

HOLY CROSS PARISH

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: holecrossto@archtoronto.org Website: holecrossto.archtoronto.org

Fr. Godofredo R. Claudio, Pastor

Deacon Albert Dacanay

Joan Bolanos, Administrative Assistant

prepare the way...



ADVENT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mass Intentions

DEC	MASS FOR	REQUESTED BY
25 Mon, 9am 11am	All Parishioners No Mass Intention	
26 Tues, 9am	Thanksgiving – Mila Benedicto	Mila Benedicto
27 Wed, 9am	Birthday Thanksgiving – Karin Doumouras	Karin Doumouras
28 Thurs, 9am	1 st Death Anniversary – Bill Doumouras	Karin Doumouras
Dec 29 Fri, 9am	Thanksgiving – Mila Benedicto	Nelson & Nelia Ducusin
Dec 30 Sat, 9am	All Parishioners Rosemarie Rivers + Melanio & Francesca Macarayan + Paul Joao Estrela + Thanksgiving - Madeline Dawson Thanksgiving Birthday – Jeff Michael Alog Nikola & Sharon Teresita Macarayan Hortencia Estrela Julia Alog Family
5pm	Suresh Alfred +	Angela Alfred
Dec 31 9am 11 am 7pm	All Parisioners No Mas Intention Vigil Mass – New Year’s Eve

**Meditate on
God’s
Word**



Sunday Gospel Reflection

4th Sunday of Advent

Gospel: Luke 1.26-38 – The Annunciation

Readily Saying Yes to Stewardship

As we approach Christmas the church encourages us to reflect on the Annunciation. The Annunciation can be seen as the singular event that changed the world for it is during this episode that Mary consents to God’s will and Christ is conceived within her. As stewards striving to follow Jesus, we can learn a great deal from prayerfully imitating Mary in our own lives.

Mary had an incredible faith and trust in God to be able to accept His will for her life. It is important to note that Mary wasn’t told how her life would precisely unfold. She didn’t know she would give birth in a manger, or about her flight to Egypt, or that Jesus would go missing in the temple or that she would stand by as He was crucified. Instead, all she knew was that she would conceive the Son of God. Many times we seek to know God’s entire will for our lives but we can learn from Mary to readily say yes to the current step of the plan that He is calling us to and, like Mary, ponder God’s will in our hearts by spending time in prayer).

As stewards, God too is calling us to a very specific and important mission. St. John Henry Newman says that we should all recognize that “God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission.” We can live out this mission by being stewards of our time and talents for our communities, our parish and the entire Church. Let us seek Mary’s intercession and trust in the Lord’s call for our lives and readily follow Him.

Summary

The Annunciation can be seen as the singular event that changed the world for it is during this episode that Mary consents to God’s will and Christ is conceived within her. Many times we seek to know God’s entire will for our lives but we can learn from Mary to readily and prayerfully say yes to the current step of the mission that He is calling us to. We can live out this mission by being stewards of our time and talents for our communities, our parish and the entire Church.

<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.



The Special Devotion Candle is being offered in memory of Yvonne Pinky Jaikaransingh
“Rest in Peace by sweet sister; with our Lord.”
as requested by: Allan & Lydia Jaikaransingh
Dec 19 to 26

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.

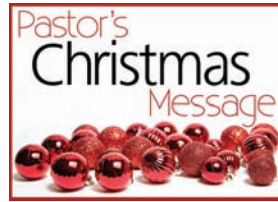
Bookings for 2024 MASS are now accepted.

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.



We would like to acknowledge receipt from an anonymous donor who made a gift of securities and directed the amount of **\$78032.77** as contribution to our Restoration Project. You are clearly a gentle and compassionate human being. Today your donation showed that to be most evident. Thank you for your most generous donation! We are so fortunate to have caught the attention of people like you with large warm hearts.



Fr. Godofredo “Freddie” Claudio

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2023

TO OUR DEAR HOLY CROSS PARISHIONERS:

As we celebrate Christmas, let us be reminded of the true meaning of the season: **“Christmas is Jesus dwelling in us.”** Everything we have and are is God’s grace. Everything is because of His goodness and love.

All because Merry Christmas He dwells in us! God has gifted us with His Son Jesus. With Jesus dwelling in us, we come to KNOW, HEAR and FEEL God the Father. We are LOVED. We are **SAVED.**



This is the very reason why we are grateful for the coming of Jesus, because His first coming is our celebration of God the Father’s Love. With the coming of Jesus, we are taught of His Obedience. His coming to us is His self-offering for our salvation. Can we be obedient like Him so that our salvation be attained? Christmas is also our **“coming home”** to God. We return and we re-unite with God. May we be willing to return and be re-united to HIM so that we will be blessed by Him always, be protected from all harm and rewarded a hundredfold.

Always remember: **“Christmas is Jesus dwelling in us!”**



Merry Christmas to one and all!

Pastoral Team and staff of Holy Cross!

Some pictures from our recent Bake & Bazaar sale, our HEARTFELT THANKS!



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