

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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## Vocation Seeds

There was a man named John, sent by God, who came as a witness to testify to the Light, so that through this person all people might believe. If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, call Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416 968 0997

**email: [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)**  
**[www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)**

## Christmas and New Year's Mass Schedule

Saturday December 23 - 5pm Sunday Vigil Mass  
Sunday December 24 - 6am, 9am, 10:30am, 12noon  
Sunday December 24 Vigil Masses for Christmas  
6pm, 8pm, 12Midnight  
Monday December 25- 9am, 10:30am, 12noon

Saturday December 30- 5pm Sunday Vigil Mass  
Sunday December 31 - 9am, 10:30am, 12 noon,  
Vigil Mass at 5:00pm  
Monday January 1 - 9:00am, 10:30am, 12noon

## Extra Confessions in other Parishes

Epiphany of Our Lord - Tuesday December 19 from  
6:30 am to 7:30 am, 9:00am to noon, and 5:00 pm to  
6:45pm; also Wednesday December 20 from 6:30 am to  
7:30 am, 9:00am to noon, and 5:00pm to 6:45pm

## 2024 Donation Envelopes

Please pick up your 2024 Donation Envelopes arranged in numerical order. If you cannot remember your envelope number, one of us in the gift shop can gladly help you.. Please start to use these envelopes in the New Year. New Parishioners who wish to use donation envelopes please register in the gift shop or from our website.

## Birthday of Christ

Every Christmas we celebrate the birthday of Christ. Usually we give gifts or do something special for our loved ones when we celebrate their birthdays. We can give a gift to Christ by making effort to be kind and generous to those around us.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday December 16

5:00 pm In Thanksgiving of Noel D'Souza  
Wedding Blessings for Carlos Lacuna and  
Karin Wu  
+Maria & Rafael Sr. Atizado  
+Inacio Fernandes  
+Adela & Fructoso Arroyo  
+Guilherme & Esther de Souza  
+Richard Glenn Pinnock  
+Luiza Pinto

### Sunday December 17:

9:00 am +Maggie & Manuel Alphonso  
  
10:30 am Deceased Members of Patterson and  
Nugara Families  
  
12:00 pm Pro - Populo

### Monday December 18:

9:00 am +Stan Zupan

### Tuesday December 19:

9:00 am +Anna Lau

### Wednesday December 20:

7:30 pm In Thanksgiving  
Steve, Joseph, Mary  
Alex, Bonnie & Amy Cheng  
Cristino Catindig  
+Yim Chueng Chu  
+Mateo Tanuan

### Thursday December 21:

9:00 am +Asuncion Jara

### Friday December 22:

9:30 am Celebrant's Intention

7:30 pm +Elena De Lemos

### Saturday December 23:

9:00 am Celebrant's Intention

Actions speak louder than words; let your words teach  
and your actions speak. - St. Anthony of Padua

## December 17, 2023

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### **Simbang Gabi Novena of Masses**

We will again have our 6:00 am Novena of Masses. These will begin on Saturday December 16 and continue till Sunday December 24. After each 6am Mass, a breakfast will be provided by the organizers. If you wish to donate to this undertaking, please speak to the organizers **after weekend Masses**. Mass intentions for these 6:00 am Masses will also be accepted by the organizers.

### **Holy Days of Obligation**

Catholics are required to attend Mass on all Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. Attending a Vigil Mass on the previous day fulfills this obligation (such as the regularly scheduled Saturday evening Mass). In Canada there are only two Holy Days of Obligation that do not usually fall on a Sunday; Christmas and New Year's Day. Please note that this Christmas season, December 25 and January 1 fall on a Monday. You must attend one Christmas Mass and one of the preceding Sunday Masses. For New Year's you must attend one New Year's Mass and one of the preceding Sunday Masses. In other words, you must attend two obligation Masses on each of these weekends, from Saturday to the Monday.

### **Friars Student Writing Contest**

High school students, ages 13 to 19, in the Catholic school boards located in the Archdiocese of Toronto are invited to participate in this annual event that commemorates the global week of prayer for Christian unity. Write a 500 word essay that explores the 2024 theme: you shall love the Lord your God ... and your neighbor as yourself ( Luke 10:27). Great prizes await the top three submissions. Students are able to consult the resources at <https://rb.gy/wajo9> to understand the meaning and purpose of the theme and address the focus question found on the poster and submit their entries at <https://www.catholicregister.org/writingaward>. Submissions must be received before January 15.

### **Simbang Gabi Christmas Lantern (Parol) Making**

The Star of Bethlehem is one of the symbols of Christmas. The brilliant star of unusual brightness led the three wise men from far away lands to undertake the arduous journey and follow the star which eventually led them to the infant Savior. To remember this special star, the organizers of the Simbang Gabi Novena of Masses are inviting families to join our third annual Christmas Star Lantern (Parol) Making Contest. Your star will need to be submitted by December 16, by 11am. The wooden sticks used to make the stars are available for pick up after Sunday Masses. Families are encouraged to be creative in decorating their own lanterns. The lanterns will be hung in the Parish Hall and can be brought home on December 24th. Three prizes will be awarded for the best lanterns. The winners will be announced on December 18th.

### **Saint Aidan Book Club**

Next meeting on Tuesday, January 9 at 6:30 pm at St. Aidan's to discuss the book, "Confessions" by Saint Augustine, where he narrates how he came to turn away from his youthful ideals and licentious lifestyle to become one of Christianity's most influential thinkers and saints. Come join the St. Aidan book club. To register, contact Rosario Dizon at 416-731-0484.

### **Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

**Tel: 647 772 1319**      **[www.svdptoronto.org](http://www.svdptoronto.org)**

We learn to help the needy from the love of God. Such concern not only provides the poor with material help but also represents an opportunity for the spiritual growth of the giver. - St John Paul 11

Thank you. Your faithful patronage is greatly appreciated.

### **St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Envelopes**

will be at the back of the church and in the stand-alone poor boxes. Your generosity is greatly appreciated; let us give joy and hope to our neighbours in need during this holy and glorious season.