

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 15, 2024



# ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2024 (5:00 PM)



†John Secko

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024 (9:00 AM)

† Alan Sr. & Alan Jr. del Puerto

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024 (11:00 AM)

For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2024

NO MASS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2024 (7:00 PM)

†Rosa & Orlando Russo

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2024 (9:00 AM)

†Paul Griffin, †John MacDonald and Special intentions of Vincent Ghisleni and Nikola Mladenovic

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024 (9:00 AM)

Special intentions of Annamaria Piraino & Robert Walton

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2024 (9:00 AM)

†Anthony Lobo Sr.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2024 (9:00 AM)

†Horace & Shirley Crage and Special intentions of Chanelle Saldanha and Devina & Matt Tamburello

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wed & Thurs - 9:30 am to 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](mailto:campaign@archtoronto.org)

## PASTOR'S BLOG

As we continue to make our journey through Advent, I would first like to thank everyone who has contributed so far in making this journey meaningful. We have been hoping and praying that everyone who has joined us for this journey will experience the season of Advent in a new and transformative way so that we can celebrate Christmas with festal joy and prepare adequately for the day of the Lord.

One of the best ways that we can prepare during this Advent season is to make a good confession. Whether it has been 1 week, 1 month, since Lent, 1 year or longer we would like to invite you and your loved ones to receive God's merciful love in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

If you have not been to confession for some time, I would like you to just meditate on the words of Our Lord: *Do Not Be Afraid*. After meditating on these words, take a look at these FAQ for Confession: <https://www.catholicscomehome.org/your-questions/what-is-the-sacrament-of-confession/>

Now...here is my Advent challenge to those who are reading this blog and know someone in their family or their circle of influence that might be in need of the sacrament (PS: We are all in need of the Sacrament!) and might be hesitant on the Sacrament. First and foremost, pray and fast for them that they might open their heart to the Sacrament. Next, share with them the resource above and watch it with them. As you watch it, listen to them and let them share their hesitations. Try and help them see the need for it in their life and how it will benefit them in bringing peace, love and joy. Finally, accompany them to the Church for their confession.

But what are the confession times? Well, this coming week, many parishes are offering additional confessions to prepare for the Christmas celebrations: <https://www.archtoronto.org/confession>

At St. Mary Star of the Sea, our Day of Confessions is Friday 20 December. We have three blocks of time for confessions: Following the 9am Mass to 12noon. We will have 2 priests hearing confessions at this time, one who is fluent in a few languages (so that is a barrier that we can break down). I will be hearing confessions in the afternoon, 2pm-4pm. And finally, we will have 2 visiting priests in the evening from 6pm-8pm.

This Advent season does not have to be like the past. We can enter into the season and receive the grace that God desires for us to receive to make our journey one filled with hope in the salvation God won for us.

## SSVP

We had a successful distribution to our Neighbors in Need last Sunday. People enjoyed food, gifts and fellowship. A special thanks to Battalgia's, Palma Pasta and Beata Antoninas of Amino Snacks <https://aminosnacks.com> for their generous food donations. Many of the NIN's wrote Christmas cards in which they thank our parishioners for their support (over many years in some cases). While the following message was the text on one of the cards, I think it speaks beautifully of the gratitude of our NIN's:

**You are what Christmas is all about. You care with all your heart, reach out and give with kindness, and touch the lives of those around you with happiness and love. As long as there are people like you, the world is a hopeful place.**

### How to Donate to SSVP

There is a Christmas envelope in your box of envelopes. Or you can use one of the SSVP envelopes found on the poor boxes or a regular envelope marked SSVP.

To donate online through Canada Helps, please visit <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/>, and search for "Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, St. Mary Star of the Sea Conference" or use the QR Code (also found on the poor boxes):



To donate by Interac e-Transfer, please direct your donation to the email [stmarystar@ssvptoronto.ca](mailto:stmarystar@ssvptoronto.ca), and use the Question 'Saint' and password 'Vincent'. Your ongoing generosity means the world to us.

**FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM @STMARYSTAROFTHESEAPARISH**



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**VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE**

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.



## SSVP HELPLINE

**For assistance, please call 647-628-2058**

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

## THIS WEEK'S VOTIVE LAMP DEDICATIONS

### TABERNACLE

In loving memory of Karishma Iyer  
In loving memory of Karishma Iyer

### SACRED HEART OF JESUS

In thanksgiving  
For the souls in purgatory

### OUR BLESSED MOTHER

In loving memory of Anita Coleman  
For the souls in purgatory

### ST. JOSEPH

In thanksgiving

ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA

# CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

*The parish office is closed from December 24th-January 3rd*

## Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24th: 5pm Mass and Midnight Mass

## Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25th: 9am Mass and 11am Mass

*\*Please note: There will be no Mass celebrated Dec 26-28th*

## Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Saturday, December 28th: 5pm Mass

Sunday, December 29th: 9am Mass and 11am Mass

## Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Tuesday, December 31st: 5pm Mass

Wednesday, January 1st: 9am Mass and 11am Mass