

**FIRST COMMUNION STUDENTS & FAMILIES**

**FIRST RECONCILIATION - SAT DEC 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2017**

The Big Day is almost upon us. In two week's time, **on Sat Dec 16<sup>th</sup>** our children will **gather in the Church at 10:45 am** to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This event is for all of our candidates (and families) involved in First Communion preparation this year.

Parents - please prepare your children for the event. They CANNOT fail the event. Do not give them an idea that they will not be forgiven or that the priest will be angry or disappointed with them for their sins. Not only is this NOT true but it can also worry them... each year we have some little one who is scared and crying. We don't want this. Our children are coming to meet Jesus in the sacrament and to receive the embrace that the Loving Father gives to his prodigal children.



Please remember to pick up your child's certificate as you leave the church after Confession. Inside the envelope you will find the next book to cover preparation for Holy Eucharist.

**ADULT BAPTISMS,  
WELCOMING NEW CATHOLICS,  
PREPARING ADULTS FOR  
FIRST COMMUNION AND/OR CONFIRMATION**

We remind our parishioners that we are hoping to gather anyone interested in exploring the Catholic Faith to join our **RCIA Program**. Please pass the word around.

This is open to people who want to learn about our faith. It also provides a place of preparation for Catholics who are missing their First Communion and/or Confirmation. We also welcome others from different Christian Communities who feel the gentle prompting of the Spirit to explore Catholicism.



**DAY OF CONFESSIONS**

From December 10 to 16, 2017, each parish in the Archdiocese of Toronto will be holding a **Day of Confessions**. This week, let us make the journey into the heart of our relationship with God. Take a long, loving look at the ways God calls us to grow. Take this challenge and hold it in readiness for the rich blessing that is manifest in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

In our parish, the schedule for confessions is as follows:  
**Fri Dec 15, 9-11 am, 1-2:30 PM & 6-7 pm**

**ENGLISH SUNDAY MISSALS / CALENDARS**

**Thank you Bernardo Funeral Homes** for providing the **Sunday Missals** to the parish free of charge! The church calendar begins today with the first Sunday of Advent. These missals are to be left in the pew.

**Thank you** also to **Cardinal's Funeral Home** has also provided us with **Catholic Calendars for 2018** for free distribution to our community. Thank you!

**CHURCH BULLETIN ADVERTISING**

Liturgical publications will be setting up the advertisements for our church bulletin. The advertising will begin in February 2018 & supports the bulletin service. Please support the bulletin and advertise your product or service. Call Liturgical Publications at 905-624-4422.

**REINTRODUCING PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING**

Week after week, we gather in Christ's name to give thanks for our many gifts – our health, families, friends and our sources of livelihood. The blessings we receive allow us to give back by way of offertory, to nourish our parish community and strengthen the church we all love.

The fruits of our labour are evident in the work we have been doing for the church. There is still much to be done and we are still in the process of continuing our renovations. We ask for your support in sustaining what we have started.

Next weekend, **Nerissa Flores** from the Development Office of the Archdiocese of Toronto will visit us to tell us more about **another way to help our parish** through **Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG)**. PAG allows us to support our parish continuously—a benefit to the parish as we are in the process of improving our church. If you are ready to sign up, **please bring a void cheque** with you next week. Thank you for all you do in support of St. Francis of Assisi Parish!

**PRESEPIO - 2017 - NATIVITY SCENE**

This Friday Dec 8<sup>th</sup>, on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, after the 8 am morning Mass, we will bless this year's outside Christ-mas Nativity Scene.



Joe Rauti and Rocco Petrella were out there working on the set-up on one of the nicer days this week. Never underestimate the importance of our good volunteers.

*We are still missing a fair sized doll to install as the Baby*

*Jesus.* We never look for anything too fancy since many years pranksters steal the image that we put out.

**As the Advent season is starting we ask that you remember our neighbors in need.**

***Society of Saint Vincent de Paul***

**WEEKLY OFFERTORY**

Offertory	November 25/26, 2017
Total number of envelopes	218
Total amount in envelopes	\$ 2,943
Total loose donations	\$ 284
<b>Weekly Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,227</b>
<b>Weekly Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 4,500</b>
<b>Income Deficit</b>	<b>\$-1,273</b>

## LA PRIMA DOMENICA DI AVVENTO – ANNO B – 3 DICEMBRE 2017

### CONSTRUCTION NEWS



Many of you have noticed the scaffolding coming down outside the church. The work on the ceiling of our sacristies has begun. You can also see some hoarding in the north side aisle as work on the ceiling there begins. So much of the work has gone on above the high platform and outside above our sight level. To the left here you can see what it is looking like above the platform.

In the weeks ahead a tarpaulin is going up to act as protection as work on the mosaic and the east

wall Stained Glass Window begins.

Another task we are working on is trying to make the air warmer. Drafts and open doors prove to be a challenge. Help us on the weekends: **DO NOT PROP ANY DOORS OPEN!** Once we lose our heat, it is difficult for the church to warm up again.

Thanks for your patience!

### I LAVORI

Forse avete notato che stanno lavorando adesso più vicino a banchi. Nei prossimi giorni incominciano a coprire con una stoffa apposita, la zona del mosaico, per proteggere il santuario durante i lavori.

Siamo cercando di riscaldare la chiesa con più efficienza per facilitare i lavori e i processi di asciugamento.

La foto sopra ci da un'idea della zona sopra la piattaforma. Già si vede il miglioramento nell'aspetto della scelta dei colori.

### CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS

Remember that **this weekend** your envelopes for Christmas Flowers and Decorations would be very much appreciated.

Ricordate **le buste per le stelle di natale e le decorazioni.** È sempre un buon aiuto - grazie!

### CANCELLED STAMPS FOR THE MISSIONS

As we approach the season of Christmas Cards, we remind you of "Stamps for the Missions." Used stamps are cut off envelopes, leaving a little bit of the envelope as a border to avoid damaging the stamp itself. These are collected and sent to **the Mission Office of our Western Canada Franciscan Province.** They have purchasers who give them money for the stamps and this money goes to help their Missionary effort.

### MASS SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> TO DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2017

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>

5:00 PM For Parishioners' Intentions

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>

9:00 AM In Onore di San Nicola  
Francesco e Giuseppe Sisi  
Giovanni e Elisabetta Artusa e Famiglia  
Rosa e Angelo Balenzano  
Giuseppe Bertucci & Famiglia  
Carolina e Fortunato Rigitano  
Domenica e Peter Vinci  
Pasquale Sr., Maria, Maddalena e  
Pasquale Jr. Cioffi  
Giovanni e Giovanna Scaturchio

11:30 AM Stan Rzepka

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

SAINT JOHN DAMASCENE,

PRIEST AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

8:00 AM Rosarina Ariganello

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>

8:00 AM Antonio e Maria Rosa Santaguida

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>

ST. NICHOLAS, BISHOP

8:00 AM Salvatore e Rosa Aiello

9:30 AM School Mass

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>

ST. AMBROSE,

BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

8:00 AM Michele Caccamo

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF  
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

8:00 AM Salvatore Barillari

*Dopo la Messa bilingue, nell'occasione dell'Immacolata, usciamo fuori per benedire il presepio esterno. Siamo cercando una bambola un po' grande per vestirla come il bambino Gesù - riconoscendo che tante volte va rubato dalla mangiatoia.*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>

SAN JUAN DIEGO CUAUHTLATOATZIN

5:00 PM Rosa & Carmine Farrace

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>

9:00 AM Basilio Deleo e Giovanni Callipo  
Elisabetta Giuliano; Angelo Di Santo  
Pasquale e Teresa Pepe  
Famiglie Carnovale e Simonetta  
Lorenza Gulli e Rina Crea  
Pasquale Gallippi; Antonio Romano  
Vincenza e Candido Longo

11:30 AM Pasquale Raviele