

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mass Intentions



for the Week

December 24th to December 29th, 2018

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| Wed. Dec. 26 th | 9am | +Cory Orejana |
| Thurs. Dec. 27 th | 8am | +Mario Leone |
| Fri. Dec. 28 th | 8am | +Neil Cachia |
| Sat. Dec. 29 th | 9am | +Ted & Theresa Britton |
| Wed. Jan 2 nd | 8am | Roy Robinson - sp.int. |
| Thurs. Jan 3 rd | 8am | +Daniel & Miguel Hojos |
| Fri. Jan. 4 th | 8am | +Ann Marie Fitzwater |
| | 7pm | +Joseph Szucs |
| Sat. Jan. 5 th | 9am | +Nicola Morelli, + Antonio & Maria de Melo, +Jose de Melo, +Alvarez de Melo, +Joao & Maria Cabeceiras, +Maria Viveiros, +Maria & Mario DiNallo, Deceased members of the Lombardi & Petricca Families |

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas (Nativity of the Lord)

Monday, Dec. 24th 4pm in the church AND
Lynett Hall,

6pm, 8pm and Midnight in the church

Tuesday, Dec. 25th 8:15am, 10am, 12 noon

Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, Dec. 29th 5pm

Sunday, Dec. 30th 8:15am, 10am, 12 noon, 7pm

The Solemnity of Mary

Monday, Dec. 31st 5pm

Tuesday, Jan. 1st 10am and 12 noon
(no 8:15am or 7pm)

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

As in the past years we will be inviting you in your home to make Christmas decorations for the Christmas tree which will replace the Jesse tree at the front of the church.

We are not looking for a store-bought decoration, there are lots of those at the church.

What can you as a family or an individual come up with? You will be able to put these on the tree beginning this weekend. Decorations are not returned after Christmas. Some will be saved for coming years.

POINSETTIAS OF REMEMBRANCE

It has become our tradition to invite people to bring in poinsettias as a gesture of remembrance for those who will not be with you this Christmas. It may be for a loved one who died this past year or many years ago.

Poinsettias can be dropped off this weekend in Lynett Hall. They will be used to decorate the church just before Christmas.

THERE WILL BE NO BULLETIN ON THE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 29TH/30TH, 2018

NEW ENVELOPES

Envelopes for 2019 are available after mass today near the exits. Thank you to everyone for their faithful support of the parish. Any excess income that we have in 2019 will be used to defray the costs of our renovations.

DONATIONS FOR 2018

CRA (Canada Revenue Agency) reminds all charitable organizations that donations for 2018 should be given in 2018.

We must avoid the idea of letting donations come in during the early part of January and crediting them for the previous year.

This may be more relevant in the parish right now since we are in the capital campaign. For those who are planning to make a generous donation with a view to the tax deduction for this year, we thank you for your support, but ask that the donation arrive no later than Dec. 31, 2018.

MARK THE DATE FOR THE SKATING PARTY



Sunday, January 20th, 2019,
1-4pm at the Aurora Family Leisure
Complex on Industrial Pkwy N.
Following skating at 3pm we have
booked an activity room to serve hot
chocolate and hot dogs.

Skate time and refreshments are free.

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE



When you drive by Our Lady of Grace are you filled with excitement or anxiety? What has been so familiar is not there anymore, but something new is coming. It is kind of like Christmas.

Every Christmas promises something new. As we journey through this life we may come to Christmas and wish to polish off old family traditions. Still and all we recognize that the heart of Christmas is a challenge to look forward, rather than look back.

The Christ child is promise. These lives of ours are showered in the light of the love of Christ, not just now but in every season of the year and in every season of our life.

As we try to recreate that Christmas meal or other traditions from the past to mark the season; as we try to gather people who are growing and changing and maybe even getting older and replicate past Christmases; do not be burdened by the disappointment that we cannot capture something that was there before, for in Christmas we celebrate something that is new.

Let us approach the promise of Christmas with hearts and souls that are eager to live the wonder of the Christmas story for us today. Let us use our imaginations to not just imagine the first Christmas, let us use our imaginations to celebrate this Christmas and the many more to come.

In the coming year as we drive up and down Yonge St. let us watch the transformation of our church. Let us imagine the good things which will unfold here in the many years ahead as we pilgrimage through this life.

In this holy season let us not just remember Christ in the manger, but Christ in the lives of the people of Aurora and the parish of Our Lady of Grace.
A happy and holy Christmas to all.

Father Frank

OUR CHURCH, OUR FUTURE

The name of our parish capital campaign is not accidental. It sums up what we are about as we meet the cost of the extensive renovations. We are pleased that with the second letter that was sent in November we have 25 new pledges, totaling \$57,930.00. We have also received 26 one-time gifts for a total of \$20,331.00.

As pleased as we are and appreciative of this generosity, we will need the support of all parishioners to meet our goals.

The wisdom was that people would respond once they saw the work was being done. Construction is well on its way at this point so we hope this will be a source of inspiration for many households in the parish.

What we do not pay for now we will have to pay for later, so let's all pitch in and see what we can achieve for our church and our future.

ARE YOU READY TO WELCOME?

Christmas is our golden opportunity to welcome neighbours, co-workers and friends that we do not see at mass a lot. Let us come to the mass we attend ready to extend a generous word of welcome to those we meet.

If you carry a resentment because the parking lot is full and the church is crowded, there is a simple solution to your problem, don't come to the first mass on Christmas eve or even the second one. The Christmas morning masses will be busy but not crowded and we will be ready to welcome you with the same Good News which is the whole point of Christmas.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Friday, January 4th we will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 12 noon until 7pm. Our parish intention for this month is peace in our world. Evening mass will be celebrated at 7pm.

OUR LADY OF GRACE PLAYGROUP

We hope to see you all on January 8th when we resume our Tuesday morning playgroup from 9:30 - 11:30 am in Lynett Hall.

Blessings for a Merry Christmas and Joyous New Year!