

HOLY CROSS PARISH

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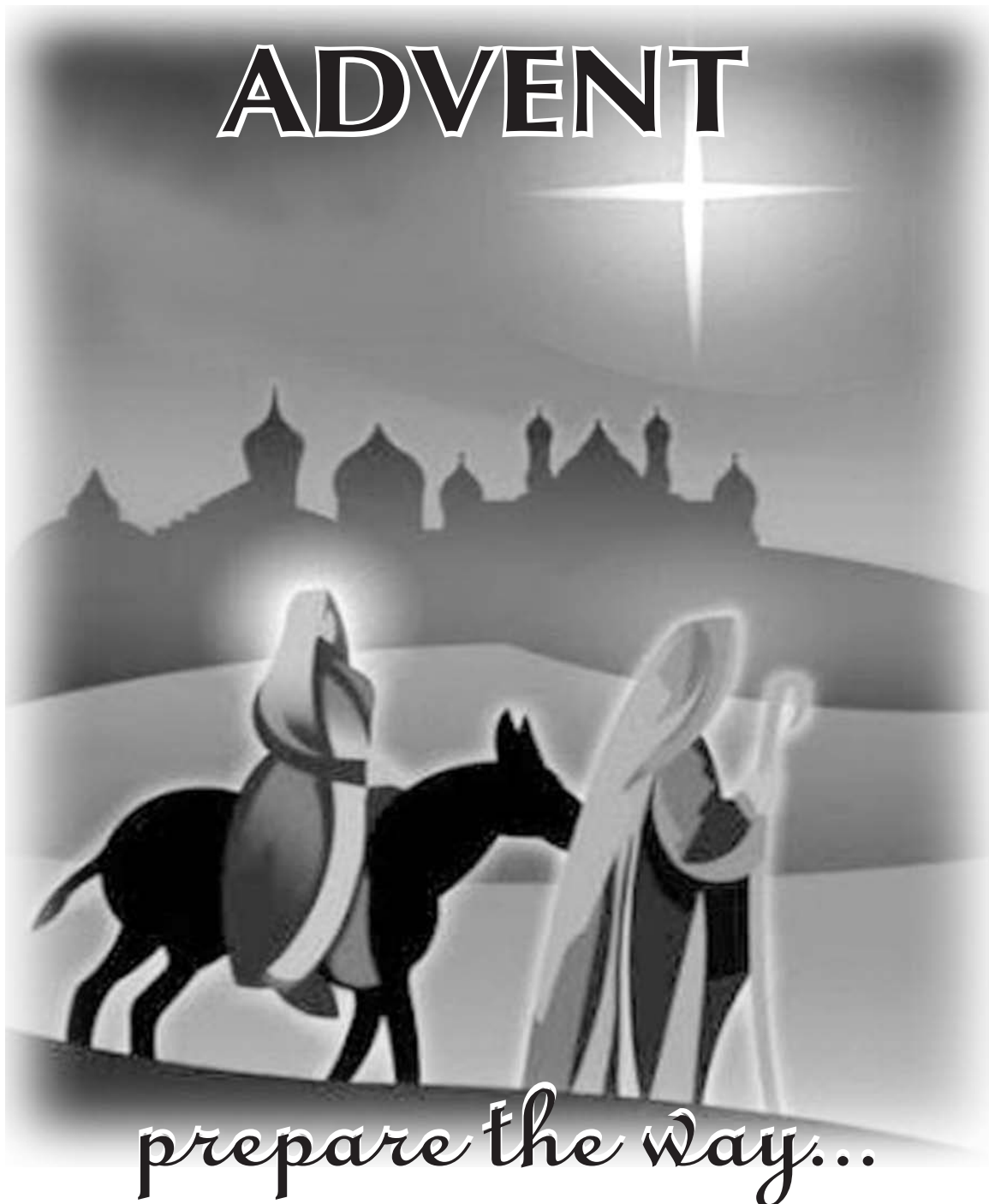
Email: holycrosssto@archtoronto.org Website: holycrosssto.archtoronto.org

Fr. Godofredo R. Claudio, Pastor

Deacon Albert Dacanay

Joan Bolanos, Administrative Assistant

ADVENT



<i>Mass Intentions</i>		
DEC	MASS FOR	REQUESTED BY
19 Mon, 9am	NO MASS	
20 Tues, 9am	Casiano & Rogelio Flores +	Lydia Queman
21 Wed, 9am	Bill Doumouras +	Karin Doumouras
22 Thurs, 9am	Florence & James Wong +	Bennett & Robert Wong
23 Fri, 9am	Lorenzo Cruz +	Len & Myrna Tapawan
24 Sat, 9am 5pm 7pm 11pm	No Mass No Mass Vigil Mass Vigil Mass (Christmas Eve)	
25 Sun, 9am	Christmas Day Mass	
11 am	Christmas Day Mass	

Meditate on God's Word



Sunday Gospel Reflection

Gospel: Matthew 1.18-24 - The Birth of Jesus the Messiah

Making Room for Jesus

As Christmas fast approaches and Advent is drawing to a close, let us remind ourselves of the importance of this liturgical season. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas as well as His final coming at the end of time. However, the great saints of the church also speak of an intermediary coming, the coming of Christ to our present lives. Let us take a moment to ask ourselves, if the Lord showed up in our life today, would there be room for Him? As stewards, we often face the temptation to let our works of charity become a life of volunteering instead of a spirituality of service. Our many works may begin to take precedence over our relationship with Christ which should always remain as the source of our stewardship. This Advent, as we are waiting for Christ, Christ is also waiting for us. Jesus says in the Book of Revelation, "Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you" (Revelation 3:20). He is waiting for us to open the door and let him in. We can let him into our lives as stewards by realizing it is not ourselves ministering to our neighbour, but the love and presence of Christ within us. St. Teresa of Calcutta says it best when she proclaims that, "it is Christmas every time you let God love others through you. Yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at someone and offer them your hand." St. Teresa of Calcutta fully embodies the spirit of stewardship that makes room for Christ to love others through her. Let us strive to let Jesus into our lives as we approach Christmas.

Summary

The great saints of the church speak of an intermediary coming of Christ, the coming of Christ to our present lives. Jesus says in the Book of Revelation, "Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you" (Revelation 3:20). We can let him into our lives as stewards by realizing it is not ourselves ministering to our neighbour, but the love and presence of Christ within us

<https://www.archtoronto.org/stewardship>

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament



We would like to inform everyone that the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is every **Tuesday to Friday after the 9:00 a.m. Mass until 10:00 a.m.** in the Church ***except on holidays.***



Let us pray for the sick

We keep in our prayers the sick, the homebound, and the "forgotten members" in our community.

If you have a loved one you would like on our Sick list, please call or email us. We will keep their names on our list for 4 weeks. *Thank you.*

Christmas & New Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Saturday, Dec 24 th		Christmas Day Sunday, Dec 25 th	
9am	No Mass	9am	Mass
5pm	No Mass	11am	Mass
7pm	Vigil Mass		
11pm	Vigil Mass		

All are invited to join us at 10pm for a concert of Christmas carols performed by our choir.

New Year Mass Schedule

New Year's Eve Saturday, Dec 31st		New Year's Day Sunday Jan 1 st	
5pm	No Mass	9am	Mass
7pm	Vigil Mass	11am	Mass



**Advent Wreath
Prayer Week 4 —
Love**

*Heavenly Father, the
whole meaning of*

Christmas can be explained in one little four-letter word...LOVE. You sent your gift of pure love to us that first Christmas. Love descended from heaven to be born of a virgin. Love lay in the scratchy hay of a manger in a meager barn in Bethlehem. All of your love, God, was robed in the delicate skin of a baby and wrapped in swaddling clothes. This final week of Advent helps us to reflect on the magnitude of love that was made manifest in Jesus.



**Fr. Godofredo
"Freddy" Claudio**

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2022

As we celebrate Christmas this year 2022 and as we rejoice on the birth of Jesus our Lord and Savior, may our lives be deeply touched by God's tremendous love. May every family, every home in our parish, share the memory of Jesus by living out the virtues of Peace, Justice, Unity, Forgiveness and Love that bring JOY to the world.

Why is it that there is Christmas?

- It is because God saw the hearts of countless people, and listened to their cry for LOVE and Redemption. So God's Son became flesh.
- It is because Mary obediently listened to the Will of God in the midst of the need for a Savior
- It is because in the silence of that first Christmas night in Bethlehem, God shared our humanity to show how much He cares for us, to show how much He is willing to listen to us.

Bethlehem, God shared our humanity to show how much He cares for us, to show how much He is willing to listen to us. In the very same spirit of listening, may we continue our journey of faith in 2023 by being a "participative" community, thereby making our parish a community of believers ready to work together in attaining our goal, as stated in our Pastoral Plan: Deepening our Faith, making every home a community of love centered on Christ, a more active youth, willing to participate in the mission of the Church, so that everyone be Stewards in bringing the Good News to everyone. May we be accompanied by our Blessed Mother Mary as we continue to build, with the Grace of God, a more vibrant parish of the Holy Cross.



Office

Dec 23 Fri	9am – 12 noon
Dec 24-27	Office Closed
Dec 28	9-4pm
Dec 29	9-4pm
Dec 30 Fri	9am – 12 noon
Dec 31 Jan 2	Office Closed
Jan 3	9-4pm Regular hours



Ways to Support Your Parish

Online through the "Support Your Parish" initiative through the Archdiocese of Toronto. The link can be found on our Home Page.

Online through our existing PAG (Pre-Authorized Giving) program. Contact the office for more information.

By placing a cheque in your traditional offertory envelopes and mailing to the parish office: HolyCross Parish, 291 Cosburn Avenue, Toronto, ON M4J 2M4.

No matter how you chose to give, please know that your support is needed and appreciated, now more than ever.

You can give your donation either in cash or in cheque addressed to Holy Cross Parish. Thank you very much.

“ Give what you have. To someone, it may be better than you dare to think.” Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

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