



H O L Y C R O S S
P A R I S H

291 Cosburn Avenue, Toronto, ON M4J 2M4

Tel: 416-421-5225 - press 0 (office); press 3 (St. Vincent's De Paul) Fax: 416-421-4656

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

Office Hours:

Tuesday to Friday
9:00 am to 4:00pm

Fr. Godofredo R. Claudio, Pastor

Deacon Albert Dacanay

Joan Bolanos, Administrative Assistant

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am, 11:00 am

Morning Prayer:

Tuesday to Friday 8:30 am

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 am
Saturdays & Holidays: 9:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 4:00 pm to 4:30 pm
First Friday 6:15 pm to 6:45 pm
For any other day by appointment only

First Fridays:

Holy Hour: 6:00 pm
Mass 7:00 pm

Baptism:

By appointment and after an interview with the parents.

Marriage:

Couples planning to be married should contact the pastor one year in advance.

Care of the Sick:

Please call the parish to request visitation of the sick or elderly for prayers, Holy Communion, Sacrament of the Sick.

New Parishioners:

Registration Form is available in the vestibule of the Church, in the parish office or on the website.

Eucharistic Healing Procession & Benediction

Every 1st Sat. of the Month after the 9:00am Mass.

Holy Cross School Phone: 416-393-5242

299A Donlands Avenue, Toronto, Ont. M4J 3R7

Principal: Kimberly Blanchet

<i>Mass Intentions</i>		
DEC	MASS FOR	REQUESTED BY
18 Mon, 9am	NO MASS	
19 Tue, 9am 7pm	Thanksgiving – Andrew Geekie Thanksgiving-Felicitas Donato Thanksgiving- Ninfa P. Gasis Thanksgiving- Maria Buser Felicidad Vida +	Geekie Family Fe & Vinda Olase Ninfa P. Gasis Carino & Vida Family
20 Wed, 9am 7pm	Teresita Que + Thanksgiving - Fr. Bobby Cena Basilisa & Reynaldo Pilayo +	Fe & Vinda Olase Mila Benedicto Teresita Macarayan
21 Thurs, 9am 7pm	Bill Doumouras + Cristita Benedicto + Thanksgiving – Daniel Casey & Family	Karin Doumouras & Family Mila Benedicto Monica Sigue
22 Fri, 9am 7pm	Thanksgiving – Kim Geekie Healing - Raymond & Diana Williams Maria & Joao Augusto Estrela + Mr & Mrs Florencio Ramos +	Geekie Family Teresita Macarayan Hortencia Estrela Ramos Family
23 Sat, 9am 5pm	All Parishioners Rosemarie Rivers + Vivencio Leonardo Jr. + Cocoheart Szabo-Gregory + Monica D’Souza + Miro Medalle + Maria & Emmanuel Lopez Jr. + Carmelita Santos + Nikola & Sharon Yvette & Rico Beltran Family D’Souza Family Mila Benedicto Jennifer Trelle Edith Riva
24 Sun, 9am 11am 7pm 9pm 10pm	All Parioshioners No Mass Intention Christmas Carols Vigil Mass

Meditate on God's Word



Sunday Gospel Reflection
3rd Sunday of Advent
Gospel: John 1.6-8, 19-28 – The Testimony of John the Baptist

Choosing Joy

“Rejoice always!” These are the words that St. Paul writes in the second reading this Gaudete Sunday. He exhorts all of us to always rejoice. It is important to note that he doesn’t say to always be happy, but to rejoice always. Happiness, by definition, is utterly circumstantial. We are happy when we are experiencing something good, like eating ice cream on a hot day. However, when the ice cream melts, or it begins to rain our happiness quickly ceases because that good thing we were experiencing is fleeting.

Joy on the other hand is radically different. To experience joy is to remain happy despite the circumstances. This everlasting joy springs solely from recognizing that we are beloved children of God and being aware that we are living in the smiling gaze of Christ. But how do we live in joy? St. James in his letter says, “My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy,” To experience joy is to intentionally call to mind God’s love in the midst of our trials.

As stewards, let us not keep this practice of joy to ourselves. One way we can help people rejoice in suffering is by not partaking in complaining about our difficult situations. The next time we are in a tough moment and people around us begin to complain, let us strive to steer the conversation into one of gratitude for the good things the Lord is doing in our lives. This slow adjustment of choosing joy in our trials will begin to revitalize our parishes and communities, and the entire world.

Summary

This Gaudete Sunday St. Paul exhorts all of us to “rejoice always.” One way we can help people rejoice in suffering is by not partaking in complaining about our difficult situations. The next time we are in a tough moment and people around us begin to complain, let us strive to steer the conversation into one of gratitude for the good things the Lord is doing in our lives

<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 9:30 a.m. 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.*



**Holy Cross Church Restoration Project
Spring 2024**

In preparation for the 100th Anniversary of the Parish

The restoration project will be carried out in 3 phases.

Phase 1 – Repainting of the interior of the church; Re-carpeting with commercial grade carpet.
Phase 2 – Ventilation and air-conditioning; improvements, and electrical upgrade.
Phase 3 – Repositioning of the Tabernacle from the north side of the church to the centre of the sanctuary; cleaning of Mosaic Walls.

To make a donation, you can follow these steps:

You can donate by either cash/cheque or you can donate online through Holy Cross Parish website

(<https://www.archtoronto.org/en/contact-us/donations/>) and click Donate or can click the tile called “Building Fund”.

Thank you very much for your support and may the grace of the almighty be with each one of us as we undertake this transformative endeavor.

All donations will be acknowledged with a charitable tax receipt.



Children’s Liturgy Word of the Lord
Kids are invited to hear and experience God’s Word at their level through stories, prayer, art and music.

Simbang Gabi Schedule (9 days Novena before Christmas)

Dec 15 Fri - 7pm	Dec 16 Sat - 5pm	Dec 17 Sun – 7pm
Dec 18 Mon – 7pm	Dec 19 – Tue 7pm	Dec 20 Wed – 7pm
Dec 21 Thurs – 7pm	Dec 22 Fri – 7pm	Dec 23 Sat – 5pm



Refreshment after the night mass. Our big thanks to the sponsors and volunteers. Thank you for making it happen. You warmed our hearts this winter and we’re grateful. We couldn’t do it without you. We’re so grateful

to our generous community for all the support you provided us. The Pandemic hasn’t made things easy, and you’ve all stepped up to help and support the church programs. **THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS.**




The Special Devotion Candle is being offered in memory of Artemio Pulido “Gone yet not forgotten.” as requested by: Estela Foronda Dec 12 to 19

Special Devotion Candle (Sanctuary Lamp in the Tabernacle) is available to burn for your intention for one week for \$20.00. Please call the parish office to book your lamp.

Advent Prayer

For the desert places in which we walk, the streets we roam, the paths we cross: Guide our feet. Take us to places where you would go, Give us words that you would use, that in this Advent season of promise and preparation we might point the way with John the Baptist to the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! Amen.







Advent 3: JOY



First Reconciliation Candidates. This is a friendly reminder of the First Reconciliation program schedule. Next session is **Dec 17, Sunday Family Gathering Church Hall @ 10:15am.** We kindly ask everyone to please be present and be on time. This will be the last session for the First Reconciliation program. Feb 10,2024 will be the Sacrament of First Reconciliation Saturday 10:30am Holy Cross Church.

Holiday Mass Schedule

Dec 24 Sunday 	9am Mass 5pm Mass 7pm Mass 9pm Christmas Carols 10pm Mass 
Dec 25 Monday	9 & 11am Mass
Dec 30 Sunday 	9am Mass 5pm Mass 7pm – Vigil Mass 
Jan 1 Monday	9 & 11am Mass

Bookings for 2024 MASS are now accepted.

Email us at holycrosssto@archtoronto.org

Fill up the Mass Request Form and drop it in the office’s mail slot. The form is available at the church entrances. You can give your donation either in cash or in cheque addressed to **Holy Cross Parish**. Thank you very much.

2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

AVAILABLE IN DECEMBER – Starting next week, you can get your offertory envelopes from the ushers at the Church entrance after each Mass.

Important Notice: We reassigned some individual envelope numbers and assigned envelope numbers to new members.

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