

## MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>

12:10 P.M. +Lolita Dadia  
Req. Helen Dadia

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>

8:00 A.M. +León & Juana Bonilla  
Req. The Bonilla Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>

12:10 P.M. +Ranjit & Manel Halahackone  
and +Elmo Mitchell  
Req. Diluni Halahackone

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>

8:00 A.M. +Maxima Gonzales  
Req. Brenda & Delia Gonzales

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>

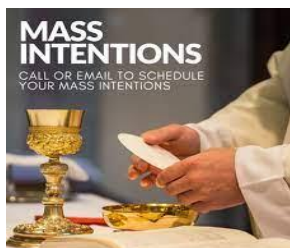
12:10 P.M. +Abrehet Bahta Tekle  
Req. Amleset & Family

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>

10:00 A.M. +Teresa Scully  
Req. Margaret Carter

## 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).

Having a Mass said for  
a specific intention,  
whether for a living or

deceased person, is a way to offer prayers & graces for  
that person or need. It is a way to ask for divine  
intercession through the powerful act of the Mass,  
which is the highest form of prayer.

## FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

will take place in the church on  
January 2, 2026 from 7:00 to 8:00  
p.m. For the Adoration pamphlet with  
prayers, please visit

[www.stmonicastoronto.org](http://www.stmonicastoronto.org).

**All parishioners are welcome!**



**DID YOU KNOW?**

After more than 12 years as pastor of St. Monica's Parish, Father Damian is moving to another parish effective Jan. 2, 2026. Send Father Damian your prayers and good wishes by writing them in the book provided in the church foyer or through the online form posted on the home page of our website: [www.stmonicastoronto.org](http://www.stmonicastoronto.org). Messages will be compiled and given to Father Damian at his last Mass on Jan. 1, 2026.

## (FRFE) First Reconciliation Catechetical Class

The **First Reconciliation**

**Catechetical Preparation Class**

will take place on **Saturday,**

**December 13, 2025 at 6:15 pm,**

**in-person in the church.** (The **First**

**Eucharist Catechetical Preparation Class** will take place on Saturday, January 24, 2026.)



## ST. MONICA'S PARISH, DECEMBER 15 TO 20, 2025 ARCHDIOCESAN-WIDE ADVENT DAY OF CONFESSIONS

MONDAY, DEC. 15 <sup>TH</sup>	11:40 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M. NOON
TUESDAY, DEC. 16 <sup>TH</sup>	7:30 A.M. TO 7:50 A.M.
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17 <sup>TH</sup>	9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M. NOON
FRIDAY, DEC. 19 <sup>TH</sup>	11:40 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M. NOON
SATURDAY, DEC. 20 <sup>TH</sup>	9:30 A.M. TO 9:50 A.M. & 4:00 P.M. TO 4:40 P.M.

## 2025 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, 2025 will be included in your tax receipt for 2025. If you would like to receive your tax receipt by email, register online at [www.stmonicastoronto.org](http://www.stmonicastoronto.org). Thank you very much for supporting St. Monica's Parish!

## **SAINT MONICA'S PARISH** **HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

### **DECEMBER 2025 – JANUARY 2026**

**Monday, December 22, 2025**

***Confession 11:40 am to 12 noon & Mass 12:10 p.m.***

**Tuesday, December 23, 2025**

***Confession 7:30 to 7:50 a.m. & Mass 8:00 a.m.***

**Wednesday, December 24, 2025**

***Confession 11:40 am to 12 noon & Mass 12:10 p.m.***

***(This is the regular Weekday Mass.)***

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

**CHRISTMAS EVE: WED., DEC. 24, 2025**

**VIGIL MASS at 5:00 P.M.**

**CHRISTMAS DAY: THURS., DEC. 25, 2025**

**MASS at 9:00 & 11:00 A.M.**

**Friday, Dec. 26, 2025 - Boxing Day**

***Confessions 9:30 to 9:50 a.m. & Mass 10:00 a.m.***

**Sat. December 27 to Tues. December 30, 2025**

***Regular Schedule for Confession and for  
Weekday & Weekend Masses***

**Wednesday, December 31, 2025**

***Confession 11:40 am to 12 noon & Mass 12:10 p.m.***

***(This is the regular Weekday Mass.)***

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

**NEW YEAR'S EVE: WED., DEC. 31, 2025**

**VIGIL MASS at 5:00 P.M.**

**NEW YEAR'S DAY: THURS., JANUARY 1, 2026**

**MASS at 9:00 & 11:00 A.M.**

***Regular Schedule Resumes on Fri., January 2, 2026.***

 ShareLife

### **Cardinal Leo Encourages You To Reach Out To Your Neighbor In Need**

"We cannot turn away from the suffering around us, especially when so many struggle just to eat. Our Catholic family is called not only to witness God's love but to live it boldly: feed the hungry, restore dignity, and stand shoulder to shoulder with those in need. As Scripture reminds us in Isaiah 58:10, 'If you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness.' Together, through these grants and our generous hearts, we bring hope where despair threatens to take hold." Please give generously and wholeheartedly through [sharelife.org/donate](https://sharelife.org/donate) or our parish using a ShareLife envelope. Thank you for living the Gospel.



### **Third Sunday of Advent - December 14, 2025**

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Are you one to be sent? If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto, 416-968-0997. [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org) [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)

### **REJOICING AMIDST THE DARKNESS**

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." These are the words proclaimed in the entrance antiphon of Mass for Gaudete Sunday this week. It urges us to constantly rejoice in the Lord, and as good stewards of Christ, we should always strive to live lives inundated with the joy that flows from the Lord.

In order to do this, we must understand the difference between joy and happiness, for the Lord never promised us happiness. Instead He says, "I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete" (John 15:11). Happiness is a result of our good circumstances, because we feel good, or we had something positive happen to us, etc. Joy on the other hand goes much deeper. Henri Nouwen describes it as "the experience of knowing that you are unconditionally loved and that nothing -- sickness, failure, emotional distress, oppression, war, or even death -- can take that love away."

So joy is the ability to remain happy due to our awareness of being beloved sons and daughters of God even amidst the trials of our life. Henri Nouwen further describes joy as a choice we must make every day. How often in our difficult lives do we take solace and rejoice in our identities of being beloved children of God? This Gaudete Sunday, let us strive to be more intentionally joyful, and to pray to Christ for strength, for He says, "Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete" (John 16:24).

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