



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

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Email: [holycrossto@archtoronto.org](mailto:holycrossto@archtoronto.org) Website: [holycrossto.archtoronto.org](http://holycrossto.archtoronto.org)

#### Office Hours:

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

*Fr. Godofredo R. Claudio, Pastor*

*Maria Agovino, LPA Holy Cross Parish & Canadian Martyrs Parish*

*Joan Bolanos, Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper*

*Enrique De Leon - Custodian*

#### Weekend Masses:

Saturday 9:00 am

Sunday 9:00 am, 11:00 am

#### Morning Prayer:

Wednesday & Friday 8:30 am

#### Weekday Masses:

Wednesday & Friday 9:00 am

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 9:30 am to 10:00 am

First Friday 6:15 pm to 6:45 pm

For any other day by appointment only

#### First Fridays: *except July and August*

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.

**Holy Cross School** **Phone:** 416-393-5242

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

**Principal:** Arlene Martin

... Mass Intentions		
DEC/JAN	MASS FOR	REQUESTED BY
29 9am	NO MASS	
30 Tues, 9am	Canadian Martyrs	
31 Wed, 9am 7pm	Maria & Joao Estrela + New Year's Eve Mass	Hortencia Estrela
Jan 1 Thurs, 9am	Prayers for Peace	Incoronata Ambrosini
11am	Prayers for the Mancini Family both living & deceased	Angela Mancini & Family
2 1 <sup>st</sup> Fri 9am 6pm 7pm	All Parishioners Holy Hour Lydia Roque +	Elena & Ligaya Manuel
3 Sat, 9am 5pm	All Parishioners 99 Birthday Thanksgiving – Shirley Dillon <b>(Canadian Martyrs Parish)</b>	..... Claudette Wilson
4 Sun, 9am 11 am	Michelina Ruscillo + Thanksgiving – Darcy D'Souza	Vincenza Ruscillo & Family D'Souza Family



### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

We would like to inform everyone that the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place every **Wednesday and Friday after the 9:00 a.m. Mass from 9:30am 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.*

## Meditate on God's Word



### Sunday Gospel Reflection

Feast of the Holy Family

Gospel: Matthew 2.13-15, 19-23 - The Flight to Egypt

#### A Family built on Stewardship

This Sunday's great solemnity invites us to contemplate the beauty of the Holy Family. Pope Paul VI says that the Holy Family should "serve as a model of what the family should be. May it show us the family's holy and enduring character and exemplify its basic function in society: a community of love and sharing."

What is a community of love and sharing but one rich with stewardship. We should strive to be true stewards towards the members in our family, bearing their faults with love and sharing our gifts with them. One thing we can all grow in is sharing the gift of our time with our family. Not just time together in the same room, but actual quality and intentional time with one another.

A tangible practice we can adopt is being faithful to the family dinner, a dinner without external distractions like the television or radio in the background. This involves being totally present to those in our family which can help begin to alleviate the rampant loneliness that ravages our culture. We can then move outwards and be stewards of our time with our second family, our parish community. Let us ask ourselves this week, how can we play our part in making our family more like the Holy Family in Nazareth?

#### Summary

On this solemnity we are reminded that we should strive to be true stewards towards the members in our family, bearing their faults with love and sharing our gifts with them. One thing we can all grow in is sharing the gift of our time with our family, not just time together in the same room, but actual quality and intentional time with one another. Let us ask ourselves this week, how can we play our part in making our family more like the Holy Family in Nazareth?

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



Once a year, nine days before Christmas, we celebrate the Filipino tradition of **Simbang Gabi**—a beautiful night Mass and nine-day novena. This year marked a wonderful attendance. A **big thank-you** to everyone who joined us for the nine days of Simbang

Gabi, and to all who generously sponsored the refreshments. It was truly a joyful season filled with laughter, fellowship, and good camaraderie. May we all be blessed with a grace-filled beginning to the New Year.

Here are some photos to celebrate the good laughter, joyful moments, and the beautiful spirit we shared throughout the Simbang Gabi and Christmas Mass celebration.



#### Combined Sacramental Preparation

Our combined Holy Cross and Canadian Martyrs candidates' sacramental preparation programs are ongoing. We continue to accompany our young people as they grow in faith and prepare to receive the sacraments.

**Confirmation at Canadian Martyrs:** every Saturday from 3:00–5:00 p.m.

**First Holy Communion at Holy Cross:** every Sunday, Catechesis from 12:30–1:30 p.m.

#### PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND AND MEDJUGORJE

Under the spiritual leadership of Father Godofredo R. Claudio  
Pastor Holy Cross Parish, Toronto

Tour Co-ordinator: Ms. Claudette Wilson

A **\$100.00 bonus incentive** will be given to anyone who books this trip by **January 15, 2026**.

For details, please contact **Henry Rousseau** at **Heritage Tours**.

#### Special Announcement

We would like to inform you that our pastor, Fr. Fred, will be on holiday starting January 6 to February 6—a much-needed rest, especially now that he is overseeing two parishes. During his absence, **Fr. Nabine Djore** and **Fr. Luis Melo** will be assisting us in celebrating the Masses at both Holy Cross and Canadian Martyrs. We sincerely appreciate their support and thank them in advance. We look forward to their guidance during this period.

#### 2025 Tax Receipts

Please contact the parish office if you have moved or changed your phone number or email address. Having your updated information helps ensure that you receive your official receipt for income tax purposes.

#### Parish Notice – Dec 2025 Vandalism Incidents at Our Church



On December 8 at approximately 3:48pm one of our parishioners emailed the office to report that the church window had been vandalized. Upon reviewing the CCTV footage, it showed an individual throwing an object at one of the church windows on the **Cosburn side**, at ground level, three windows from the front.



On Christmas Day at around 6:55am, as the church was being opened in preparation for the Christmas Mass, our sacristan discovered broken glasses at the front entrance. A review of the CCTV footage confirmed that a person intentionally broke the stained-glass windows of the main **front church doors** on the **Donlands side**.

The incidents have been reported to the police. As a community that continues to work hard to maintain, improve, and safeguard our church—our shared place of worship—we appeal to anyone involved in these acts to please stop vandalizing the church. We also ask our parishioners to remain vigilant and to keep our community in prayer as we work together to ensure the safety and peace of our parish.

#### Special Devotion Candles Dec 30 to Jan 6

##### In Loving Memory of Michelina & Raffaele Ruscillo



Requested by Vicenza Ruscillo & Family

"Still loved, still missed, and very dear."

##### Thanksgiving to the Sacred Family



Requested by Incoronata Ambrosini

"Sacred Family, stay with us always, and lead us closer to God's perfect love."

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