

HOLY CROSS

P A R I S H

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Fr. Roselle Cyrille R. Azares, Pastor

Deacon Albert Dacanay

Lolita R. Dimatulac, Secretary





Christmas & New Year's Schedule

24th December - Sunday Mass

- ✚ 9:30 am
- ✚ 11:00 am



NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Christmas Eve MASSES

- ✚ 7:00 pm
- ✚ 11:00 pm



25th December - Monday, Christmas Day

- ✚ 9:30 am and 11:00 am

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

30th December, Saturday (Vigil Mass)

- ✚ 5:00 pm

31st December, 2017- Sunday Mass

- ✚ 9:30 am and 11:00 am



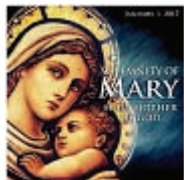
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (Holy Day of Obligation)

31st December, 2017

- ✚ 7:00 pm (Vigil Mass)

1st January, 2018

- ✚ 9:30 am and 11:00 am



The 2018 Parish Envelopes are ready for pickup. If you are not able to find your envelope box or the address information is incorrect, please contact the parish office (416-421-5225). Please **do not use** envelopes from previous years.



The Gift that is Christmas

A highlight of the Christmas mass is the singing of the canticle of the angelic choir: the Gloria. Generally during the season of advent, the Gloria is not sung. Voices and musical instruments blend to the majestic tune of *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.*

There was an ongoing discussion on how to understand the last verse of the hymn which appears in two different forms of the old Greek manuscripts: *eudokia* and *eudokias*. Dictionaries give this word a range of meanings: good will, pleasure, favour and wish. But over and above the form is the question, whose 'good will' is it? Is it the good will of God or the good will of people?

Today, the tendency among bible scholars is to assign *eudokia* primarily to God rather than to human beings. Peace comes to earth not so much because of the good will on the part of human beings but because of God's favour which is unmerited grace in the first place. It pleases God to save people, independent of whether people deserve the divine favour or not. In fact, God shows a special favour for the 'undeserving'.

In the gospel of St. Luke, Jesus praises the heavenly Father for this: *I give you praise Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned, you have revealed them to the childlike. Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will* (Luke 10: 21).

Having firmed up the primacy of God's grace, love and mercy, let us not belittle the *eudokia* on the part of human beings. In fact, having received God's good will, we cannot but be people of good will in return. God's grace then becomes 'operative' in us. We are who we are because of what God has done to us in his beloved Son Jesus. But we have to show in our lives, especially in our actions, that we respond to God's grace by living our dignity as sons and daughters of God.

A blessed Christmas!

Fr. Roselle



Tuesday, December 26th:
8:15 am – Milagros Benedicto - Thanksgiving
 Requested by Vinda & Fe Olase

Wednesday, December 27th:
8:15 am – Ruel Gutierrez - Thanksgiving
 Requested by Vinda & Fe Olase

Thursday, December 28th:
8:15 am – Fr. Charles Anang - Intentions
 Requested by Therese De Manche

Friday, December 29th:
8:15 am – Milagros Benedicto - Thanksgiving
 Requested by Nelson & Nelia Ducusin

Saturday, December 30th:
9:00 am – Milagros Benedicto - Thanksgiving
 Requested by Mila Benedicto
5:00 pm – All Parishioners

Sunday, December 31st:
9:30 am – Davion Rome Palanca†
 Requested by Palanca Family
11:00 am – Primitivo & Erlinda Acosta†
 Requested by Acosta Family
7:00 pm – New Year's Eve Mass

Church Bulletin Advertising

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the advertisements for our church bulletin. The advertising will begin in February 2018 and supports the bulletin service. Please support our bulletin and advertise your product or service. **Call Liturgical Publications at 905-624-4422.**

Pre – Authorized Giving

The work of Holy Cross Church is made possible through the giving hearts of parishioners like you. In response to changing lifestyles and demands on time and energy, **Holy Cross Church is proposing that you kindly consider the Pre-Authorized Giving Program (PAG) to assist you in your giving.**

Advantages for you:

- It's convenient. You don't have to scramble to find a pen and fill out an envelope on the way to Mass.
- You know that even when you are away, you are supporting your parish.

Advantages for the Parish:

- Imagine if you went to work every day and did not know how much you would receive when you got your cheque. It would make planning your life very difficult. It's the same for your Parish. **PAG** gives your parish a stable flow of income from which we can plan.

How to sign up for PAG:

- Decide the amount of your gift to Holy Cross Church to be withdrawn from your account each month. This does not include any money for special collections
- Fill out the PAG form and attach a cheque from your account marked "void".
- Put the form and void cheque in a sealed envelope, and place it in the collection basket or mail it to Holy Cross Church, 291 Cosburn Ave, Toronto ON M4J 2M4. For more information, please contact the Parish Office.

Thank you for your generosity!

GIFTS OF SECURITIES – A NEW WAY TO HELP!

You can now support the Church using securities (stocks, mutual funds, bonds). You will not have to pay any capital gains on your securities gift and you will get a tax receipt for the full amount. It's very easy to do. For more information please contact the Parish Office or the Development Office of the Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-934-3411 or email: development@archtoronto.org

Altar Servers Schedule

December 30th/December 31st, 2017



Saturday 5:00 pm	Angeline Beltran	Angelo Beltran	Michael Orillanes	
Sunday 9:30 am	Ruel Gutierrez	Uri Kibuthu	Sean Quinagon	Mary Joice Gutierrez
Sunday 11:00 am	Giselle Tilos	Emma Djedjet	Jann Ybarola	Matthew Guzman
Sunday 7:00 pm	Cerniel Cruzada	Cailean Cruzada	Joshua	Kirsten

Special Prayers for Parishioners

If you know of someone who is seriously ill, or someone who has recently deceased, please contact the office and the person or persons can be prayed for in the weekend Mass during the Prayers of the Faithful.



**The Office is closed from:
 December 22 - January 1st, 2018**

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