

St. Marguerite d'Youville Parish

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PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Roger Pascall, Pastor

Rev. Warnakulasuriya Gomi Fernando, Associate Pastor

Deacon Selwyn Athayde

Maura Hernández, Office Administrator



*Oh Come
Let us Adore Him*

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



MON, DEC 26 9:15 am	
TUES, DEC 27 7:00 pm	Manuel & Genoveva Barbosa †
WED, DEC 28 9:15 am	Felicitato Tata Calara †; In Thanksgiving for the 30th Anniversary of Yohan & Elirmalia
THUR, DEC 29 7:00 pm	
FRI, DEC 30 9:15 am	
SAT, DEC 31 5:00 PM	Anthony Muscat †; Madeaine Guadalupe Diaz †
10:00 PM	
SUN, JAN 1 9:00 am	For the People of the Parish
10:30 am	
12:30 pm	Juanito & John Elmer Go †; Gilbert Lambe †

Christmas Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, the angels proclaimed You as the Saviour born for us.

In our own day, the battle against sin threatens so much of our societal stability. Darkness seems to eclipse the Light that you revealed to the world.

Deliver us anew from all the danger and fear that enslaves us.

Lord Jesus Christ, by the mystery of your Incarnation your divinity was hidden in the humility of a new born baby.

At a time when what it is to be human has been distorted by ambiguity and falsehood, help us to accept our own humanity. Heal us from all the lies that cause us to reject our bodies and open us to the wonder of your saving grace you are so willing to share.

Lord Jesus Christ, the manger scene illustrates the conditions of poverty and simplicity by which you entered the world. As we face a winter that warns of market instability, job losses, food shortages, fuel rationing, strengthen us with confidence to trust in Our Heavenly Father's care for us in the same manner as your parents, Joseph and Mary.
Amen.

There are only three types of people; those who have found God and serve him; those who have not found God and seek him, and those who live not seeking, or finding him. The first are rational and happy; the second unhappy and rational, and the third foolish and unhappy.

Blaise Pascal (1623-1662),

French mathematician, philosopher and religious writer

The Nativity scene presents us again the angels' announcement of a Saviour born. The shepherds' response of running in haste is attributed to their lowly status and their desperate predicament for some confirming sign of pending deliverance. Neighbouring Jerusalem (less than 10 kms away) carries on oblivious to the otherwise hidden splendor. For so many of us, the same unfolding drama of assessing the impact of astounding news against a backdrop of apathy and indifference confronts our most intimate realities.

The Paris of Blaise Pascal's day was gripped by the those same tensions. For the majority of intellectuals, the rippling influence of the Enlightenment movement and Protestantism cast a dark shadow of cynicism and boredom ("ennui") on the claims of Christian revelation. Pascal's impressive contribution to public discourse was his keen intellect and proven ability as a rigorous thinker yet believing Christian. To rouse devotion and reverence for so many of his fellow citizens who had grown skeptical and uninterested, Pascal tried to pierce consciences by reminding them of the great temptations to misery and despair if one abandons the desire for salvation. While agitating others as a tactic caused to make him unwelcomed and shunned, owing to his undeniable intelligence it was impossible to dismiss him. Pascal warned people of being lost in distraction and vain pursuits without the search for God and tragedy of foregoing his grace.

Since the time of Pascal's writing, modern commentators have noted that for so much of Christianity's history, effort has focused on teaching and persuading people to move from the second category cited in the quote to the first. As for discerning our current cultural context, immense effort is needed to at least inch people from the third classification to the second.

As we gather with and encounter loved ones and acquaintances these Christmas days, blessings to all those trying their best to incite those who have perhaps ceased to seek towards a sparked wonder at the marvel of the Saviour born.

CC Powder

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

I'm a great fan of Christmas carols, they just seem to capture the spirit of Christmas in a way that words and even culture fail to reproduce. And I'm talking of the older carols the ones from the 1800's "Away in a manger" almost takes one back to the

isolation and remoteness of Jesus' birth. You picture a dark cloudless sky with shepherds and animals scattered around a stubby plain somewhere. You know-"away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little lord Jesus, lay down his sweet head".

"Hark the herald angels sing" based on Luke 2.14 evokes a sense of grandeur, pomp and pageantry. This is no ordinary child, despite his lowly status. This is a child who brings reconciliation between god and man. "God and sinners reconcile".

"Joy to the world" written in 1719 is another grand one. It is the most published Christmas hymn, and is based on psalm 98 and genesis 3. It cries out for all to sing about this great event "let heaven and nature sing."

As we take in this wonderful season and as we celebrate the feast of the holy family, I wish us all God's blessings in this joyful season. As the song says, let's "repeat the song in joy" all through the year.

Fr. Roger



KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST



The Knights of Columbus are once again inviting kids to participate in the Children's Christmas Poster Contest. The theme: "Keep Christ In Christmas". The Age Groups: - 5 - 14 Years Due Date of Submission: Dec. 24 & 25, 2022. For further contest details, kindly pick up a form from the Knights in the Narthex.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

2023 boxes of Offertory Envelopes are available in the Narthex. Please ensure you pick up your own box and that your name & address is correct so that when the T4 slips for income tax purposes are prepared, they will be sent with the correct name & address. If your box is not there or you need to make any changes, or you wish to begin using envelopes fill out an Envelope Request Form and return it to the office. Please DO NOT use these envelopes until **JANUARY 1, 2023**.



Also a reminder: **DO NOT USE ENVELOPES FROM PREVIOUS YEARS!**

TAX DEADLINE



Our Tax deadline is December 31st, 2022, any donations processed after December 31st will count towards your 2023 donations and will not be included in your 2022 tax receipt. Thank you for your financial commitment to our parish.

WELCOME THE NEW YEAR IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD

You are invited to come participate in Adoring and Worshipping our Lord in His Eucharistic Presence to herald in the New Year! Be blessed as you unite your heart to His glorious presence at the dawning of a New Year. Be renewed, refreshed and strengthened by this experience as you look forward for a year filled with the peace and joy that He alone brings. O come let us Adore Him! Tuesday, December 31st starting at 11:15 pm - 1:00 am. Hosted by the SMDY Alpha Ministries.



STITCHES FROM THE HEART



Once again Christmas season is approaching and stitches of the heart will be ending by November 28, 2022 and resume by January 8, 2023. On behalf of all the women of stitches of the heart group would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

THE 55+ CLUB

The 55+ group meets weekly on Tuesdays from 1:00 pm - 4:00pm. We will be breaking for the Holidays and will resume in the New year on January 10th. Wishing you peace and blessings this Christmas and into the New Year. For more information contact Sandy at 905-791-7315 or email: sandyrobin22@gmail.com



PRAYER INTENTIONS

We now have a prayer binder in the chapel area where you can write your particular prayer intentions. Our morning prayer devotee's will pray for these intentions. You are welcome to join these prayer warriors Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:15am. Prayer books to follow along are available for sale for \$30.

"And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have obtained the requests made of him." 1 John 5:15"

SERRA'S VOCATION SEEDS

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, deacon, brother or sister. If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997

Email: vocations@archtoronto.org or www.vocationstoronto.ca



ST. MARGUERITE D'YOUVILLE ADVENT, CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24th

Nativity of our Lord Masses

5:00 pm, 8:00 pm, & 12:00 Midnight

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25th

9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:30 pm

December 26 - 29

Mass times as usual

Feast of the Holy Family

Friday, December 30th

9:15 am & 7:00 pm Mass

New Year's Eve

Saturday, December 31st

Holy Mary Mother of God Masses

5:00 pm Mass & 10:00 pm Mass

11:15 pm - 12:30 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

New Year's Day

Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God

Sunday, January 1

9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:30 pm Mass



We are accepting registrations for our Parish Youth Program Edge (Gr 5-8) Sign up after all Masses this weekend or drop off the Registrations at the parish office. The deadline is Friday, December 30th, 2022.

First Edge night - To Be Announced
Cost: \$50 (includes t-shirt and snacks)

If you are interested in volunteering email Margaret at dyouvilleyouth@gmail.com



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