

# The First Sunday of Advent



**Dec. 4 - Dec. 9, 2017**

Mon. Dec. 4 <sup>th</sup>	8am	+Souls in Purgatory
	1:15pm	Light of Christ CES
Tues. Dec. 5 <sup>th</sup>	8am	+Guiseppe & Maria Giannotti
	10:15am	Holy Spirit CES
Wed. Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup>	8am	+Bert Donkers
	8:40am & 9:40am	St. Maximilian Kolbe CHS
	7pm	St. Jerome CES
Thurs. Dec. 7 <sup>th</sup>	8am	+Teodora Torres
	11am	Chartwell Hollandview Trail
Fri. Dec. 8 <sup>th</sup>	8am	+Members of the Agius Family
	1pm	Our Lady of Grace CES
	7pm	Parish Feast Day Mass
Sat. Dec. 9 <sup>th</sup>	9am	+Malcolm Joseph

## PARISH CONFESSIONS

On Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7pm we will have an evening for parish reconciliation. Six priests will be available that evening for the Sacrament and we encourage as many as possible to make this the time for reconciliation leading up to Christmas.

## JESSE TREE



This week is the beginning of Advent. The Jesse Tree is in the foyer as in past years with many opportunities to help the needy this Christmas.

The Rose of Sharon will need gift cards for its ministry with young women. Good Shepherd Centre will need wool socks and thermal underwear for its work with men on the streets.

We will also be helping Streethaven with gift cards for its work with women on the street.

Just drop by the tree, take one of the proposed tags off and return the gift at your earliest convenience under the tree or in the box for gift cards.

## SHEPHERD'S TRUST

Thank you to everyone who gave support to the Shepherd's Trust collection which realized a total of \$17,041.40 to date.

## OUR CHURCH, OUR FUTURE CAMPAIGN

How are we doing? I think we could say we are doing pretty good. We have pledges of over a half a million dollars. This is a good start to the 3.2 million that needs to be raised.

When the follow up calls were made the responses were overwhelmingly positive. People had a number of questions. They needed to be reassured that they can begin their commitment anytime. It seems many would like to give this a look in the early part of the new year. They can also extend their commitment over a longer period than three years if that works better for them.

Households need to groom their response to what their abilities at this time are. It would be rare the family that can make no response, though it may include some sacrifice, we trust that all share the belief that improvement and renewal of our church is a worthy goal for every household in the parish.

## POINSETTIAS - AURORA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Poinsettias and Tropical Planters \$10 - \$25.  
Place your order after all masses today.  
Pick-up will be on Saturday, December 16th in Lynett Hall from 9am to 12 pm.  
Interactive order forms also available at <http://kofcaurora.ca>

## DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

You will find in your bulletin today the information related to the Development and Peace campaign for this year. D & P is an organization of the Canadian church which speaks for the dispossessed and the poor of the world.

Please read through the material and send in the pledge card, (no postage needed), if so inclined, to express your solidarity with women in war torn parts of the world.

## CLASSROOM VISITS

The source of discussion when the pastoral team visits classrooms in December will be the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5: 1-10). Every class of grade 1 - 8's in the five elementary schools is visited each month.

### CHURCH CLEANING

Christmas cleaning of the church will take place on Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> following the morning rosary. All helpers are welcome and greatly appreciated. Don't forget to bring a bucket!

### HARMONY CHORALE – NEXT SATURDAY!

We invite you to an evening of Traditional and Contemporary Christmas Music here at Our Lady of Grace Church on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Refreshments will be available following the concert.

### THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

The CWL would like to thank everyone who attended, volunteered and/or donated or baked items for our 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Christmas Fair and Silent Auction. We are pleased to report that we raised over \$7,500 which we will be donating to local charities.

**Our annual CWL pot luck and membership renewal is on Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the parish hall. All women of the parish are invited to attend. Please bring a dish to share.**

### "THE NATIVITY STORY"

Calling all angels, shepherds and wisemen. Please join us for our annual children's dramatization of "The Nativity Story" at the 4pm Mass on Christmas Eve. If your child is interested in participating please complete the following three steps:

- 1 -Email Jane Casey at [jane.casey@rogers.com](mailto:jane.casey@rogers.com) and indicate role your child is interested in playing. We will distribute all leading parts before the rehearsal (Mary, Joseph, star, wisemen, Gabriel and Herod).
- 2 -Attend the 45 minute rehearsal on Saturday December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10 am in the Church.
- 3 -Come to the Church Christmas Eve at 3pm ready to perform!

### PARISH FEAST DAY

Please join us for either the 8am or 7pm Mass on Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, **The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**, our Parish Feast Day.

### REMEMBRANCE POINSETTIAS

Christmas is one of the hardest times for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. There are little gestures that help in those situations; visiting a cemetery and prayer are two of them. If you feel strongly the absence of a loved one at Christmas, we invite you to bring in a poinsettia at this time of year. They can be left in the foyer on the weekend of December 16/17<sup>th</sup> or up to the 22<sup>nd</sup>

### CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve: 4pm (in the church and Lynett Hall), 6pm, 8pm and 12 midnight.

Christmas Day: 8:15am, 10am and 12 noon.

### FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

Letters for both sacraments are at the back of the church. First Communion is green and Confirmation is yellow. These letters will explain how to proceed to get your children ready for these sacraments. Children in grade two and seven in our parish schools have received these letters in September.

Speak to one of the pastoral team after mass to get a registration form for either sacrament.

### EDGE & LIFE TEEN

EDGE youth group is for grades 6-8. The next meeting will take place this Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:30–8:00 PM in the parish hall.

**Please pick up a registration form in the foyer of the church. For more information speak to Fr Marijan after Mass, call the office at 905-727-4594, or email, [olgyouthm@gmail.com](mailto:olgyouthm@gmail.com)**



The next Life Teen meeting will be held Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30 PM in the parish hall. **All teens are invited!**