

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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 7

Joan Guerrero (D)
Betty Burns (D)
Rachel Brunet (D)
Felixberto Roquia (D)
Barbara Hurst (I)
Josef & Anna Sauer (D)

Tuesday, December 8

Pontiveros Family (I)
Juana & Melquiades Garcia (D)
Sancha B. Cleope (D)
Flora Iris Reid & Charles V. O'Connor (D)
Ernesto Escueta (D)
Sheila Kirk (I)
Jessica Smith (I)

Wednesday, December 9

Anthony Bartoch (D)
Rev. Favin Alemao (I)
Loreto & Agnes Aman (I)
Rafael Ramirez (I)
For the repose of the souls of those laid to rest in our Catholic Cemeteries
Daniel O. Dwyer (D)

Thursday, December 10

Melquiades I. Garcia (D)
Pietro Persico (D)
Maura Reynolds (D)
Maryanne Doogan (D)
Francisco Espino dela O (D)
Josefina Elsie Poma Demejia (D)

Friday, December 11

Franchino Attento (D)
Cheryl James (I)
Angela Ricci (I)
Juan Barrera (I)
Justin Matthew (I)
Chris Crummer (I)

Saturday, December 12

Rev. Guenter Petricek (D)
Leonardo & Teresa Santos (D)
Maritess Ortiz (D)
Liwanag Family (I)
Olivia Torres (I)

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)

JOURNEY THROUGH ADVENT: VIDEO SERIES FOR ADVENT 2020

As the season of Advent is very close, this memo is to inform you of a wonderful new initiative we have begun at the Conference. Since social media are an increasingly important platform for formation and evangelization at all levels, we have produced a series of videos entitled *Journey through Advent*, which includes an introduction to the liturgical Season and reflections on the Gospel readings of each Sunday in Advent. It is the result of a joint project between the CCCB's *Office national de liturgie*, the National Liturgy Office, and the Office for Evangelization and Catechesis.

This short video series will be posted on the CCCB website and can be accessed through the rolling banner image at the top of the homepage entitled *Journey through Advent: Video Series for Advent 2020*. You are invited to post the links on your diocesan/eparchial website, as well as on your other social media platforms, and to share them broadly with pastors and pastoral teams who work in diocesan offices and parishes.

The links to the videos, in French and English, will be available on the CCCB website. Each Monday, the link for the upcoming Sunday celebration will be released.

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

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

We are very grateful to Bishop Douglas Crosby, O.M.I., and Bishop Pierre Goudreault for their generosity in preparing and recording these spiritual and pastoral reflections. 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.

For further information please contact Mrs. Margaret Shea-Lawrence, at m.shea-lawrence@cccb.ca.

DECEMBER 6, 2020

COVID-19 UPDATE

Capacity Limit Announcement - November 2020

We want to thank all the parishioners of St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica for their ongoing support during this period of great uncertainty. It has been wonderful to see so many of you at Mass since we re-opened in June. We are especially grateful to the volunteers who have helped ensure our church is a safe place to gather – they have done incredible work!

As you know, the number of new COVID-19 cases in the Greater Toronto Area have increased significantly in recent days and, at present, Toronto and Peel Regions are in the "Lockdown Stage" as identified by the Province of Ontario. In addition, Premier Ford announced on November 20, 2020 special emergency measures that need to be taken in our area.

For this reason, **as of Monday, November 23rd, we must restrict attendance inside the church to 10 people**, including a staff member/volunteer to monitor capacity restrictions. Sadly, due to these measures, **public Masses must be temporarily cancelled**. Priests will continue to celebrate private Mass daily for the intentions of parishioners and for those suffering from Covid-19.

Our church will remain **open for private prayer** as follows:

- **Monday to Saturday from 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.**
- **Sunday from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be by appointment only starting November 23rd at this email address: confession@stmichaelscathedral.com. Please be assured that for your privacy, this mailbox will be monitored only by a parish priest. **Weddings, funerals, and baptisms will now be restricted to 10 persons, including those who are involved in ministry.** First Holy Communions and Confirmations are postponed at this time.

While I recognize it is not a substitute for attending Mass in person, I encourage you to view online/livestream/televised Masses. A full list is available at www.archtoronto.org.

Our parish office will be open only on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., by appointment only.

We thank you for your continued financial support of our parish during this difficult time, especially through your use of offertory envelopes and/or Pre-Authorized Giving.

We recognize these measures are extremely challenging. So many of the faithful rely on the reception of the sacraments and our churches to find solace, peace and support during this period of pandemic. Despite these new restrictions, we will make every effort to continue our outreach to you. We also ask that you find opportunities to assist those who are vulnerable or alone among us.

We will continue to update you as the situation evolves. **Please visit the parish website at www.stmichaelscathedral.com for the latest updates.** We pray that you and your loved ones remain safe and healthy. May God continue to bless you now and always!

In Christ,



Rev. Edward J. Curtis

REFLECTING ON THE MEANING OF STEWARDSHIP IN TODAY'S READINGS

As stewards, we must imitate the example of John the Baptist and help prepare the way for others to encounter Christ. People can most readily encounter Christ through His church which is why we must play our part in making our parishes as hospitable and welcoming as possible. This Advent and Christmas season, as we may begin to see new faces in the parish, let us welcome them with loving hearts and smiles.

HUMANITARIAN RELIEF – PHILIPPINES RELIEF EFFORT

Most recently, Typhoon Vamco (known locally as Ulysses) struck the Philippines on **Wednesday, November 11, 2020**, killing 67 people and displacing about 325,000 others from their homes. This was just 10 days after Super Typhoon Goni (known locally as Rolly), one of the strongest typhoons ever recorded, damaged almost 25,000 homes in the Philippines.

The Archdiocese of Toronto has partnered with Development and Peace – Caritas Canada to help the people of the Philippines. Caritas is working to provide essential emergency needs for 9,750 people affected by the typhoons in provinces of Catanduanes and Albay, Philippines. At this time, we ask the faithful to [please donate to the Philippines relief effort](#), if they are able:

- Online through the Archdiocese of Toronto website (click on the "[Donate Now](#)" button at the top of the page): www.archtoronto.org

LIVESTREAMING

For those who are unable to attend morning Mass in person, please join us from home for the livestream from **Monday – Saturday** at **7:30AM** and on **Sunday** at **10AM**.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S SEMINARY LAY FORMATION PROGRAM – ADVENT RETREAT: IMITATION OF CHRIST

Saturday, December 12, 2020

9:30 am

Online Event

A VIRTUAL EVENT HOSTED BY ST. AUGUSTINE'S SEMINARY

Advent is a time to prepare for the coming of Jesus. We remember His first coming and we prepare for His second coming. There is, however, the time in between where we are called to be Christ-like, preparing to receive Him in our hearts. This retreat will provide time for reflection on how to be like Christ in our day-to-day lives. Presented by Dr. Josephine Lombardi.

COST: \$25

CONTACT: St. Augustine's Seminary of Toronto

PHONE: 416-261-7207

EMAIL: lay.formation@staugustines.on.ca

WEBSITE: www.staugustines.on.ca

GIFT STORE

While the Cathedral Gift Store remains closed due to COVID-19, you are still able to make purchases! If you would like to purchase any items that you see on display, please take a photo of the item, and attach the picture to an email addressed to:
cathedral@stmichaelscathedral.com.