



Our Lady of Grace Parish

Dedicated September 17, 1983

15347 Yonge St., Aurora, Ontario L4G 1N7

website: olgraceau.archtoronto.org

telephone: (905) 727-4594

email: olgraceau@archtoronto.org

PASTORAL TEAM

Fr. John Bertão, Pastor

Fr. Rony Grayda, Associate Pastor

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday: 8:30 am – 4 pm

Weekends & Statutory Holidays: Closed

WELCOME TO OUR HOUSE OF PRAYER.

We are thankful for your visit. Do you plan on returning? Have you considered becoming a member? If so, please take a registration form with you and return it to the parish office. One of our parish staff will contact you, or you may contact us if you wish.

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil: 5 pm;

Sunday: 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon, and 7 pm

Weekday Masses

Monday – Friday: 8 am

(followed by Adoration & Rosary)

Saturday & Holidays: 9 am

First Friday Adoration

Starts at 6 pm with Benediction
at 6:45 pm and Mass at 7 pm

Reconciliation

Saturday: 4 pm – 4:30 pm
or by appointment

Baptism

Families must be registered with envelopes for a minimum of one year and regularly attending Mass. A baptism preparation session is a prerequisite for both parents and godparents. Please contact the office for more information.

Marriage

12 months advanced notice required before a date can be confirmed.

Preparation course is a prerequisite.



*Our Lady of Grace,
pray for us!*

WAYS TO SUPPORT THE PARISH

Pre-authorized giving (PAG) is an easy way of supporting the parish. You decide how much, and we will charge your account the amount you are comfortable with on the 20th of each month. You can change the amount at any time by contacting the parish office. How much?

For example, if you currently give \$12/week, that would be around \$52/month; and if you give \$25/week, that would be around \$108/month.

Kindly consider this convenient way of supporting our parish. The PAG form (blue) may be found near both entrances of the church or by the parish office.

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www.vocationstoronto.ca

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www.catholic-cemeteries.com

PASTORAL REFERENCES

For a pastoral reference, you must be a registered parishioner with envelopes for a minimum of one year, attending Sunday Mass regularly, be in good canonical standing within the Church and participating in the sacramental and pastoral life of the Church community by serving in a parish ministry (e.g. lector, catechist) on an ongoing basis.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS INTENTIONS		
Mon., Dec. 15 th	8am	(SI) Marion Biggers
Tue., Dec. 16 th	8am	+ Danny McFadden
Wed., Dec. 17 th	8am	+ Bernadette & Armand Boissonneault
Thu., Dec. 18 th	8am	+ Iolanda Nardi
Fri., Dec. 19 th	8am	+ Kerry Doyle Brownell
Sat., Dec. 20 th	9am	(SI) Da Silva family, (SI) Dalisay & Jamisola family, + Raffaele Parente, + Fr. John Govan, + Bernice Cote, + John Letassey, + Bellarosa Andrada
	5pm	+ Felix Reton
Sun., Dec. 21 st	8am	+ Felesmina Camacho
	10am	+ Carmine Frijio
	12pm	"Populo" for the intentions of our parish families
	7pm	+ Pilippo Genovese



Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule

Mon., Dec. 22 nd	8am	Advent (Note: Dec. 24 th - only Mass; no Adoration & Rosary)
Tue., Dec. 23 rd	8am	
Wed., Dec. 24 th	8am	
Wed., Dec. 24 th	4pm - Children's Mass, 6pm - Family Mass & 8pm - Mass	*Christmas Eve
Thu., Dec. 25 th	8am, 10am & 12noon	*Christmas Day
Fri., Dec. 26 th	9am	* St. Stephen, the 1 st Martyr
Sat., Dec. 27 th	9am	* St. John, Apostle & Evangelist
Sat., Dec. 27 th	5pm - Vigil Mass	* Holy Family
Sun., Dec. 28 th	8am, 10am, 12noon & 7pm	
Mon., Dec. 29 th	8am	* Octave of Christmas
Tue., Dec. 30 th	8am	
Wed., Dec. 31 st	8am	
Wed., Dec. 31 st	5pm - Vigil Mass	* Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (New Year)
Thu., Jan. 1 st	8am, 10am & 12noon	
* <u>Office Closed</u> : Wed., Dec. 24 th till Thu., Jan. 1 st & the church will be closed after the morning Mass.		

Advent Message from Cardinal Leo
To read, please visit <https://www.archtoronto.org>.

THE MEANING OF THE FOUR ADVENT CANDLES

1st Candle—Hope
We remember God's promises and look forward with faith, just as the prophets longed for the Messiah.

2nd Candle—Peace
We reflect on the peace Christ brings—peace in our hearts, our homes, and the world.

3rd Candle—Joy
The rose candle invites us to rejoice as Christmas draws near, celebrating the joy of the Gospel.

4th Candle—Love
We honor God's perfect love revealed in Jesus and are called to share that love with others.

Together, these candles guide us in welcoming Christ with a ready, hopeful, and loving heart.

Advent Confessions

Advent Confessions will take place on:

Fri., Dec. 19th: 3pm – 5pm

Sat., Dec. 20th: 3pm – 4:45pm



Please see below the link provided on

“How to go to Confession” &
“Examination of Conscience”

[guide-adult-en-2016.pdf \(archtoronto.org\)](#).

Debt Reduction – Dec. 13th/14th

This weekend of Dec. 13th/14th, our 2nd collection will go towards reducing our parish debt. Your generosity helps to support our parish life and community. Thank you for your kindness.



Potted Christmas Flowers

We welcome your gift of potted Christmas flowers to decorate our sanctuary. Please bring them anytime between

Wed., Dec. 17th and Mon., Dec. 22nd.

Kindly place them by the Jesse Tree in the upper narthex, and we will decorate closer to Christmas.

We thank you for your kindness.

St. Vincent de Paul Jesse Tree Program 2025



The Jesse Tree in the upper narthex is filled with tags for families and individuals supported by Rose of Sharon (Newmarket) and

Good Shepherd Ministries (Toronto). By taking a tag and making a donation, you are helping provide warmth, food, and essentials for those who are struggling this Christmas season. Donations can be dropped off after any Mass, in the box by the tree. Let us use this Advent season to answer God's call, and make His love visible in our community.



Why The Society of St. Vincent de Paul at Our Lady of Grace does not sponsor families at the church?

You may be wondering why St. Vincent de Paul asks for financial donations at this time of year over items to be purchased, or families to be sponsored. There are many reasons for this: as Catholics we are called to uphold the dignity of parents and families, recognizing them as the primary providers for their children. By enabling parents to choose and purchase gifts themselves, charities reflect the Catholic values of respect for the individual, the sanctity of family life, and the importance of personal connection. This approach not only meets material needs but also honors the unique bond between parents and their children, fostering a spirit of hope, love, and joy in the true meaning of Christmas.

Reminder! Kindly pick up your 2026 Offertory Envelopes. Thank you for your co-operation.



Coffee Sundays: There are no Coffee Sundays this month of December. Our Coffee Sundays will once again resume in the New Year, starting Jan. 4, 2026.



ShareLife: Doubling the Impact
Your gift will double in value! From now until year end, your contribution to our parish's ShareLife campaign

will be matched by an anonymous donor up to a total of \$500,000. With your loving support, ShareLife-funded agencies are helping the most vulnerable in our community and around the world. Please donate online via the ShareLife website at <https://sharelife.org/donate/> or place a cheque in the ShareLife envelope at the church.



Exodus 90 Men's Group

Exodus 90 is a period of prayer, asceticism, and fraternity that helps free men from modern-day attachments and grow closer to God. The next Exodus 90 begins in early January 2026 and spans the 90 days leading up to Easter Sunday. If you'd like to learn more about Exodus 90 at Our Lady of Grace, please contact Rick Sobiesiak at olgraceau.exodus@gmail.com.

EXODUS 90



Dan Smith Music Collection

Dan Smith, our 8:00 & 10:00am Cantor music leader has the ***Dan Smith Advent Christmas Album.***

18 arrangements of classical Advent and Christmas Hymns.

Come, Divine Messiah;
Come, O Come, Emmanuel; Joy to the World; Silent Night (with children's music video); and more. The popular Catholic school favourite "Take a walk to Christmas" can be found on his 3 Volume ***The Dan Smith Children's Collection.***

His music is available on many formats: YouTube, Spotify, Apple music, and others. Links to Dan's music and information can be found at his website dansmithmusic.ca.





Message for Advent
30 November 2025
His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo
Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am writing to you in anticipation of the upcoming **season of Advent**, a blessed time of waiting, expectation, and preparation for the coming of Christ and for the annual celebration of his Birth. As Pilgrims of Hope our Advent observances recall and solidify our hope in the loving mercy of God and in his abiding presence in our lives and in the life of the Church. We prayerfully recognize that Christ's coming - to Bethlehem, in the Eucharist, and at the end of time in glory - fulfills the deepest human desire for reconciliation (cf. St. Bernard of Clairvaux, *Adventu Domini*, Sermo V). To experience Advent during the Jubilee Holy Year is to allow the mystery of God's mercy to shape our waiting, so that we prepare not just for Christmas day and its beautiful celebrations and festivities, but for the fullness of life that Christ brings both now and at the end of time.

The Advent cry of the prophets - "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down" (*Is* 64:1) - expresses our longing for liberation and peace. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* reminds us: "When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming" (CCC 524). Similarly, our Jubilee observances also call for renewal and restoration, where debts are forgiven, prisoners are freed, and relationships are restored (cf. *Lev* 25:8-17). During this Holy Year, our longing becomes a lived experience, as we engage in spiritual works and works of charity, justice and mercy, symbolizing the passage from sin to grace, from fear to trust, from self-enclosure to communion with God and neighbour.



Each candle on the Advent wreath marks not only the weeks before Christmas but the stages of salvation history, thereby reminding us of the sacredness of time within God's plan. With the passage of time, we are called to cultivate hope, faith, joy in our hearts, to consider anew how we live as we engage in the jubilee practices of sacramental confession, holy communion, pilgrimage, prayer, and assistance to the needy. During this Year of the Lord's favour, our Advent waiting becomes active discipleship where our faith and hope are not just "informative" but "performative" as Pope Benedict XVI wrote a number of years ago (cf. *Spe Salvi*, 2).

Dear friends, as we mark the beginning of the new liturgical year, we cannot help but reflect on the passage of time and indeed on the fullness of time (cf. *Gal* 4:1-8). As we look forward to the fullness of God's promise, I invite you to take this sacred time to (i) rediscover the freshness of the Gospel by dedicating a few minutes each day in prayerfully reading a passage or two of the Word of God; (ii) let us be courageous and let go of any resentment we harbor towards others; (iii) let us be men and women of communion and forgiveness, always ready and active in bringing about unity among us, in our relationships, home and community. In doing so, we will note that our heart is opening more and more and making room for Christ to dwell therein. In this holy season of Advent, the Church waits not only for the birth of the Child Jesus in Bethlehem but for the rebirth of the human heart today - a true jubilee of grace, where hope becomes joy and waiting becomes mission. Wishing you all a blessed Advent season guided and accompanied by the powerful and maternal mediation of Our Lady of Advent.

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