

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS INTENTIONS

- MONDAY, DECEMBER 20TH 12:10 P.M. +Estelito Gillego req. Gloria Gillego
- TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21ST 8:00 A.M. +Teresa Scully req. Margaret Carter
- WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22ND 12:10 P.M. +Kevin Quinto req. The Quinto Family
- THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23RD
- 8:00 A.M. +Deceased Members of the Lagdameo Family req. Mitzi Lagdameo

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

12:10 P.M. +Dr. Pietro Pascott & +Guendlina Cisillino req. Meaza Aberra

NATIVITY OF THE LORD FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24TH 6:00 P.M. *CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASS*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25TH 9:00 A.M. CHRISTMAS DAY MASS 11:00 A.M. CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to <u>Offer a</u> <u>Weekday Mass</u>, please call the Parish Office at 416-483-1513 or send an email to <u>stmonicatoronto@gmail.com</u>.



(FRFE) FIRST RECONCILIATION CATECHETICAL PREPARATION CLASS

The First Reconciliation

Catechetical Preparation Class will take place <u>online</u> on Saturday, January 22, 2022 at 6:45 pm. For more information and the



schedule of classes, please visit our Parish website: www.stmonicasto.archtoronto.org.



<u>RCIA 2021-2022</u> <u>REGISTRATION OPEN</u>

Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested in becoming Catholic or if you are already Catholic but have not completed the Sacraments of Initiation (Confirmation and receiving Eucharist for the first time). You are invited to join our next set of ongoing classes, starting in January 2022.



VIRTUAL CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We invite all children 3 to 7 years old to join us in discovering the Gospel through music, dancing, storytelling, arts and crafts and much more! Please visit <u>www.littleliturgy.ca</u> to access videos and great craft ideas!

<u>CWL Virtual Advent Reflection,</u> <u>Membership Drive & Rosary,</u>



*The CWL Virtual Advent Reflection,

with Father Graham Keep, takes place on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. All parishioners (not just CWL members) are invited to join this Advent Reflection.

*The CWL is also accepting new members until December 31, 2021.

*The CWL will be hosting a *Virtual Rosary* on Saturday, January 1, 2022 from 1 to 1:30 p.m. For more information, please visit <u>https://cwl-st-monica.mailchimpsites.com/</u>.

Nativity of the Lord - December 25, 2021

We celebrate the birth of our Lord into our world; however, many have not received the birth of our Lord into their hearts. If Christ lives in your heart and you would like to help others discover



the Lord, you may be called to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon. If God is calling you, call Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto, 416-968-0997, <u>www.vocationstoronto.ca</u>, vocations@archtoronto.org.

SAINT MONICA'S HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Friday, Dec. 24, 2021 Confession 11:40 a.m. & Mass 12:10 p.m.; office closed

> *NATIVITY OF THE LORD* Christmas Eve - Friday, Dec. 24, 2021 Vigil Mass at 6:00 p.m. Christmas Day - Saturday, Dec. 25, 2021 Masses at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. (No 10:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. Mass) Sunday, December 26, 2021 - Boxing Day Masses at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Holiday Monday, Dec. 27, 2021 Confession 9:30 a.m. & Mass 10 a.m.; office closed Holiday Tuesday, Dec. 28, 2021 Confession 9:30 a.m. & Mass 10 a.m.; office closed Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2021 Confession 11:40 a.m. & Mass 12:10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 30, 2021 Confession 7:30 a.m. & Mass 8 a.m. Friday, Dec. 31, 2021 Confession 11:40 a.m. & Mass 12:10 p.m.; office closed

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD New Year's Eve - Friday, December 31, 2021 Vigil Mass at 6:00 p.m.
New Year's Day – Saturday, January 1, 2022 Masses at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. (No 10:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. Mass)
Sunday, January 2, 2022 – Epiphany of the Lord Masses at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Holiday Monday, January 3, 2022
Confession 9:30 a.m. & Mass 10 a.m.; office closed

Our Regular Church & Office Schedule Resumes January 4, 2022

2021 Donation Tax Receipts

We are kindly requesting that all parishioners who use donation envelopes to please print clearly your name and mailing address on the envelopes that you use during this month of December so that we can update our tax receipt mailing list. Donations received until December 31, 2021 will be included in your tax receipt for 2021. If you would like to receive your tax receipt by email, please register online by going to our website www.stmonicasto.archtoronto.org.

Thank you very much for supporting St. Monica's Parish!

LESSONS FROM OUR MOTHER

Mother Mary becomes the focal point of the Gospel on this fourth Sunday of Advent. Our Lady, shortly after discovering that she will conceive the Son of God, goes in haste to assist her cousin Elizabeth. After Jesus, Mary is the perfect model and example of how to live a life of deep stewardship. Let us take some time to reflect on this episode and glean insights on how we can better imitate her.

Firstly, we can learn a great lesson from how Mary "went with haste" to help Elizabeth. As stewards, we should not sit idle by and be half-hearted in our attempts to serve our neighbour. Whenever we see a need in our parish community, let us strive to utilize our gifts to readily offer our help and support.

Secondly, we should try to imitate Mary in her role of bringing Jesus to others. It wasn't so much Mary who brought help and comfort to Elizabeth, but rather, it was the presence of Jesus dwelling within her. As stewards, we need to constantly remind ourselves that it is not our own merits that bring about good and conversion in our Parish. Rather, we must realize that everything is a result of the grace of God that is working through us. Let us conclude with the beautiful words of St. Teresa of Calcutta who says, "I'm a little pencil in the hand of a writing God, who is sending a love letter to the world."

Summary

After Jesus, Mary is the perfect model and example of how to live a life of deep stewardship and we can learn a great deal by reflecting on her visitation. Firstly, we should imitate Mary's "haste" in her visitation so that whenever we see a need in our Parish community, we can readily use our gifts to help. Secondly, just as Mary brought the Child Jesus with her in her womb, we too need to constantly remind ourselves that it is not our own merits that bring about good, but Christ dwelling within us.

From: Archdiocese of Toronto, Office of Formation for Discipleship, Stewardship Reflections, Year C.

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