

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 17, 2023



ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

MASS INTENTIONS



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023 (5:00 PM)

Is 61:1-2A,10-11 | Psalm Lk 1:46-50,53-54 | 1Thes 5:16-24 | Jn 1:6-8,19-28

†Stella & Alberto Severin

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023 (9:00 AM)

†Anita Coleman & dec. members of Toncic & Barratto families

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023 (11:00 AM)

For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2023

Jeremiah 23:5-8 | Psalm 72:1-2,12-13,18-19 | Matthew 1:18-25

NO MASS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023 (7:00 PM)

Judges 13:2-7,24-25a | Psalm 24:1-2,3-4ab,5-6 | Luke 1:5-25

†Deceased members of the Wiratunga family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2023 (9:00 AM)

Isaiah 7:10-14 | Psalm 103:1-4,8,10 | Luke 1:26-38

†Carlo D'Ovidio, †Jaimie Tesoro and Special intention of Denise & Cesare Dalle Carbonare

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023 (9:00 AM)

Song of Songs 2:8-14 | Psalm 33:2-3,11-12,20-21 | Luke 1:39-45

For the special intention of Alfonso & Stefanie DeAmaral

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2023 (9:00 AM)

1Samuel 1:24-28 | Psalm 1Samuel 2:1,4-5-7,8abcd | Luke 1:46-56

Special intention of Annamaria Piraino

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2023 (9:00 AM)

Malachi 3:1-4,23-24 | Psalm 25:4-5ab,8-10 and 14 | Luke 1:57-66

†James & Michael Orpen

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wed. & Thurs. 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Friday 9:30 am to 12:00 noon

DAILY DEVOTIONS

(after Mass)

Tuesday – Sts. Anne & Joachim

Wed. – Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Thursday - St. Jude

Friday – Sacred Heart of Jesus

Saturday – St. Michael

Confessions: Sat. 9:30 to 10:30 am

Support Your Parish:

1. Drop off or mail your regular weekly offertory contribution to the parish office.
2. Contribute to your parish offertory by credit card. You can make a one time or recurring contribution to your parish's offertory or other special funds.
3. Contribute through Pre-Authorized giving (PAG). You can obtain a form from the parish office or [click here](#) to download the form.
4. You can contribute to the offertory via on-line banking. Email campaign@archtoronto.org

Youth Minister's Blog: The Waiting Game

First Week of Advent complete! The week began with our (Pre)-Advent retreat on Saturday December 2nd with Dr Josephine Lombardi. I did my best to hype up the retreat and speaker. I am so very grateful that she delivered what we needed. We are two weeks removed from our Advent retreat and I am still processing different things Dr. Josephine had said - I think a lot of us are. It's like the further removed from the retreat I get the more the Lord reveals in my time of prayer! So, I wanted to take my time with the blog while I have it, to share my perspective, thoughts, and a little bit of my heart ❤️

We are in a season of waiting, waiting on the Lord to make his humble and modest arrival into the world. Something I think you should know about me is that I am not the best at waiting :) I know this about myself, the Lord knows this about me too (because He gave me that personality). It works when I need to get things done - I am a goer and a doer but it doesn't work so well when God is asking me to be patient. So how funny is it that my two main takeaways from the retreat that stuck with me were:

1. “God's delays are not God's denial”
2. “God grant me peace in my waiting”

Okay Lord, I'm picking up on a running theme here. Wait and trust, wait and trust, wait on and trust in You. Easier said than done!

Let me dive a little deeper into these thoughts (they go hand and hand):

1. **God's delays are not God's denial.** So often my thought process is “Oh, if it's not happening the way I want it in the time I want it, it's not going to happen” Silly, silly, Sam. The Lord does not operate on my timeline and praise God for that! He knows me better than I know myself, so if I have to wait, I need to remember that it's not necessarily a “no” it's a “not right now” for my own good.
2. **God grant me peace in my waiting.** I need to ask the Lord to grant me the peace to know and understand that my time of waiting is not time wasted. The Lord uses our time of waiting to grow and stretch us so that when our waiting is over, we are prepared to receive, just like the time of Advent. Remembering that God's delays are not God's denial...when I mean prepared to receive I mean prepared to receive what we asked for but that also means preparing to not receive what we asked for but remembering that the Lord is good, merciful and faithful and that He has something far better for you than you could ever imagine.

For me, this waiting game will probably be a lifelong effort but I'm happy to have opportunities to grow in the virtue of patience and ultimately growing in my relationship with God!

Those are my thoughts for this weekend! Don't forget to bring your Baby Jesus' to get blessed this weekend as we get to light the third candle, (and my favourite candle) the rose candle!

Happy waiting season,

Sam!

2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPE BOXES

Offertory Envelope boxes, for the year 2024, are now available. If you have not received your box of envelopes or did not sign up for one, but would like to do so, please see Marilyn Fernandes at the back of the Church before or after any Mass this weekend, call 905-278-2058 or email MFernandes@archtoronto.org

THIS WEEK'S VOTIVE LAMP DEDICATIONS

TABERNACLE

In Loving Memory of Karishma Iyer
In Loving Memory of Karishma Iyer

SACRED HEART OF JESUS

In loving Memory of Eddie Lobo
For all Souls

OUR BLESSED MOTHER

In Loving Memory of Pio Rebello
For all Souls

ST. JOSEPH

Special intention of Joanne Soares

SSVP – You made many people happy!

Last Sunday, about 60 of our Neighbours in Need joined us in the hall for refreshments, and to pick up their Christmas envelopes, as well as some clothing and toy donations which we received. Everyone was in a good mood, and most people left a card for our parishioners, thanking you for your support. These are in a basket at the foot of the SSVP tree at the main entrance of the church - please have a look! (We will be visiting another 20 households, to drop off envelopes to those unable to attend.) Thank you for sharing your blessings!

If you haven't made a donation and would like to, please drop it in one of the poor boxes in an envelope with your name and address on it.

2023 TAX RECEIPTS

Please note that 2023 tax receipts will be issued for all donations received latest by December 31, 2023 (this includes donations received at all the Masses on December 31). Donations received on or after January 1, 2024 (this includes the New Year's Day Masses on January 1), will be receipted at the end of 2024.

SSVP HPLINE : 647-628-2058

Leave your name, number and a brief message and someone will get back to you at the earliest.

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY – WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 16/17

The blessing of the Bambinelli takes place on Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent. The blessing of the Baby Jesus figurines – known as the 'Bambinelli' in Rome – reminds us that the Nativity scene is a school of life where we can learn the secrets of true joy.

All are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figurines from your homes to Mass on Saturday, December 16th at 5pm or Sunday, December 17th at 9am or 11am to be blessed as we celebrate Bambinelli Sunday!

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Connect with us online! Scan the QR code to visit our parish website.
If you are new to the parish, welcome! Register on the website.



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2023

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

5:00 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

9:00 AM

11:00 AM

CHRISTMAS EVE*

5:00 PM

10:00 PM

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS DAY*

9:00 AM

11:00 AM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

**VIGIL OF THE FEAST OF THE
HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH***

5:00 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

**FEAST OF THE
HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH***

9:00 AM

11:00 AM

**VIGIL OF THE SOLEMNITY OF
MARY, MOTHER OF GOD***

5:00 PM

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD*

9:00 AM

11:00 AM

*Please note that these Feast Days and Solemnities are Holy Days of Obligation.

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Christmas, Holy Family, Mary Mother of God