

Our Lady of Grace Parish

Dedicated September 17, 1983

15347 Yonge St. Aurora, Ontario L4G 1N7 905-727-4594

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PASTORAL TEAM

Fr. John Bertão, Pastor

Fr. Rony Grayda, Associate Pastor

ADVENT



THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

MASS INTENTIONS		
Mon., Dec. 29 th	8am	+ Fr. Frank Kelly
Tue., Dec. 30 th	8am	+ Fr. Frank Kelly
Wed., Dec. 31 st	8am	
Thu., Jan. 1 st		*See Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule *
Fri., Jan. 2 nd	9am	
	7pm	+ Elia Antony, + Tony & Olivia De Souza
Sat., Jan. 3 rd	9am	(SI) Da Silva family, + Laura Dionsio, + Shimon Butrus Kunda
	5pm	+ John Bemister
Sun., Jan. 4 th	8am	+ Lorne Wall
	10am	+ Rosalina Vicente
	12pm	"Populo" for the intentions of our parish families
	7pm	+ Maria Leonisa Aguirre Pontillas

Lighting a Candle 'Gift' Cards

Lighting a candle for someone? Please help yourself to a 'gift' card that you can give/send to the individual you lit the candle for. They are located by the candle stands.

Christmas Message from Cardinal Leo

To read, please visit

<https://www.archtoronto.org/en/>.



A note
from the pastor

As another calendar year comes to a close and a new one begins, I invite you to join us this New Year's weekend when, we will pray one decade of the Rosary and complete the Mass with Benediction. This will take place after the 5pm vigil Mass on Wed., Dec 31st.

Please join us as we start the New Year with much needed prayer for world peace.

Happy New Year!

- Fr. John



Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule

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.		

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



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.



First Friday Eucharistic Adoration – Jan. 2nd

Starts at 6pm, followed by Benediction at 6:45pm & Mass at 7pm. Also, every Mon. - Fri., after the 8am Mass, the Rosary will take place during the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 9am.






Coffee Sundays – Jan. 4th
Our Coffee Sundays will
once again resume in the New Year,
starting Jan. 4th.

Debt Reduction – Jan. 17th/18th

The next Parish Debt Reduction Collection will
take place on the weekend of Jan. 17th/18th.
Your generosity helps to support our parish life
and community. Thank you for your kindness.

Upcoming Second Collection Dates:
Feb. 14th/15th - Debt Reduction

CWL Youth Speech Contest – Sun., Jan. 25th

The Catholic Women's League invites
students in Grades 7-8 to grow in faith
and build confidence by entering the
Mary Matthews Public Speaking Contest.
Parish contest date is **Sun., Jan. 25th, 2026 at 2pm.**
The winner will move on to the Regional contest
and hopefully the Diocesan one!

Registration deadline: Tue., Dec. 30th, 2025

For questions or more details on how to apply,
please email Annette Brennan: olgowl@gmail.com.

Vocation Seeds

By Baptism we are God's holy
family today. Pray for the grace to
live faithfully your vocation as a
single, married, ordained, or a
consecrated person. If God is
calling you, contact Fr. Matt
McCarthy, Director of Vocations,
Archdiocese of Toronto, at (416) 968-0997 or
vocations@archtoronto.org. For more
information, go to www.vocationstoronto.ca.



Miraculous Medals, Rosaries & Scapulars

The following items are available at
the parish office for a donation.



\$7 – Large Miraculous Medal
\$5 – Medium Miraculous Medal
\$3 – Small Miraculous Medal



\$7 - Wooden
Rosary



\$5 -
Scapular

Euchre

Do you know how to play the
card game Euchre? Come to the
Parish Large Meeting Room
every Monday from 1pm until 3pm (except for
public holidays). Join us for some fun and
meet new friends. Even if you don't know
the game, we will teach you. All are welcome.



OLG Wednesday Rosary Prayer Group

Every Wednesday afternoon
from 2:30pm to 3:30pm in our
church, Our Lady of Grace.

Come and join us!

Let us offer our heartfelt prayers
and adoration to our Lord Jesus
Christ and Blessed Virgin Mary.



Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

The novena takes place in our church
every Wednesday 7 minutes before
the 8am Mass and is led by
the Mass celebrant.



For details, go to:

www.dailytvmass.com; or
www.youtube.com/dailytvmass; or
www.facebook.com/dailytvmass.

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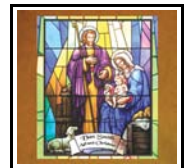
Dan Smith Music Collection

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 Christmas

25 December 2025

His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo
Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto

My dear brothers and sisters,

Praised be Jesus Christ and Merry Christmas to you and to your loved ones.

Each year the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ invites us to delve deeper into the true meaning of the Incarnation, to ponder anew the mystery of God's love, and to renew or even seek new ways to serve our brothers and sisters because of Jesus and his teaching and example. The wonders of the Incarnation - God becoming man in Jesus - were first announced by the Archangel Gabriel nine months earlier at the Annunciation and are now fulfilled in the birth of the Messiah and as St John the Evangelist describes so eloquently, "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (Jn 1:14). Heaven and earth are joined forever giving rise to the *foundation* of our hope because God, who loves us, is now united to humanity forever.

This year, as the Church celebrates a Holy Year, the Jubilee - a year of grace, forgiveness, and renewal - the light of Bethlehem shines with renewed meaning. The birth of Jesus can be seen as the first and perpetual Jubilee. It is God's great proclamation of mercy: where true freedom is realized, forgiveness abounds, and our relationship with God is restored forever. For this reason, Christmas is not only a feast we celebrate but a mystery we are called to enter into and experience. We live in hope because the Bethlehem event - Christ being born among us - is not simply a scene of tenderness but the *pledge of redemption*: God's faithfulness has a name - Jesus. From the manger to the altar, from Bethlehem to our families, parishes and different communities, God's nearness is not a mere memory of a long-ago event, far, far away but a living presence here among us, now. And his presence always sends us forth as disciples and missionaries to proclaim, "God saves", which is the very meaning of the name of Jesus.

As Pilgrims of Hope, we live in this world witnessing to the love and mercy of God, looking forward to the day when we will be with God forever in his eternal Kingdom. As Christians we do not offer the world a new ideology, theory, or philosophy. Rather, we reveal a new reality: that God is with us, and his mercy for us endures forever. With the Incarnation the way we relate to God has changed, we are no longer merely creatures, but his beloved children called to share in his divine life.



The name "Bethlehem" (*beit lehem*) literally "house of bread" offers us a rich theological and spiritual connection of God's life, our life and the holy Eucharist. Indeed, from the beginning, the same love which is the Godhead, now lays in the manger in the flesh and would one day be placed upon the altar at Mass. Truly, the mystery of Christmas finds its continuation in the Eucharist insofar as we understand the Eucharist to be the promise of our future glory (cf. CCC 1402-1405). By this mystery we recall both Christ's first coming in Bethlehem in flesh and anticipate his final return in glory - the "already and not yet" of Christian hope (cf. CCC 1818). As such, each time we celebrate the holy Eucharist, the horizon of hope opens before us. What began in Bethlehem continues on the altar and will be fulfilled in the heavenly banquet in eternity. The Eucharist keeps our eyes fixed not only on where God has come, but where he is leading us.

At every Mass, the same Divine Word that was made flesh in Our Lady's heart and womb way back many years ago, becomes present to us again - but now sacramentally. The same Jesus whom Mother Mary held in her arms is now entrusted to us under the humble signs of bread and wine. The same divine humility that chose the manger to show himself to the world, chooses now and until his return the altar of sacrifice at Mass. The same mercy that came to shepherds and strangers comes to each and every one of us. In the Eucharist, the Incarnation is not just remembered but renewed, made present, and given to all. The God who once drew near to us, walked among us, and taught us, is now given to us to dwell within us in holy communion. The Eucharist is the living sign that God's nearness endures. When we gather around the altar in our parishes and communities for Mass, we are drawn into the same mystery that gathered shepherds around the crib in Bethlehem. We, too, come in our poverty - carrying our fears, our failures, our hunger for meaning, our hopes, dreams and deepest desires - and we find that Christ is waiting for us, because he loves us personally and by name. For St. Francis of Assisi, the stable becomes the sanctuary, the feeding trough becomes the table of life, and the Eucharist is foreshadowed at the Nativity. (Thomas of Celano, *Book 1 Life of St Francis*, 85:469; St Cyril of Alexandria, *Sermon I, Commentary on the Gospel of Luke 2:1-7*).

This Christmas, let us make room again for the Child Jesus who comes with peace. Let our families be havens of love and understanding; our parishes be places of welcome and care; our communities become schools of compassion and outreach; and our hearts tabernacles of transforming mercy. The Word still becomes flesh - in every act of faith, every gesture of love, every Sunday Eucharist - and then sends us forth to serve God by serving one another. May this holy season renew in us the joy of belonging and being loved and the courage to share that love with those the Lord puts on our path. God bless you and your family abundantly and powerfully this Christmas season.

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