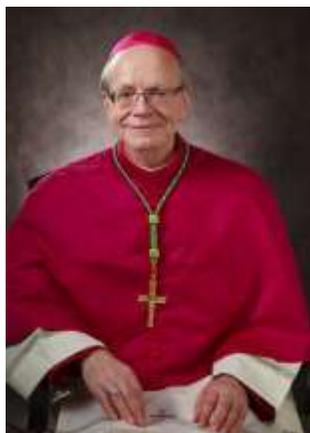

WELCOME BISHOP ROBERT KASUN CSB



St Francis of Assisi Parish forms part of the Central Zone of the Archdiocese of Toronto. **Bishop Robert Kasun** is the Auxiliary Bishop who is responsible for our area.

Our Bishop will visit St. Francis today **Sunday - Dec 18th and celebrate our 11:30 am Mass.** Come out to meet Bishop Kasun at our parish.

Dom 18 dic. (oggi) arriva tra noi **SE Mons Robert Kasun** per visitare la nostra parrocchia e per celebrare la Santa Messa

del 11:30 AM. Venite a salutarlo.

**ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO BEGINS
175TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS**

December 17 marks the 175th anniversary of the Archdiocese of Toronto, kicking off a year-long celebration of this historic milestone. Originally part of the Diocese of Kingston, on December 17, 1841, Pope Gregory XVI formally created the Diocese of Toronto and named Michael Power its first bishop. The Archdiocese of Toronto is planning numerous historical and spiritual activities to commemorate the 175th anniversary, including a large-scale celebration at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica on May 30, 2017. In acknowledging this significant anniversary, Cardinal Thomas Collins remarked:

"It is a tremendous blessing to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the Archdiocese of Toronto. It is always a joy to express my gratitude to those, past and present, who have made incredible contributions to our city, province and country, inspired by their faith. Over the next year, we will honour the past, energize our present faith community and look forward to an exciting future."

More information on the Archdiocese of Toronto 175th celebrations can be accessed by visiting:

www.archtoronto.org.

**EVENING MASSES IN ENGLISH
ON CHRISTMAS DAY (DEC 25 - EVENING)
AND NEW YEAR'S DAY (JAN 1 - EVENING)**

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

Christmas Day (Sun Dec 25) 5 pm
New Year's Day (Sun Jan 1) 5 pm

Holy Family - 1372 King Street West

Christmas Day (Sun Dec 25) 4 pm
New Year's Eve (Sat Dec 31) 11 pm
New Year's Day (Sun Jan 1) 8 pm



FAMILY OF FAITH - ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

As we go to print on Tues Dec 13th the secretary of the Family of Faith Campaign tells us that we have pledged over the next five years totalling **\$406,790**. That is just an amazing amount of generosity and trust in Divine Providence.

We have others who have promised to pledge but have not yet made their commitment. Our volunteers are following up with phone calls in the hopes of answering any outstanding questions. Two simple answers to remember are that this pledge is over a five-year timespan and that "yes" there are income tax receipts that will be issued. The Family of Faith Campaign Office will issue income tax receipts for the amounts given to The Family of Faith Campaign.

We are standing at over 80% of our goal of \$450,000. After we met our standard goal of \$230,000, all the pledges that arrived after that are designated totally toward the projects here at St Francis - just look at the scaffolding.

FORMER ST FRANCIS PARISHIONERS - PAG

These days we will see a lot of our friends who used to belong to St Francis and come back for a taste of their faith history. As usual, we ask our "regulars" to be welcoming and to see Christ and the Holy Family in the person of the stranger.

To our friends who visit us - please consider special support to St Francis - beginning with your Christmas Envelope. You may also consider making regular gifts to St Francis via **Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG)**. Your support is important all year round.

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS

We have noticed that a lot of our parishioners are now remembering charities when they lose a loved one. These folks are of the opinion that their flowers disappear very quickly but donations to charity can do an immense amount of good. Remember **St Francis of Assisi Parish at 72 Mansfield Ave, Toronto** when completing a will or when choosing charities for your "In Lieu of Flowers" requests.

TIME AND TALENT

When we speak of Stewardship we also speak of "Time and Talent". Much of what goes on at St Francis could not go on without the kind generosity of our volunteers. Thank you to all of you who are so generous - in recent days our **Inside and Outside Decorators**, our **Volunteers to the Family of Faith** and **all those who quietly work** to make St Francis the Spiritual home that it is.

LA QUARTA DOMENICA DI AVVENTO – ANNO A – 18 DICEMBRE 2016

PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS HOURS

Please note that the **Parish Office will closed for the Christmas break beginning Thurs Dec. 23RD at 3:30 pm and will re-open on Tues Jan 3RD, 2017 regular office hours.**

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 da venerdì 23/12 alle 3:30 pm. Riprendiamo lavoro il martedì 3 gennaio.** 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 2017 & supports the bulletin service. Please support the bulletin and advertise your product or service. Call Liturgical Publications at 905 624-4422

ENGLISH SUNDAY MISSALS & CALENDARS

Thank you **Bernardo Funeral Homes** for providing the Sunday Missals to the parish free of charge! The church calendar began two weeks ago.

Cardinal's Funeral Home and Bernardo Funeral Home have also provided us with 2017 Calendars for free distribution to our community. Thank you!

WRITING CONTEST- WIN PRIZES!!

It is time once again for the Friars' Student Writing Award. Students aged 14 – 18 are invited to write a five hundred-word essay on the theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, celebrated January 18-25, 2017. The Theme for this coming year is "Reconciliation – The love of Christ compels us" (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:14-20). Students should read the above Scripture passage and respond to the following statement in the essay: As the Christian world reflects on the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation (1517-2017) and after reading 2 Corinthians 5:14-20, discuss the main obstacles to Christian reconciliation and ways to overcome them based on your own experiences.

First prize is an iPad Air 2 (64 GB), second prize is a Kobo Aura H2O, and third to sixth prizes are a one-year subscription to The Catholic Register and other prizes.

Essays will be edited and published in The Catholic Register. Deadline for entries is January 13, 2017. E-mail your essay to editor@catholicregister.org or FAX it to **416-934-3409** (please include your full name, email address, phone number,

and the name of your school on the front page of the essay). For further information call 416-934-3400, ext. 344 or 416-934-3410, ext. 403 or 1-855-441-4077.

Don't miss this opportunity!

Our Children's Liturgy will NOT meet on Dec 25th & Jan 1st. Thank you to our faithful Catechists! We will start up again on the 8th of Jan., 2017. Enjoy your well-deserved break!

MASS SCHEDULE

December 17th to December 25th, 2016

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17TH

5:00 PM For Parishioners' Intentions

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18TH 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 AM Giuseppe Malfara
Basilio Dileo e Giovanni Callipo
Giuseppina Marrello
Domenico e Maria Teresa Pileggi
Caterina Rizutto; Bruno Macri
Rocco Macri e Famiglia
Francesco Mediate e Famiglia
Giovanni e Giovanna Scarturchio
Bruno Macri
Giovanni & Giovanna Scarturchio
Salvatore Amato e def. Famiglia

11:30 AM Antonio Pitaro

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19TH

8:00 AM Maria Fiorenza & Family

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20TH

8:00 AM Giuseppe Mongillo e Famiglia

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21ST COMMEMORATION OF ST. PETER CANISIUS

8:00 AM Paparo, Bruno & Family

7:00 PM Memorial Mass – Francesco Novielli

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22ND

8:00 AM Luigi Spatola

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23RD

COMMEMORATION OF ST. JOHN OF KANTY

8:00 AM Antonio e Umberto Paparo

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

8:30 PM Christmas Prelude
9:00 PM Vigil Mass- English- Living and Deceased Benefactors
12:00AM Midnight - Bilingual

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

9:00 AM I nostri benefattori vivi e morti

11:30 AM Living and Deceased Benefactors