

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Advent is 'Waiting'

'Waiting' is a word very familiar to all of us. We have the experience of waiting in our day-to-day events of life. I read in one of the health magazines, if we live to be ninety years old, we will spend four years of our life just waiting. Waiting in line at the grocery store, waiting in the doctor's office, waiting for lunch/dinner to be ready, waiting for recess time at school. Everyone is just waiting.

Advent literally means coming or arrival and practically it is waiting, waiting for the coming of the Saviour of the world. Christmas is coming, Christ is on his way. What can we do to make this time of waiting for Christmas more than just a useless time in the waiting place? We may find the best image of waiting/Advent in Mary in the Gospel. By reflection and prayer, by reading the Scripture and meditation, Mary was waiting in the waiting place. The waiting place of Mary was the presence of God. During the times of doubts, struggles and darkness of her life, she remained faithful in her waiting place-to God and his commandments. And God opened and cleared her ways of her trouble, sending to her womb the Saviour of the world.

Advent is a call and challenge of waiting in our waiting place. Four weeks of Advent/waiting gives us four words to reflect: Faith, Hope, Joy and love. Faith does not come from human ingenuity or craftiness. Hope does not come from material wealth. Joy does not come from comfort. Love does not come from the bottom up. Faith, hope, joy and love come from God who gives us our identity and our mission. Mary knew what she was doing. Joseph knew what he was doing. Their waiting place was in the presence of God, and they responded to the will and Word of God, being and living in the waiting place of God's presence. This is what brings joy/peace to their family- to the world, to us. We turn this waiting place a useful one, to celebrate Christmas in a meaningful way. Have a Blessed Advent!



### Light Up for Christ

Join the Knights of Columbus on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:50pm. At precisely 8:00 pm the lights will be lit in the manger scene and will simultaneously be lit all over Ontario!! Please Join us for refreshments in the parish hall after the lighting.

Everyone is welcome!

### HAPPY NEW YEAR! CALLING ALL SINGERS AND MUSICIANS!

The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent is the Church calendar's New Year's day as it marks the beginning of a new liturgical year. Can you think of a better Church New Year's resolution than to join the music ministry? Neither can we! If you have ever considered joining one of our groups, please contact our coordinator, Esteban Cambre at 416-271-3710 or [ecambre@gmail.com](mailto:ecambre@gmail.com)

St. Martin of Tours is fortunate to have a number of choirs that sing in a variety of musical styles. There is something for everyone. Come join us as we minister through sharing our love of praising through music.

### FEAST DAY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF



THE BLESSED

VIRGIN MARY

*Monday, December 9, 2024 at 7:00pm*

### Parish Advent Confessions

Parish Advent Confessions scheduled for  
Wednesday, December 18, 2024 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm or by  
appointment.

### *JOIN US!!!*

The Prayer Group invites you to join them for  
Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction  
on Wednesday, December 11, 2024  
Praise and worship begin at 7:30pm followed by Exposition /  
Benediction.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## PARISH ACTIVITIES

### *THIS WEEK*

#### Monday, December 2

6:30 pm Altar Server training - Church  
7:00 pm Beginners Line Dancing – Carmel Hall

#### Tuesday, December 3

10:00 am SMSS Confessions - School  
7:00 pm RCIA – Padua Room  
7:00 pm Knights General Meeting – Carmel Hall  
7:50 pm Light up for Christ

#### Wednesday, December 4

9:15 am SMSS GR.9 Retreat – Carmel Hall & Church

#### Thursday, December 5

10:00 am SMSS Advent Mass - School  
7:30 pm Choir Practice – Church

#### Friday, December 6

6:00 pm God's Family Choir Practice – Assisi Room  
7:00 pm Advanced Line Dancing – Carmel Hall  
7:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal – Church

#### Saturday, December 7

8:45 am First Holy Communion Catechism – Church  
1:00 pm Wedding – Church

#### Sunday, December 8

10:30 am RCIA – Padua Room

 **Please Pray For All The Sick** 

Felix Pires, Annie Hurley, Miyanna Figueroa, Mariana Weglinski, Aissa Aro, Julius Rodrigues, and Jorge Vasques  
And we pray for those whose death anniversaries occur about this time that they may live in glory forever with God and all the Saints.

 **Masses For The Week**

**8:30 am** Monday, December 2

**Special Intentions and Birthday Blessings for Shaun Mascarenhas;**

*Requested by the Family*

**For the repose of the soul of Guia Reyes;**

*Requested by Penny & the Reyes Family*

**For the repose of the soul of Lourdes Fernandes;**

*Requested by the Family*

**8:30 am** Tuesday, December 3

**Special Intentions and Blessings for Cynthia & Michael Mascarenhas**

*Requested by the Fernandes Family*

**For the repose of the soul of Maria Serpes;**

*Requested by the Family*

**8:30 am** Wednesday, December 4

**For the repose of the souls of Ed & Anne Soye;**

*Requested by the Soye Family*

**For the repose of the souls of Joseph Portelli, George & Henry Grasso;**

*Requested by Pauline Grasso*

**Special Intentions and Birthday Blessings for Celly Chosa;**

*Requested by Celly Chosa*

**8:30 am** Thursday, December 5

**For the repose of the soul of Yvon Monteiro;**

*Requested by the Thomas Family*

**For the repose of the soul of Margaret McMurray;**

*Requested by Catherine & Dan Kaloutsky*

**8:30 am** Friday, December 6

**Special Intentions and Birthday Blessings for Chris Hortillo;**

*Requested by the Family*

**Special Intentions for Johnny & Nanette Cruz;**

*Requested by the Family*

**For the repose of the soul of Olivia D'Souza;**

*Requested by Luis & Priscilla Gomes*

**9:00 am** Saturday, December 7

**For the repose of the soul of Denis Noronha;**

*Requested by the Mascarenhas Family*

**For the repose of the soul of Catherine Pagan;**

*Requested by the Maureen Morrissey Family*

**For the repose of the souls of John & Ann Murphy;**

*Requested by the Family*

**5:00 pm**

**Special Intentions and Healing for Carmen & Rudy;**

*Requested by Carmen Mendez*

**For the repose of the soul of Fred Weber;**

*Requested by Odyss & Lawina Notario*

**For the repose of the souls of George & Henry Grasso;**

*Requested by Pauline Grasso & the Family*

**8:00 am** Sunday, December 8

**For the repose of the souls of Robert & Oleria Fernandez;**

*Requested by the Fernandez Family*

**For the repose of the soul of Crescencia Sylianco;**

*Requested by the Notario Family*

**Special Intentions and Blessings for Leo Marucot;**

**10:00 am**

**For the Intentions of the Parishioners.**

**12:00 pm - Multiple Intentions**

+ Yolanda & Twistleton Bertrand

+ Carlos Amaral & José Francisco

+ Czeslaw Sierocinski

**Changes to Mass Intentions 2025**

As we prepare our 2025 calendar for mass intentions, please note that only the intentions, whether for the repose of the soul(deceased) or special intention(living) will be read from the altar, we will no longer announce who is offering the mass. There are no changes to the mass intentions in the bulletin. 2025 Calendar is now available.

**St. Joseph's Missals**

The 2024-2025 missals are now available in the Parish office.

**Sacrament Preparation Updates**

A reminder to parents and students who are registered and preparing to receive the sacraments in 2025 our next meeting is:

**Confirmation** – Saturday, December 14, 2024. Please check in at 8:45 am.

**First Holy Communion** – Saturday, December 7, 2024. Please check in at 8:45 am.

**Rite of Enrolment**

A reminder to parents of students who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2024 please check the schedule for the Rite of Enrolment dates for your schools. You must attend ONE of the Masses on the calendar and submit the ROE Form with the Sponsors Confirmation Certificate.

**St. David of Wales, St. Bernadette and Private and Public Schools is scheduled for December 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Gifts of Flowers**

At this time of preparation, we offer parishioners the opportunity to donate funds towards our Christmas Altar Flowers. Please use envelope in the donation box or pick one up on the table in front of the parish office. Thank you for your contribution to prepare our altar for this beautiful season.



**Thank you to everyone who generously donated to Last week's offering. Weekly Total: \$5,513.70**