

# St. Pius X Parish

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## PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Massillamani Zacharias (Fr. Mani), **Pastor**

Michelle Somers, **Parish Secretary**

## Epiphany of the Lord



*We have come to Homage Him.*



## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, January 4

5 pm + Gregorio & Teresa Yrastorza

### Sunday, January 5

9 am Parishioners

11 am Parishioners

### Tuesday, January 7

8:30 am Parishioners

### Wednesday, January 8

8:30 am Parishioners

### Thursday, January 9

8:30 am Parishioners

### Friday, January 10

8:30 am Parishioners

### The Epiphany of the Lord

First Reading: Isaiah 60.1-6  
 Psalm: Ps 72.1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13  
 Second Reading: Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6  
 Gospel: Matthew 2.1-12

### Sponsoring the Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary lamp signifies the Real Presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ. It burns for the greater glory of God. Parishioners are invited to become monthly sponsors of the Sanctuary Lamp. Please contact the parish office if you wish to donate. Doing so becomes an opportunity for friends and families to pray at the Tabernacle knowing the Lamp burns for their intentions.

### The Sanctuary Lamp burns in January for the intentions of:

Marilyn Tremblay



### GOSPEL REFLECTION

*For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.*

We know little about the Magi. We hear about their visit only in Matthew's Gospel. They come from the East, most likely from Persia, modern-day Iran, and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to but we assume that there were three based on the naming of their three gifts. The Magi represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because they represent the entire world, they also represent our own search for Jesus.

One of the most significant aspects of this story is that they responded. God called them through the use of a star, and they chose to follow this sign, embarking on a long and arduous journey. God often uses those things most familiar to us that are part of our daily life to send forth His calling. Recall, for example, that many of the Apostles were fishermen, and Jesus used their occupation to call them, making them "fishers of men." He especially used the miraculous catch of fish to indicate to them that they had a new calling.

We have come to consider the gifts brought by the Magi as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation and believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." In our own lives, God is constantly calling us to seek Him out and worship Him. He will often use some of the most ordinary parts of our lives to send forth that calling. How is He calling you? In what way is He sending you a star to follow? Many times, when God speaks, we ignore His voice. We can learn from these Magi and diligently respond when He calls. We must not hesitate and must seek to be attentive every day to the ways that God invites us to deeper trust, surrender, and worship.

Reflect, today, upon God's call in your life. Are you listening? Are you responding? Are you ready and willing to abandon all else in life to serve His holy will? Seek Him, wait on Him, and respond. Doing so will be the best decision you ever make. (Excerpts from: *My Catholic Life*; Loyola Press.)

## **PARISH NEWS**

### **Devotion to Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary**

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish (78 Clifton Rd.) is holding a devotional service on January 8<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

### **The Source Holy Hour**

Join the Sisters of Life and the Office of Catholic Youth for an evening of prayer and music at Peter's Church (840 Bathurst Street) on January 23<sup>rd</sup> from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Refreshments will be served.

### **A Silent Ignatian Retreat for Men: Praying with Suffering**

On Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM to Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM, the Manresa Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre in Pickering is offering a weekend of silent retreat and prayer for men. To register, email [manresaregistration@outlook.com](mailto:manresaregistration@outlook.com), visit <https://manresa-canada.ca>, or call 905-839-2864. The suggested offering of \$260 includes two nights' accommodation with meals, spiritual direction, and the retreat program.

### **Silent Ignatian Retreat for Women - "Dilexit Nos" Jesus Christ Loves Us**

The Manresa Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre in Pickering is offering a weekend retreat for women from Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm to Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 pm. The suggested offering is \$260 per person which includes two nights' accommodation with meals, spiritual direction, and the retreat program. Registration: by email at [manresaregistration@outlook.com](mailto:manresaregistration@outlook.com), or online at <https://manresa-canada.ca>, or call 905-839-2864.

### **Navigating AI with Faith and Wisdom: A Catholic Perspective**

All Saints' Church (1415 Royal York Rd., Etobicoke) invites you to join them for an enlightening and faith-centred discussion on embracing the opportunities and challenges of AI (Artificial Intelligence) responsibly. This

interactive session is designed to equip you and your family with the tools to navigate AI confidently and faithfully while remaining grounded in the principles of our faith. Parents are welcome to bring children aged 13 and older. This event takes place on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 to 11:30 am. Registration is free: <https://bit.ly/JAN25AI>.

### **Friars Student Writing Contest 2025**

**Theme:** "Do you believe this?" (John 11:26).

**Deadline:** January 13, 2025

High school students aged 13 to 19 from the Catholic School Boards in the Archdiocese of Toronto are invited to participate in this annual event, which honours the global Week of Prayer for Christian Unity taking place from January 18 to 25. To learn more and to submit your entry, go to <https://www.catholicregister.org/writingaward>. Email [ecumenical@archtoronto.org](mailto:ecumenical@archtoronto.org) or call 416-934-3400 ext. 527 for more information.

### **Vocations**

"On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." God asks us to give our lives. What treasures have been given to you to share with others in Christ's name? If God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or deacon, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997, or email [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org). For information, go to [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca).



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