

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR A – DECEMBER 1ST, 2013

DAY OF CONFESSIONS DECEMBER 11, 2013



His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins, has set Wednesday, December 11th as a Day of Confession throughout the Archdiocese of Toronto.

To return to the Lord with integrity, we benefit greatly from celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This year, we will provide the opportunity for all Catholics to avail themselves of this sacrament. Preparation for and the celebration of Confession allows us to set aside disruptive ways, to be renewed in heart and spirit, to be reconciled with our God who abounds with gracious, gentle tenderness.

The schedule for confessions at St Francis of Assisi is as follows: **Wednesday Dec 11th – 8:45 am – 11:30 am; 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm; 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

Sua Eminenza, il Cardinale Thomas Collins, ha stabilito mercoledì 11 dicembre come giorno dedicato alla Confessione in tutta l'archidiocesi di Toronto.

La celebrazione del sacramento di riconciliazione ci concede l'immenso beneficio di ritornare al nostro Signore con integrità. Quest'anno daremo l'opportunità a tutti i cattolici di avvalersi di questo sacramento. Attraverso la preparazione e la celebrazione della confessione, possiamo mettere da parte comportamenti dannosi, per essere rinnovati nel cuore e nello spirito e per riconciliarci con il nostro Dio il quale ci abbonda con il Suo amore benevolente e misericordioso.

Gli orari per la Confessione alla Chiesa di San Francesco d'Assisi, per **mercoledì, 11 dicembre**, sono i seguenti:

8:45 am – 11:30 am; 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm; 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER –SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday, there will be a special collection in all parishes across the Diocese in support of Aboriginal people in Canada.

The *Moving Forward Together Campaign* collection will fund local and national healing and education programs to help build a brighter future with our Aboriginal brothers and sisters. As a community in Christ, we must avoid the temptation of seeing the difficulties facing many Aboriginal people as a challenge solely for Aboriginal people to work out. If we are to truly live Jesus' fundamental command to "love one another" (John 15:12), it becomes a challenge for all of us to embrace. Special *Moving Forward Together Campaign* envelopes are available. You can also give online at www.movingforwardtogether.ca

FHC & CONFIRMATION: RITE OF ENROLMENT

For those who have not yet been enrolled, **Our Enrolment Rite** will be held today at the **11:30 am Mass OR Sat Dec 7 at 5:00 pm Mass**.

We call the First Holy Communion and the Confirmation candidates up close to the end of Mass and present them with the crosses to be worn around their neck.

It is our hope that like St Francis, these young people will be the living stones that build our faith community.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2013 - NATALE

CHRISTMAS EVE TUESDAY - MARTEDÌ DECEMBER 24TH

No Morning Mass

Christmas Prelude	8:30 PM
Mass in English	9:00 PM

Canti Natalizi	11:30 PM
Messa Bilingue – Bilingual Mass	12 midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY WEDNESDAY – MERCOLEDÌ DECEMBER 25TH

Messa in Italiano	9:00 AM
Mass in English	11:30 AM

NEW YEAR'S EVE TUESDAY – MARTEDÌ DECEMBER 31ST

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Adoration	3:30 PM
Benediction of Blessed Sacrament	4:45 PM
Mass in English	5:00 PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY WEDNESDAY – MERCOLEDÌ JANUARY 1ST

Messa in Italiano	9:00 AM
Mass in English	11:30 AM

FIRST MEETING FOR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

First meeting for Unit One for Parents and **Confirmation Candidates** – this **Sunday December 1st at 10:30am**
OR **Saturday December 7th at 4:00 pm**

PHILIPPINES DISASTER – TYPHOON HAIYAN

In response to the news that thousands are dead, hundreds of thousands forced out of their homes, and an estimated 9.5 million people are in dire need of aid, the Archdiocese of Toronto is accepting financial contributions for humanitarian relief efforts through its network of parishes. Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto maintains that besides practical assistance to the victims in the Philippines, "we join together in prayer to support all who are affected."

The Canadian government has announced it will match donations to the Typhoon Haiyan Relief Fund made by Canadians between Nov 9 and Dec 9. Contributions made through the Archdiocese of Toronto for this relief effort will be eligible for the matching program.

Those wishing to help are asked to have their donations in by today **December 1st** to be forwarded to the Archdiocese **before the December 9th** deadline in order for us to take advantage of the matching program. - Please mark your envelopes "**Philippines Typhoon Haiyan – Humanitarian Relief**", envelopes available at the back of the church.

Kindly remember that **any cheques for special collections**, including those for the Philippines Typhoon Haiyan, **MUST be made payable to "St Francis of Assisi Parish"**.

LA PRIMA DOMENICA DELL'AVVENTO – ANNO A – 1° DICEMBRE 2013

UPDATE ON THE STEPS AND RECTORY

We received an update that in a few weeks the railings for our front steps should be in place and hopefully we will be able to use our front steps for our Christmas celebrations – weather permitting.

We are also hopeful that the official awarding of the remaining working (mostly on the rectory) will take place in the coming days and the starting date for the work should be given to us.

Siamo in attesa che fra poche settimane la scalinata della chiesa sia consegnata – dopo l'arrivo delle appoggia mani.

Speriamo di avere una data dell'inizio lavori per la casa parrocchiale e alcuni altri lavoretti nella prima fase dei lavori a San Francesco.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

We would like to give you different samples of the weekly offertory collections during the year. In August we showed the weekly offertory collections for the month of July compared with February. Today we will show you July compared with November. We are concerned that the amounts are not stable/steady and we are concerned that on average our parish is not even breaking \$3,000 on a Sunday.

We have had some recent natural disasters that our parishioners have contributed to but if that contribution comes out of the parish offertory, then it leaves us in a precarious situation.

Abbiamo cercato di confrontare le offerte di luglio, pieno estate, con le somme di novembre – quando tutti sono tornati dalle ferie e le famiglie sono raccolte dalla scuola e anche dalla preparazione per i sacramenti. Nonostante tutto ciò, le cifre non ci fanno tanto coraggio.

July 07/13	\$2,694.00	November 3/13	\$2,916.00
July 14/13	\$2,104.00	November 10/13	\$3,179.00
July 21/13	\$2,182.00	November 17/13	\$2,074.00
July 28/13	\$3,179.00	November 24/13	\$2,409.00
Total	\$10,159.00	Total	\$10,578.00

NEW BEGINNINGS – GRIEF AND CHRISTMAS

For those who have lost a loved one through Death, Separation or Divorce. Come and join us for an informative evening: Our Facilitator is **Father Fred Scinto C.R.**, Topic:

"I am in Grief: How do I face the Christmas Holidays"

Date: **December 3, 2013**, Time: **7:00 pm to 9:00 pm**.

Location: Archdiocese of Toronto Pastoral Centre – 1155 Yonge St., 4th Floor, Toronto. – Free underground parking, beside the Summerhill subway station.

Pre registration is NOT required. Enquiries: Deacon James Shaughnessy, MSW., RSW., Psyn.D. 416-921-1163 ext 2227 or email jshaugh@cfstoronto.com

MASS SCHEDULE
NOV 30TH TO DEC 8TH 2013

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH
ST ANDREW, APOSTLE

3:30 PM 50th Wedding Anniversary –
Graziana & Eduardo Villa

5:00 PM Bilingual Memorial Mass for Parishioners buried from the parish in the last year.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

9:00 AM In onore di San Nicola Da Crissa
Lanni e Famiglia; Pietro Petrini;
Nicola Morfea; Yvette Abugaber;
Famiglia D' Ambrosio e Caggiano;
Giovanni Callipo e Tutti i Morti;
Eduardo Cipolla e Famiglia;
Gaetano Ciampaglio;

11:30 AM Caterina Rizzuto

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2ND

8:00 AM Pro Oblitis

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3RD
ST FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST

8:00 AM In onore di Santa Lucia

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4TH
ST JOHN DAMASCENE, PRIEST & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

8:00 AM Rosalina Ariganello

7:00 PM Francesco Rizzi

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

8:00 AM Antonio e Maria Rosa Santaguida

9:00 AM *School Mass in church (weather permitting)*
St Francis and St Luke Schools

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6TH
ST NICHOLAS

8:00 AM San Nicola da Crissa

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH
ST AMBROSE, BISHOP & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

5:00 PM Filomena Guiducci – One Year Anniversary

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

9:00 AM Giovanni, Concetta e Monica D'Ambrosio;
Carmela e Vera Grass e Famiglia;
Celeste Di Rollo-primò anniversario;
Nicola Nesci – primò anniversario;
Famiglia Carnevale; Giovanni Mongillo;
Giuseppe e Vittoria Carnovale e Rosario
Simonetta; Fortunato e Chiara Scopacasa;
Don Giuseppe e Bruno Scopacasa;
Agostino Lanzeroti; Famiglia Piazza;
Saverio Paparo e Famiglia; Laura Zuccarelli

11:30 AM For Parishioners' Intentions

OFFICE CLOSED

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on Thursday December 5th at noon. The office will be open again Friday December 6th usual hours.