

Sponsor a Christmas Poinsettia

Parishioners are invited to sponsor poinsettias for our Christmas decorations. You may make your donations by using the **"Christmas Flower"** envelope found in your offertory box, or with the envelopes available in the foyer of the church.

Please place your envelopes in the weekend offertory collection. Thank You!

Children's Christmas Eve Choir

Children in Grade 3 and up are invited to participate in a Christmas Choir to sing at the **5:00pm Christmas Eve Mass.**



SISTERS OF LIFE

Practices Times are as follows: Saturday, Dec. 14th & Saturday Dec. 21st from 6pm to 6:45pm, and Tuesday. Dec. 24th at 4:15pm. Those interested are asked to meet Zabrina Villasanta in the church.

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<u>Advent - Season of Anticipation and Hope</u> <u>Wednesday, December 4th from 7:00pm to 9:30pm</u> <u>St. Benedict Catholic Church</u>

Join the Western Regional Young Adult Ministry Spiritus Vitae for an evening to deepen your faith alongside a vibrant community of young adults (ages 19-35). Fr. Michael Simoes will give a talk on how to live the season of Advent as Christians. This will be followed by group discussions and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament by the worship band IV24. The night will end with socializing and snacks in the parish hall. Contact: Georgina at gabrego@archtoronto.org Facebook & Instagram: SpiritusVitaeTO

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<u>An Advent Afternoon of Prayer and Festivity</u> <u>Sunday, December 8th ~ 2:00pm-5:00pm</u>

In gratitude for your friendship and ongoing support, the Sisters of Life invite you and your family to join them for **An Advent Afternoon of Prayer and Festivity**. *The program includes:*

 Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for your intentions
Reception with light refreshments and Songs of the Season Location: St. Paul's Basilica, Toronto

R.S.V.P: toronto@sistersoflife.org or 416-463-2722



<u>Comforting Those Who Have Suffered a Loss</u> <u>Sunday, December 8th at 2:00 pm</u> <u>Holy Cross Catholic Funeral Home</u>

Catholic Cemeteries and Funeral Services extends a warm invitation to those in need of special solace as the Christmas season approaches. Join us for an afternoon of fellowship as we welcome Deacon Curtis Boone, who will

share his thoughts and give *"Hope for the Hurting this Holiday Season"*. All are welcome ~ Refreshments will be served! **Contact:** 416-733-8544 or **Email:** info@cc-fs.ca

<u>Theology on Tap ~ Sunday Worship & Sunday Rest</u> <u>Monday, December 9th from 7:00pm to 9:00pm</u> <u>Boston Pizza, Mississauga</u>



All young adults (19-39) are invited to join us for Theology on Tap, an evening of thought-provoking conversation on theological topics, with munchies provided. Come and bring a friend! Contact: Office of Catholic Youth Phone: 416-599-7676 Email: youngadult@ocytoronto.org



Vocations Corner... "They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks."

If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, call Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocations Director at 416-968-0997. Email: vocations@archtoronto.org Web: www.vocationstoronto.ca



Monday: December 2nd

8:00am - †Muriel Sullivan

Tuesday: December 3rd

7:00pm - †Holy Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday: December 4th

8:00am - †Giuseppe Franchesco Bava 7:00pm - †Stephen Holt; For the Grace of Healing ~ Shane Elliott

Thursday: December 5th

8:00am - †Mary Manuelpillai

Friday: December 6th

8:00am - †Maria Ercolani-Fishleigh 7:00pm - †Hermenegildo Da Ponte

Saturday: December 7th

8:30am - †Deceased Members of the Cosentino Family

5:00pm - For the People of Our Parish

Sunday: December 8th

9:00am - †Francis Pegado Fernandes

10:30am - †Giovanni Stefano

12:00pm - In Thanksgiving ~ 6 Years OLA Charismatic Prayer Group

"And everything else will then turn out to be unimportant and inessential except this: father, child, and love."

 \sim St. John Paul II

Eucharistic Adoration





Last Week's Collection: \$5.808.10

Thank You For Your Generosity

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of a new liturgical year for the Church. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. It is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this

season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. Key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Matthew will be the primary Gospel proclaimed (Lectionary Cycle A). In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus speak about the need for wakefulness, for watchful waiting, for the coming of the Son of Man.

The passage from Matthew we read today is rather straightforward. No one knows the precise time of the coming of the Lord in glory, so watchful waiting and vigilance are required. The passage speaks to the uselessness of looking for signs; there will be none. As a thief sneaks in during the night, so will the Lord's coming in glory be.

The question for us as members of the Christian community, then, is how do we prepare for this? Today's passage speaks more about the manner of waiting, rather than the details of the preparation. Jesus compares the vigilance required of Christians to the vigilance of a homeowner who knows the plans of the thief. If one knows that the thief's action is imminent, one remains watchful. As Christians, we know that our Lord is coming even if we cannot know the precise timing. Jesus calls us to be watchful and vigilant, like the homeowner. If we become lax in our Christian living, we may be caught unprepared. *(loyolapress.com)*

Questo testo non fa parte di quelli che si scelgono deliberatamente per trovarvi un conforto e risollevarsi il morale. Eppure la Chiesa mette un tale ostacolo all'inizio dell'anno liturgico. Si tratta di abbandonare il trantran, le abitudini, le usanze, di convertirsi e ripartire da zero. Al di là della gioiosa novella del Vangelo che annuncia la venuta redentrice di Dio, si dimentica e si respinge facilmente l'eventualità del giudizio, anche se non la si contesta assolutamente "in teoria". È il pericolo che corrono i discepoli di tutte le epoche. Se non si aspetta ogni giorno la sentenza di Dio, non si tarda a vivere come se non esistesse giudizio. Di fronte ad una tale minaccia, nessuno può prendere come scusa lo stile di vita "degli altri": nessuno può trincerarsi dietro agli altri per sottrarsi al pericolo di essere dimenticato dal Signore.

Salvezza e giudizio sono affini uno all'altro, ci scuotono nel bel mezzo della nostra vita: sia nel momento delle grandi catastrofi (la grande inondazione è qui evocata) sia nel corso del lavoro quotidiano nei campi o in casa. Uno è preso, trova scampo, è salvato; un altro è abbandonato. Ma non essere tratti d'impiccio non dipende chiaramente dal beneplacito degli altri. È l'uomo stesso che ha nelle sue mani la propria salvezza o la propria perdizione. Ecco perché, come spesso nel Vangelo, questo brano si conclude con un appello alla vigilanza.

FOOD DRIVE

OLA Christmas For the Needy

The St. Vincent de Paul Society invites you to remember the poor through your generous gifts of non-perishable food.

Donations can be dropped off in the SVDP Food Bin between now and December 13th.

Most urgent needs include: peanut butter and jam, Kraft Dinner, canned tuna, corned beef, canned peaches or pears, Beefaroni, pasta sauce, cookies and snack bars for school lunches.

Cash donations to the poor box are gratefully appreciated. *No clothing or outdated food.*

Thank you and God bless you!

BUNDLE UP!

For the Society of St. Vincent de Paul



We are collecting your donations of clothing at Our Lady of the Airways Church on: December 14th/15th.

A truck will pick up all the clothing on the said dates only. Please note: **NO baby furniture**.

We will only accept clothing on the given dates.

Please **<u>DO NOT</u>** drop any clothing in the church or near the garage at any time.

For more information visit: www.ssvptoronto.ca *Thank you for your support!*



Are you in grade 5, 6, 7, or 8?

All students in grade 5 - 8 are welcome to our next EDGE Night on Friday, December 6th, from 7pm - 9pm.

EDGE Registration Fee: \$25

September 2019 to June 2020 Session (EDGE t-shirt included with registration)

Registration forms available in the church foyer.

For registration info, please contact 905-677-4615 or email: <u>OLAyouthministry@hotmail.com</u>

Calling all "OLA Teens" in grades 9 - 12!

Are you looking for service hour opportunities? Teens in need of volunteer hours for High School graduation are asked to email <u>OLAyouthministry@hotmail.com</u> to get on the list for **Parish Service Projects** and **Youth Events** which will require volunteers.

Follow us on Instagram: ourladyairwaysyouth

OLA Young Adults

Programs and Events for ages 19 - 39. *Follow us on Twitter:* @Airways_YA