

# St. Monica's Roman Catholic Church

44 Broadway Avenue, Toronto, ON, M4P1T4

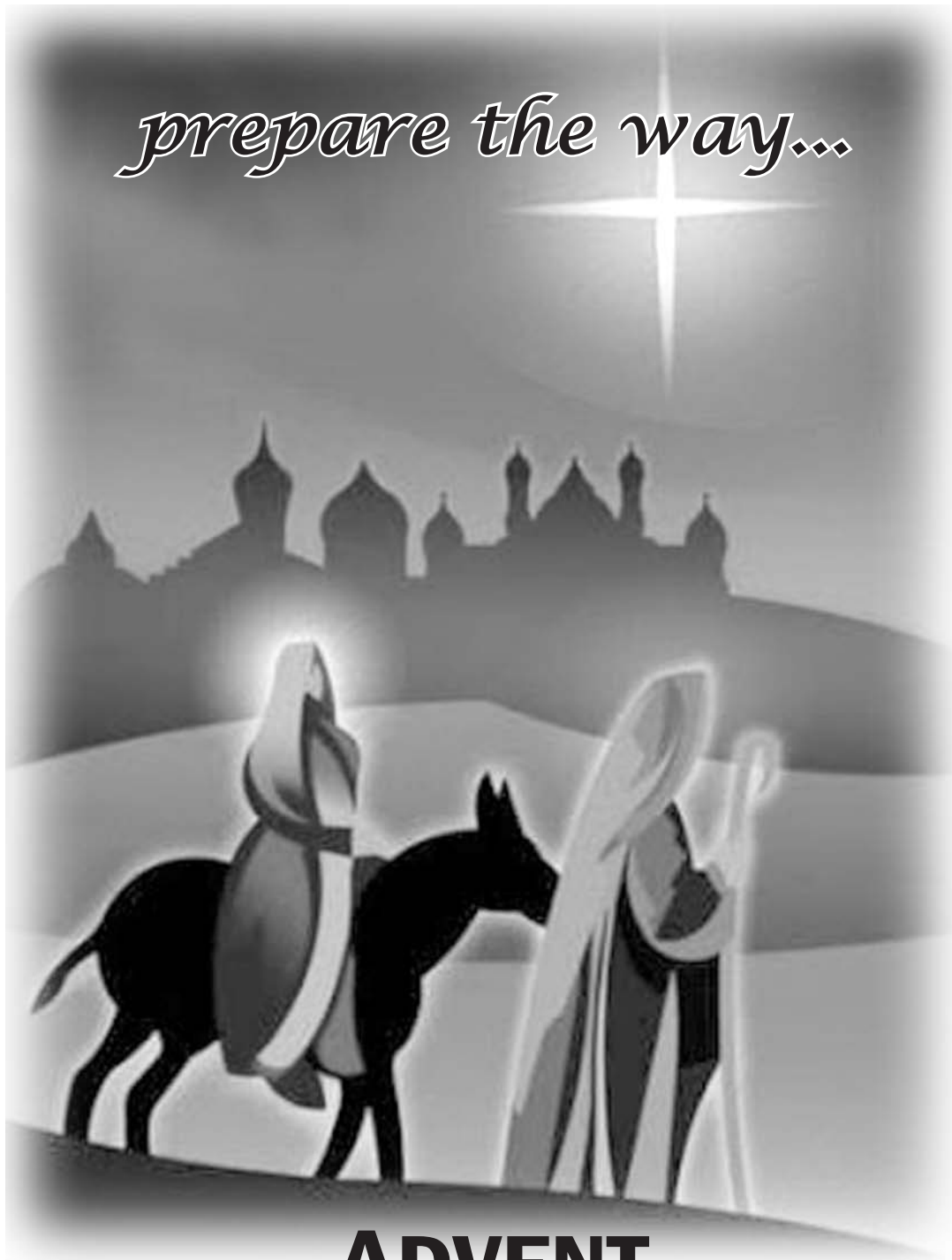
tel: 416-483-1513 • fax:416-483-2630

Email: [stmonicatoronto@gmail.com](mailto:stmonicatoronto@gmail.com) • Website: [www.stmonicatoronto.ca](http://www.stmonicatoronto.ca)

**Pastor:** Fr. Damian Young-Sam-You

**Parish Secretary:** Eloisa Mandelker

*prepare the way...*



**ADVENT**

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup>  
12:10 P.M. +Deceased Members of  
The Lagdameo Family  
Req. Mitzi Lagdameo

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>  
8:00 A.M. Guerubina Castaneda  
Req. Lucille Simbol

**\*Nativity of the Lord - Holy Day of Obligation\***  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>  
6:00 P.M. *Christmas Eve Vigil Mass*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>  
9:00 A.M. *Christmas Day Mass*  
11:00 A.M. *Christmas Day Mass*

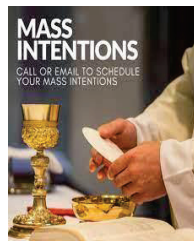
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup> – Boxing Day  
10:00 A.M. +Lourdes Lumboy  
Req. Lucille Simbol

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup>  
12:10 P.M. +Mary Catherine Staples  
Req. Judy & Martin Bishop

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup>  
10:00 A.M. +Lolita Poblete  
Req. Yolanda Pangindian

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to Offer a Weekday Mass, please call the Parish Office at 416-483-1513 or send an email to [stmonicatoronto@gmail.com](mailto:stmonicatoronto@gmail.com).



**FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION**  
will take place on January 3rd, 2025 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the church. For the Adoration pamphlet with prayers, visit [www.stmonicasto.archtoronto.org](http://www.stmonicasto.archtoronto.org).  
**All parishioners are welcome!**

SAINT MONICA'S PARISH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE  
DECEMBER 2024 – JANUARY 2025

Monday, December 23, 2024  
*Confession 11:40 a.m. to 12 noon & Mass 12:10 p.m.*

Tuesday, December 24, 2024  
*Confession 7:30 to 7:50 a.m. & Mass 8:00 a.m.*  
*(This is the regular Weekday Mass.)*

\*NATIVITY OF THE LORD - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION\*

CHRISTMAS EVE: TUESDAY, DEC. 24, 2024  
VIGIL MASS at 6:00 P.M.

CHRISTMAS DAY: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25, 2024  
MASS at 9:00 & 11:00 A.M.  
*No Confessions. Parish Office closed.*

Thursday, Dec. 26, 2024 - Boxing Day  
*No Confession. Mass at 10:00 a.m.*

Fri. December 27 to Mon. December 30, 2024  
*Regular Schedule for Confession and for Weekday & Weekend Masses*

Tuesday, December 31, 2024  
*Confession 7:30 to 7:50 a.m. & Mass 8:00 a.m.*  
*(This is the regular Weekday Mass.)*

\*SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD  
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION\*

NEW YEAR'S EVE: TUESDAY, DEC. 31, 2024  
VIGIL MASS at 6:00 P.M.

NEW YEAR'S DAY: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2025  
MASS at 9:00 & 11:00 A.M.  
*No Confessions. Parish Office closed.*

**REGULAR SCHEDULE RESUMES ON THURS., JANUARY 2, 2025.**

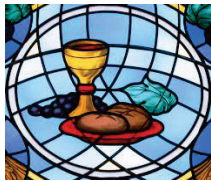


**Warming hearts with your support for ShareLife** *Your gift will double in value! From November 1 until year end,*

*your contribution to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be matched by an anonymous donor up to a total of \$500,000. As we shelter from the winter storm, we're thankful for your ShareLife support, keeping many off cold streets and igniting hope for a brighter future. Wishing you a warm and safe Christmas season, and thanking you for your enduring compassion that extends the same to others.*

**FIRST EUCHARIST CLASS**

The **First Eucharist Catechetical Preparation Class** will take place on **Saturday, January 25, 2025 at 6:15 pm, in-person in the church.** (The fifth of six classes will take place on Saturday, February 22, 2025.) For more information and the schedule of classes, please contact the Parish Office at 416-483-1513 or [stmonicatoronto@gmail.com](mailto:stmonicatoronto@gmail.com).



**2024-2025 REGISTRATION OPEN**

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 & receiving Eucharist for the first time).



**Nativity of the Lord - December 25, 2024**

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 Father Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto, 416-968-0997. [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca) [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)



**2024 Donation Tax Receipts**

We are kindly requesting that all parishioners who use numbered 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, 2024 will be included in your tax receipt for 2024. If you would like to receive your tax receipt by email, please register online at [www.stmonicasto.archtoronto.org](http://www.stmonicasto.archtoronto.org). *Thank you very much for supporting St. Monica's Parish!*

**SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**  
**Homily of His Holiness Pope Francis (excerpt)**

God so greatly desires to embrace our lives that, infinite though he is, he becomes finite for our sake. In his greatness, he chooses to become small; in his righteousness, he submits to our injustice. This is the wonder of Christmas: not a mixture of sappy emotions and worldly contentment, but the unprecedented tenderness of a God who saves the world by becoming incarnate. Let us contemplate the Child, let us contemplate the manger, his crib, which the angels call "a sign" for us (cf. Lk 2:12). He makes himself close, tender and compassionate, for this is God's style: closeness, compassion, tenderness.

Let us marvel at the fact that he "became flesh" (Jn 1:14). The Gospel uses this word to show us that God completely assumed our human condition. Why did he go to such lengths? Because he cares for us, because he loves us to the point that he considers us more precious than all else. To God, who changed history in the course of a census... your name is written on his heart. But if you look to your own heart, and think of your own inadequacies and this world that is so judgmental and unforgiving, you may feel it difficult to celebrate this Christmas. You may think things are going badly, or feel dissatisfied with your limitations, failings, problems and sins. Today, though, please, let Jesus take the initiative. He says to you, "For your sake, I became flesh; for your sake, I became just like you".

So why remain caught up in your troubles? Like the shepherds, who left their flocks, leave behind your sorrows and embrace the tender love of the God who became a child. Put aside your masks and your armour; cast your cares on him and he will care for you (cf. Ps 55:22). He became flesh; he is looking not for your achievements but for your open and trusting heart. In him, you will rediscover who you truly are: a beloved son or daughter of God.

Worship is the way to embrace the Incarnation. For it is in silence that Jesus, the Word of the Father, becomes flesh in our lives. Let us rediscover worship, for to worship is to make our time a dwelling-place for God. It is to let the seed of the Incarnation bloom within us. To worship is to intercede, to make reparation, to allow God to realign history.

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/homilies/2023/documents/20231224-omelia-natale.html>

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