

# St. Gregory's Parish

since 1957



**122 Rathburn Road, Toronto, ON M9B 2K6**

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**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday – 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon & 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

#### Pastor

Rev. João (John) M. Bertão

#### Secretary

Kelly Fernandes

#### Sacristan

Torie Pisani

#### School

St. Gregory's Elementary Catholic School

(416) 393-5262

Fax (416) 393-5189

#### Weekend Masses

**Saturday:** 5:00 p.m. (confessions 4:00pm-4:45pm)

**Sunday:** 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

#### Weekday Masses

**Tuesday:** (confessions 6:00.p.m.-7:15.p.m.) 7:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, Thursday, Friday:** 8:30 a.m.

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Tuesdays:** 6:00 - 7:15 p.m.

**Saturdays:** 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. or upon request

#### Sacraments

**Baptisms** - Please call for appointment

**Marriage** - Couples planning to be married must contact the parish one year in advance. A marriage preparation course is mandatory.

**Pastoral Letters of Reference** - Candidate must contact the Pastor one year in advance before a character reference can be issued.

#### Planning to be a Catholic Teacher?

It is critical for you to know that to be hired to teach in any Catholic school board in Ontario, as part of your application for employment there must be a letter of reference from your pastor. If you (or if your adult child) is planning to apply to teach in a Catholic School, it is highly recommended you contact the pastor one year before letter is written. Please plan to have a conversation with your pastor early in the process and you will avoid disappointment and stress at the time when applications are to be submitted.

#### Other Catholic Organizations

##### - Catholic Pastoral Centre

website – [archtoronto.org](http://archtoronto.org)

##### - Office of Vocations (Serra House)

website – [vocationstoronto.ca](http://vocationstoronto.ca)

##### - Catholic Cemeteries

website – [catholic-cemeteries.com](http://catholic-cemeteries.com)

##### -The Vatican

website - [vatican.theholysees.com](http://vatican.theholysees.com)

# Second Sunday of Advent

## *Mass Readings & Intentions*

**Sun, December 7** Is 40.1-5,9-11 ~ 2 Pt 3.8-14 ~ Mk 1.1-8

**9:00a.m.** Shirley Hansenbergar *deceased*

**11:00am** For our parishioners and their families

**Monday, Dec. 8** Gn 3.9-15, 20 ~ Eph 1.3-6,11-12 ~ Lk 1.26-38

*Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

**Tuesday, December 9** Is 40.1-11 ~ Mt 18.12-14

*Saint Juan Diego Cuauhlatotzin*

**7:30 pm** Fred Stanton, Josie Bonfield *deceased*

**Wednesday, December 10** Is 40.25-31 ~ Mt 11.28-30

**8:30 am** Ethel Englehutt *deceased*

**Thursday, December 11** Is 41.13-20 ~ Mt 11.11-15

*Saint Damasus I*

**8:30 am** Rosa DeVita *deceased*

**Friday, December 12** Zec 2.10-13 ~ Lk 1.39-47

*Our Lady of Guadalupe*

**8:30 am** Josephine Pisani *deceased*

**Saturday, December 13** Sir 48.1-4, 9-11 ~ Mt 17.10-13

*Saint Lucy*

**5:00pm** Gabriel, Isabel & Tony D'Souza and  
Fred Stanton *deceased*

**Sun, Dec. 14** Is 61.1-2a, 10-11 ~ 1 Thess 5.16-24~Jn 1.6-8,19-28

**9:00a.m.** Elsa Olay *deceased*

**11:00am** For our parishioners and their families

### **In your prayers please pray for the sick:**

Margaret Hart, Elaine Cappadocia, Jack & Pat Brennan, Peter Jackson, Carol Israel, Tadeusz Uranowski, Marie Dankiew, Fr. Liguory Noronha and Gino Sisera.

**And for the repose of the souls of those who have died especially:**

Dr. Renzo Carbone

## Advent

### **SYMBOLISM**

To attain this object the Church has arranged the Liturgy for this season. In the official prayer, the Breviary, she calls upon her ministers, in the Invitatory for Matins, to adore "the Lord the King that is to come", "the Lord already near", "Him Whose glory will be seen on the morrow". As Lessons for the first Nocturn she prescribes chapters from the prophet Isaias, who speaks in scathing terms of the ingratitude of the house of Israel, the chosen children who had forsaken and forgotten their Father; who tells of the Man of Sorrows stricken for the sins of His people; who describes accurately the passion and death of the coming Saviour and His final glory; who announces the gathering of the Gentiles to the Holy Hill. In the second Nocturn the Lessons on three Sundays are taken from the eighth homily of Pope St. Leo (440-461) on fasting and almsdeeds as a preparation for the advent of the Lord, and on one Sunday (the second) from St. Jerome's commentary on Isaias 11:1, which text he interprets of the Blessed Virgin Mary as "the rod out of the root of Jesse". In the hymns of the season we find praise for the coming of Christ, the Creator of the universe, as Redeemer, combined with prayer to the coming judge of the world to protect us from the enemy.

Similar ideas are expressed in the antiphons for the Magnificat on the last seven days before the Vigil of the Nativity. In them, the Church calls on the Divine Wisdom to teach us the way of prudence; on the Key of David to free us from bondage; on the Rising Sun to illuminate us sitting in darkness and the shadow of death, etc. In the Masses the intention of the Church is shown in the choice of the Epistles and Gospels. In the Epistle she exhorts the faithful that, since the Redeemer is nearer, they should cast aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; should walk honestly, as in the day, and put on the Lord Jesus Christ; she shows that the nations are called to praise the name of the Lord; she asks them to rejoice in the nearness of the Lord, so that the price of God, which surpasses all understanding, may keep their hearts and minds in Christ Jesus; she admonishes them not to pass judgment, for the Lord, when He comes, will manifest the secrets hidden in hearts. In the Gospels the Church speaks of the Lord coming in glory; of Him in, and through, Whom the prophecies are being fulfilled; of the Eternal walking in the midst of the Jews; of the voice in the desert, "Prepare ye the way of the Lord". The Church in her Liturgy takes us in spirit back to the time before the incarnation of the Son of God, as though it were really yet to take place. Cardinal Wiseman says:

We are not dryly exhorted to profit by that blessed event, but we are daily made to sigh with the Fathers of old, "Send down the dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain the Just One: let the earth be opened, and bud forth the Redeemer." The Collects on three of the four Sundays of that season begin with the words, "Lord, raise up thy power and come" -- as though we feared our iniquities would prevent His being born.

*More information next week...*

**Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule**  
**2014/2015**



Wednesday	Dec 24 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve	5:00 pm
		7:00 pm
		11:00 pm
Thursday	Dec 25 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Day	9:00 am
		11:00am
Friday	December 26 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 am
Wednesday Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup>	Holy Hour	6:00 pm
	Thanksgiving Mass	7:00 pm
Thursday	January 1 <sup>st</sup>	9:00 am
		11:00 am

**Christmas Flowers for the Church**



Donations of Poinsettias and Christmas flowers would be greatly appreciated.

Mrs. Jane O'Brien will be setting up the crib and decorating the altar and the sanctuary on Monday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thank You.



Family of Faith

**Our campaign is now under way. Please be kind to our volunteers who will be calling you in a few weeks – AFTER you receive a letter from us.**

*Father John*

**TODAY SUNDAY**, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014 @ 3.00 pm

At St. Gregory Church  
the

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Parent and candidate meeting:  
**Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014**  
6:00pm for First Communion  
7:00pm for Confirmation

**DAY OF CONFESSIONS**

**Wednesday, December 10, 2014**  
TIMES

**9:00am – 11:30am**  
**1:00pm - 4:00pm**

**Sunday**  **OFFERING envelopes for 2015**

Are now available at the back of the church. They are in numerical order. In case of need, please refer to the alphabetical list.

**THE GIVING TREE**

On November 28/29 Giving Tree gift cards and envelopes for financial donations were posted in the church. The gifts and financial donations will help those in need in our community.

For parishioners who select a Giving Tree card, wrapped gifts may be delivered to the parish office before December 12th or at any Mass on the weekend of December 13th and 14th. Envelopes for financial donations may be placed in any collection until Christmas. Thank you for your generosity.



"John the Baptist is sent by God to prepare the way for His Son. In our present time God sends priests, religious and deacons to prepare the people to receive His Son. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, **contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto 416-968-0997** email [vocations@vocations.ca](mailto:vocations@vocations.ca) [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)

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