

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 20, 2020

MASS INTENTIONS

In light of public Mass cancellations in the Cathedral, our priests will celebrate private daily Masses for the intentions of our parishioners including those previously offered.

Monday, December 21

Gloria Tanfingco (D)
Nolasco Rada (D)
Francisco Jr & Adoracion Romero (D)

Tuesday, December 22

Amparo Vargas (D)
Gloria Tanfingco (D)
Mary Nguyen (D)
Rolando Pontiveros (I)

Wednesday, December 23

Benedict Asirvatham (D)
Stefan Cristian Mototolea (I)
Elena Mototolea (I)
For the repose of the souls of those laid to rest in our Catholic Cemeteries

Thursday, December 24

CHRISTMAS EVE

Offered for the intentions of all the faithful.

Friday, December 25: Nativity of the Lord

CHRISTMAS DAY

Offered for the intentions of all the faithful.

Saturday, December 26: St. Stephen

Offered for the intentions of all the faithful.

MEMORIAL LAMP TRANSEPTS

<u>Sacred Heart</u>	<u>Immaculate Heart</u>
Arthur & Yolande Gregorio (D)	Diego Liut (D)
Rev. Favin Alemao & Family (I)	The Lie & Leong Family (D)
Rev. Favin Alemao (I)	Lidya, Andi & Family (I)

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

The pandemic lockdown for the City of Toronto has been extended until at least January 4, 2021. Religious services remain very limited, with no more than 10 people allowed in the church and public Masses are cancelled during this time.

Our Christmas Masses will be livestreamed on the Cathedral website on **December 24 at 8:00 PM** with His Eminence Cardinal Collins and on **December 25 at 9:00 AM** with Fr. Curtis.

On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, the Cathedral will also be celebrating a limited number of Holy Communion Services for which registration is required. Each service will take approximately 7-8 minutes. Registration will open on **Monday, December 21 at 9:00 AM**. For more details, please visit: www.stmichaelscathedral.com/christmas.

Please note the following information:

- Each Communion Service is limited to **8** people (plus Priest and staff member).
- Registration will begin on Monday, December 21st at 9:00 AM. Please view link available from home page of our website.
- Please sign up for **ONE** timeslot only. All additional entries under the same email address will be cancelled. This will allow us to accommodate a few more parishioners to attend each service.
- A single household can reserve a maximum of **TWO** tickets.
- Arrive **5** minutes before your scheduled timeslot. We will not be able to accommodate latecomers.
- Please remember to bring your printed ticket or have the ticket available on your cell phone to present upon arrival at the Cathedral.
- Due to the limited time and frequency of Communion Services, parishioners will be required to leave the Cathedral directly following the concluding prayer.
- Adherence to all Covid-19 protocols is mandatory, including wearing a mask, maintaining physical distancing and sanitizing your hands.
- If you are no longer able to attend, please cancel your registration through Eventbrite.

JOURNEY THROUGH ADVENT: VIDEO SERIES FOR ADVENT 2020

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) presents *Journey through Advent* with the Most Rev. Douglas Crosby, OMI, Bishop of Hamilton. This short video series reflects on the Gospel readings of each Sunday in Advent. It can be accessed through the CCCB website or their YouTube channel.

[Click here to access the video series in English.](#)
[Click here to access the video series in French.](#)

We hope, especially in this time of COVID-19, that *Journey through Advent* will be a source of deep spiritual solace and insightful pastoral preparation for those who are looking for meaningful ways to welcome the Lord Jesus at Christmas.

POPE FRANCIS PROCLAIMS “YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH”

His Holiness Pope Francis has proclaimed the “Year of Saint Joseph”, from December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021 to mark the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church.

In his recent Apostolic Letter “*Patris corde*” (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis describes St. Joseph as a loving, obedient, accepting and courageous father. He encourages us to seek him as “an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble” and invites us to pray:

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

To read the Holy Father’s Apostolic letter, visit <http://www.vatican.va/>.

REFLECTING ON THE MEANING OF STEWARDSHIP IN TODAY’S READINGS

As we approach Christmas the church encourages us to reflect on the Annunciation. The Annunciation can be seen as the singular event that changed the world for it is during this episode that Mary consents to God’s will and Christ is conceived within her. As stewards striving to follow Jesus, we can learn a great deal from prayerfully imitating Mary in our own lives.

Mary had an incredible faith and trust in God to be able to accept His will for her life. It is important to note that Mary wasn’t told how her life would precisely unfold. She didn’t know she would give birth in a manger, or about her flight to Egypt, or that Jesus would go missing in the temple or that she would stand by as He was crucified. Instead, all she knew was that she would conceive the Son of God. Many times we seek to know God’s entire will for our lives but we can learn from Mary to readily say yes to the current step of the plan that He is calling us to and, like Mary, ponder God’s will in our hearts by spending time in prayer).

As stewards, God too is calling us to a very specific and important mission. St. John Henry Newman says that we should all recognize that “God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission.” We can live out this mission by being stewards of our time and talents for our communities, our parish and the entire Church. Let us seek Mary’s intercession and trust in the Lord’s call for our lives and readily follow Him.

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(Source: <https://archtoronto.org/stewardship>)