may our patron saint Joseph intercede continually for us. May Mary cover us with her maternal mantle. And may Christ Jesus, the Lord of all nations, reign majestically in our lives.

Merry Christmas and a happy 2024 ahead!

Fr. Victor Amole

Pastor

MASS READINGS

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7.1-5, 8-12, 14,16

Second Reading: Romans 16.25-27

Gospel: Luke 1.26-38

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 24 December, 9:00 AM (Italian)

For all Parishioners

Sunday 24 December, 10:30 AM

For all Parishioners

Sunday 24 December, 12:00 PM

For all Parishioners

Sunday 24 December, 5:00 PM

For all Parishioners

Sunday 24 December, 10:00 PM

For all Parishioners

Monday 25 December, 10:00 AM

For all Parishioners

Monday 25 December, 12:00 PM

For all Parishioners

Tuesday 26 December

No Mass

Wednesday 27 December, 7:00 PM

+ Christina Iannelli, + Esteban Bernal

Thursday 28 December, 9:00 AM

+ Ted Asenczuk

Friday 29 December, 7:00 PM

+ Deacon Dominic, + John Ferreira, + Giovanni Grella,
+ Leo Palmucci, + Elizabeth Daniel, + Rosa Lepore,
+ Leonancia Alomia

Saturday 30 December

No Saturday Morning Mass

ANNUAL WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY PRAYER SERVICE 2024

Join Archbishop Francis Leo 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 Promoting Christian Unity and the Greater Toronto Area Council of Christian Churches.

Resources: The following complementary resources provide helpful information of how to observe the WPCU in your parish.

- The Roman Missal (Third Typical Edition-Canada 2011) offers: The Eucharistic Prayer ‘The Church on the Path of Unity’ (pages 748-754); The ‘Mass for the Unity of Christians’ (with options A, B and C) (pages 1261-1267); as well as Formularies for the Universal Prayer (e.g., pages 301-302 and pages 1450-1451).
- The 2024 WPCU international resources produced and published jointly by the Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity and the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches may be retrieved at: <https://rb.gy/wajo9>.
- Sample Intercessions and Prayers of the Faithful for 2024 may be accessed at: GEII-Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute.
- Remind and encourage High School Students to participate in the Annual Friars’ Writing Contest for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. For details, please see the poster at: <https://bit.ly/3G0I4zT>.
- Consider organizing a weekday neighbourhood service during the WPCU according to local situations: ideally prepared ecumenically with other Christians in your parish boundaries, or for your parishioners in your church (with an outreach/invitation to other Christian communities in your area if possible). The international service is easily adapted for local use. Should assistance be required, please contact us at Ecumenical@archtoronto.org

JOIN THE SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

Our Faith calls us to serve, and the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul welcomes all who wish to live their faith by loving and serving their neighbour. We are seeking new members to help visit the poor and others in need in their homes and assist us with food and clothing drives. For more information on how you may be able to help, please call our helpline at 647-303-2621



SATURDAY, DEC. 23

NO 9:00 AM MASS
5:00 PM – English

SATURDAY, DEC. 30

NO 9:00 AM MASS
5:00 PM – English

SUNDAY MORNING, DEC. 24

9:00 AM – Italian
10:30 AM – English
12:00 PM – English

CHRISTMAS EVE

Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord

Sunday, December 24, 2023

5:00 PM – English
10:00 PM – English

OFFICE CLOSED

From Sunday, December 24, 2023, to
Tuesday, December 26, 2023.

We will be open again on
Wednesday, December 27, 2023

SUNDAY MORNING, DEC. 31

9:00 AM – Italian
10:30 AM – English
12:00 PM – English

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Vigil of Mary the Mother of God

Sunday, December 31, 2023

5:00PM – English

OFFICE CLOSED

From Sunday, December 31, 2023, to
Tuesday, January 2, 2024.

We will be open again on
Wednesday, January 3, 2024

CHRISTMAS DAY

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

Monday, December 25, 2023

10:AM – Bilingual
12:00 PM – English

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Solemnity of the Mother of God

Monday, January 1, 2024

10:00 AM – Bilingual

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE MASS WITH ARCHBISHOP FRANCIS LEO – FEBRUARY 11, 2024 AT 3:00 P.M.

As part of Marriage Sunday 2024 celebrations, Archbishop Francis Leo will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, with special recognition for those celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2024. The Mass will take place at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 11, 2024 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto). All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their marriage commitment during the Mass.

All are welcome to attend. Couples celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+ anniversary in 2024 may register for reserved seating. Reserved seating is limited, so please register early. All other seating is on a first-come, first served basis. Those who are unable to attend at the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass. Registration and other important information can be found at

www.archtoronto.org/marriage.

For questions, please email formation@archtoronto.org or call 416-934-3400 ext. 523.

REMINDER: FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

First Holy Communion and Confirmation classes will be starting Saturday, January 13th. They will be from 10 AM- 12 PM for First Holy Communion students and 3 PM- 5 PM for Confirmation students.



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