

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD - DECEMBER 24/25TH , 2015
HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH – YEAR C – DECEMBER 27TH, 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS

FIRST COMMUNION

PREPARING FOR EUCHARIST – UNIT ONE

Sun Jan 10th at 10:30 am in the church OR

Sat Jan 16th at 4:00 pm in the church

CONFIRMATION – UNIT THREE

Sun Jan 17th at 10:30 am in the church OR

Sat Jan 23rd at 4:00 pm in the church

(Remember that parents need to accompany the candidates and everyone is welcome to stay for Mass after class)

CHILDREN'S LITURGY CHRISTMAS BREAK

Today is the last day of the 11:30 am Children's Liturgy. Thank you to our catechists who faithfully volunteer to work with our youngsters and to the parents who have supported this effort. **Children's Liturgy will resume at the 11:30 am Mass on Sunday January 10th.**

PLANNING FEASIBILITY STUDY
STUDIO DI FATTIBILITÀ E PIANIFICAZIONE

"It is in giving that we receive" -- St. Francis of Assisi
"E' nel dare che riceviamo." - San Francesco d'Assisi

You may be aware that in the final months of this year 2015 our parish was involved in a study to ascertain our ability to participate in the Archdiocesan Family of Faith Campaign and to carry out a combined Fundraising Campaign (just look up above as you sit in the pews to understand).

We invite you to pick up a copy of the **Executive Summary** of the report at the door of the church. We will be back to you early next year with our next steps about our Family of Faith Campaign.

Come avete già letto e sentito, dopo i colloqui con diversi parrocchiani, i nostri consulenti M&M hanno preparato uno **Studio di Fattibilità e Pianificazione**. V'invitiamo alla lettura della relazione tradotta in italiano-basta chiedere in sagrestia per una copia. Così siamo tutti informati della situazione attuale.

SUPPORT FOR RECENTLY
SEPARATED OR DIVORCED CATHOLICS

Catholic Family Services of Toronto is offering a 6 week group program for adult men and women coping with the many struggles involved in the process of separation and divorce. Group participants will receive support and guidance as they move through this difficult period of transition. The group will run on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 beginning January 5th to February 9th, 2016 at our Central Office, 1155 Yonge Street (Summerhill Subway Station). For further information, please contact **Alex Lopechuk at 416-921-1163.**

THIS BULLETIN COVERS CHRISTMAS
AND THE HOLY FAMILY WEEKEND.
IF YOU TAKE THIS BULLETIN ON CHRISTMAS,
PLEASE DO NOT TAKE A SECOND COPY
ON THE 26/27 WEEKEND.

WELCOME TO CHRISTMAS AT ST FRANCIS

Welcome to our parish during these days celebrating the mysteries of the Birth of Jesus. We are hoping that both regulars and visitors will feel that St Francis is their spiritual home.

As much as we would like to, we cannot possibly give everyone an individual gift, but you will notice that our Masses are being celebrated for your intentions. If you are with us on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day you will also be able to join in the excitement of the FREE draw for Nativity Scenes - this happens at the end of Mass so if you leave early, you miss your chance (obviously if nobody claims the winning number, we will draw a second number). And for as long as they last, we will also be giving out Bethlehem Holy Cards.

Please remember to pray for the Christians of the Holy Land... including Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jerusalem, Syria, Egypt, Lebanon and Jordan among other places. May all people of good will live in peace!

THINGS TO NOTE IN THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH:

On December 8th we began a Special Jubilee Year of Mercy. You may Google the subject to get a good idea of what this can mean for you and your loved ones. You can also consult www.archtoronto.org and read suggestions, meditations and info about the special Holy Doors - do you know that Pope Francis declared that prisoners can receive the indulgence simply by passing through their cell doors? There is so much to learn.

On that same day, new rules came into effect to help streamline the annulment process of the Catholic Church. If you have had to go through the difficulties of a divorce, this may be a great time to begin your process of annulment.

THINGS TO NOTE AT ST FRANCIS:

We have had some urgent issues in our roof and ceiling (outside and inside). These issues will need to be addressed soon and will cost well over a million dollars. We will initiate a combined capital campaign in the new year - stay tuned.

We continue to organize and move ahead. We will have a presentation at Masses Jan 23/24 on Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG). This allows people to have their parish offertory drawn directly from their bank accounts once a month. This is especially helpful for those who are not able to attend every weekend but want to be financial sustainers of the parish.

EVENING MASSES IN ENGLISH ON
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S DAY

Our Lady of Guadalupe – 694 Weston Road
(near Black Creek Drive)

Christmas Day (Fri Dec 25) 7 pm
New Year's Day (Fri Jan 1) 7 pm

St. Alphonsus – 540 St Clair Ave W (near Vaughan Rd)

Christmas Day (Fri Dec 25) 7.30 pm
New Year's Day (Fri Jan 1) 7.30 pm

NATALE DEL SIGNORE - 24/25 DICEMBRE 2015
SACRA FAMIGLIA DI GESÙ, GIUSEPPE E MARIA – ANNO C –27 DICEMBRE 2015

PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS HOURS

Please note that the **Parish Office is closed for the Christmas break and will open again to the public on Mon Jan 4th, 2016 at 10 am.**

Certificates and Mass bookings can easily be made at other times. If someone is sick and needs a priest or if someone needs a Mass Card, **please leave a message on the parish voicemail and we will try and get back to you as soon as possible.**

Vi avvisiamo che **durante questo periodo natalizio, l'ufficio parrocchiale sarà chiuso. Riprendiamo lavoro il lunedì 4 gennaio alle 10.00.** Per le pratiche di ogni giorno non ci sono urgenze. In generale tutte gli uffici prendono una pausa per questi giorni. Detto questo, notate che per le visite agli ammalati lasciateci sulla segreteria telefonica (answering machine) **un messaggio chiaro con diversi recapiti telefonici.** Inutile lasciare solo il numero di casa se siete all'ospedale vicino all'ammalato – lasciate o i numeri dei figli o qualche numero di telefonino. Sapendo anche le nostre realtà, se c'è bisogno di **una Messa Perpetua per qualche defunto**, lasciate un buon messaggio e cerchiamo di venire incontro al vostro bisogno.

CHURCH BULLETIN ADVERTISING

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the **advertisements for our church bulletin.** The advertising will begin in February 2016 and supports the bulletin service. Please support the bulletin and advertise your product or service.

Call Liturgical Publications at 905-624-4422.

YEAR OF MERCY

The Archdiocese joins with the Universal Church in celebrating the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis. This Year of Mercy runs from the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (December 8, 2015) through to the Feast of Christ the King (November 20, 2016).

Make a pilgrimage to one of our archdiocesan Holy Doors to receive the Jubilee Indulgence.

(Visit www.archtoronto.org/mercy for more details, locations and resources.)

MASS SCHEDULE

December 26th to January 3rd 2016

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26TH
ST. STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR

5:00 PM For Parishioners' Intentions

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27TH
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY
AND JOSEPH

9:00 AM In onore di Tutti i Santi e per le Sante Anime

Basilio Dileo e Giovanni Callipo;

Giuseppe e Francesco Sisi;
Giovanni Olimpio; Franco Chiocca;
Rosa Cutuli e Giuseppina Natale;
Pasquale Gallipi; Luigi e Lella Zervakos;
Agostino Lanzeroti e Famiglia;
Famiglia Belissimo, Bruno Suppa e Famiglia

11:30 AM Caterina Rizzuto

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28TH
THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS

8:00 AM Antonio e Italo Maceroni e Famiglia

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29TH
ST. THOMAS BECKET, BISHOP & MARTYR

8:00 AM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30TH
SIXTH DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS

8:00 AM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31ST
ST SYLVESTER I, POPE

No morning Mass

3:45 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

4:45 PM Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

5:00 PM Mass in English

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1ST
MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE

9:00 AM For Our Parishioners' Intentions

11:30 AM For Our Parishioners' Intentions

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2ND
SS BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY
NAZIANZEN, BISHOPS & DOCTORS

5:00 PM For Our Parishioners' Intentions

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3RD
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

9:00 AM In onore di Santa Rita
Matteo e Teresa Ceddia;
Antonio De Mastro;
Salvatore Amato e Defunti Famiglia.
Rosetta Russo e Famiglia;
Giuseppe Caro e Calogera Caro;
Rosanna e Antonio Seone;
Caterina e Salvatore Ierullo

11:30 AM Elisabetta e Francesco Gagliardi e Famiglia