

St. Thomas Aquinas

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



November 27th, 2022 | First Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 5:00pm English
Sunday 9:00am English
10:30am Italiano
12:00pm English
2:00pm Español
6:00pm English

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday to Saturday 9:00am

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 4:00pm or by Appointment

BAPTISMS - BAUTIZOS

Three months in advance, please call the office.
Llamar a la oficina con **tres meses** de anticipación.

WEDDINGS - BODAS

Please contact the office **one year** in advance. Llamar a la oficina con **un año** de anticipación.

CATECHISM & RCIA

For the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, First Communion & Confirmation), please contact the office and press **ext. 0**

SICK CALLS

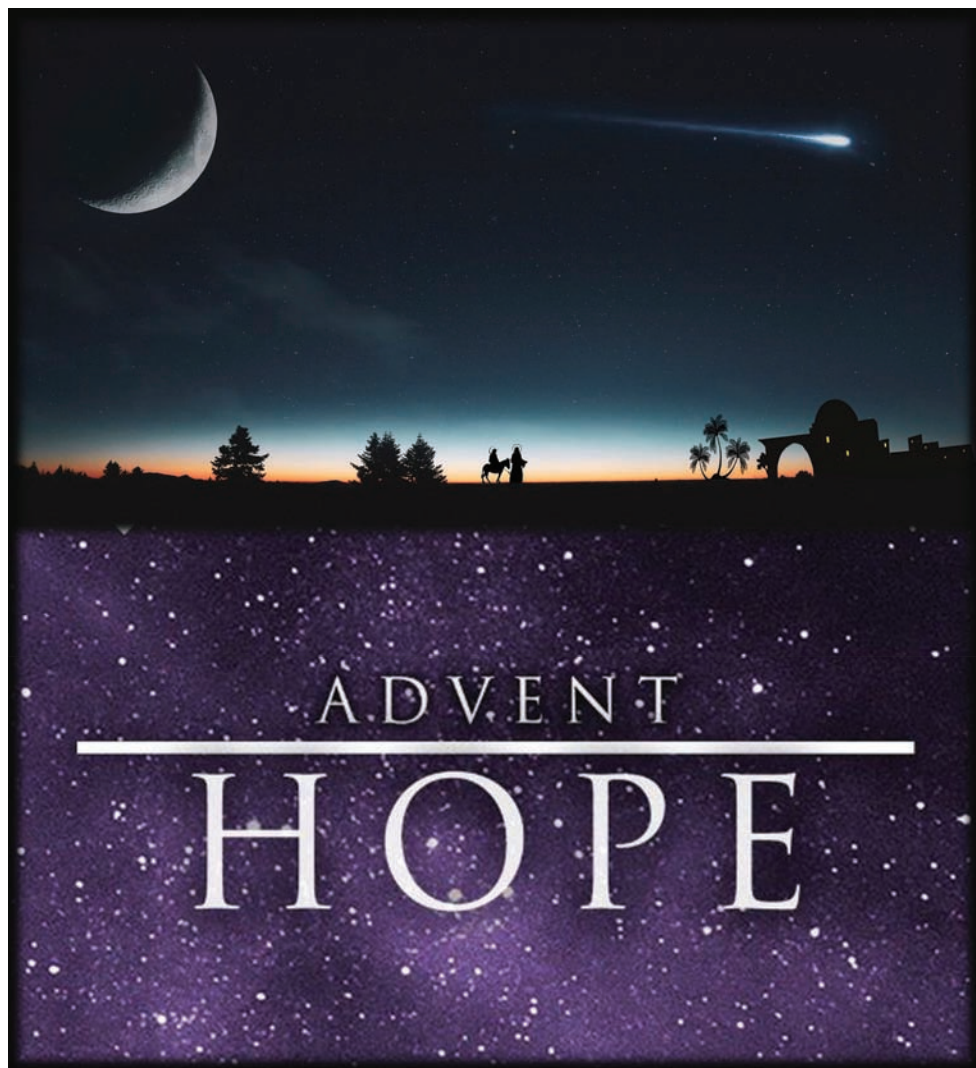
Please call the office for visits or Communion visitations to the sick.

DEVOTIONS / DEVOCIONES

- **Holy Rosary:** Wednesdays & Saturdays at 8:30am
- **Eucharistic Adoration:** Fridays from 9:30 am to 11am.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday from 9:30am to 3:00pm. The office is closed from 12:00noon to 12:30pm



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

St. Thomas Aquinas | 636 Glenholme Ave. Toronto | 416-393-5236
D'Arcy McGee | 20 Bansley Ave. Toronto | 416-393-5318

CATHOLIC FUNERAL HOMES

Bernardo Funeral Home | 416-789-7661
Vescio Funeral Home | 416-656-3332

PASTOR Fr. Patrick Ezimora C.C.E.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR Fr. Peter Paul C.C.E.

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

From the Pastor's Desk

Advent comes from the Latin "Adventus" ("an arrival", or simply "arrival"), a time of hopeful expectation of the arrival (or *Second Coming*) of our Lord. During our first Bible Study session last Wednesday, we learnt that there were tones of Old Testament prophecies concerning the birth, ministry, suffering, death and burial of the Messiah-King, the Son of David. We also saw how the pre-figurations were fulfilled in the person of Christ, the only begotten Son of God and Son of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the promised new Eve. In the same vein, the readings of this first Sunday of Advent encourage us to always stay awake because our Lord is coming at a moment we least expect. Speaking of which, I remember reading in the sacristy of the Basilica of St. Mary Major while in Rome that, priests should celebrate every Mass as if it were 'the first, the only and the last Mass'. Wow.. I think that is what St. Paul means when he admonishes us to "live honorably as in the day". May this Advent season keep us ready for Christ's imminent glorious coming. Happy Advent week!

Adult Confirmations

Adults who have been Baptized, received First Reconciliation and Communion, and have yet to do their Confirmation are invited to take part in an adult-only Confirmation course. It will be 4 classes, once a month during the months of January, February, March, & April, 2023. Attendees will celebrate their Confirmation in April with the rest of the Confirmation candidates.

2000 Hail Mary Prayer Resumes

Great News! 2000 Hail Mary Prayer Resumes in our parish every **1st Saturday of the month**, beginning this December. You are most welcome to join us!

Our **2022/2023 Sunday Missals** are available behind the Church following each Mass. **The simple cover English Missal costs \$5.00**, while the **hard cover illustrated Spanish Missal costs \$10.00**.

"Parishioners are invited to Adopt-A-Family this Christmas season by donating Christmas gifts, clothing, food, etc. If you would be interested in assisting a family during this Christmas, please contact the parish office for more information."

Blessed Sacrament's Candle and Flowers



By the kind generosity of an anonymous donour. Thank you and God bless you.
Grazie. Gracias. Salamat po. Asante.

Labyrinth Walk & Festival of Lights at Niagara Falls

Join us for a new road trip on **Saturday Dec. 3rd, 2022**
Departing at 10:30am. Cost: \$70.00 per person
For more information please contact:
Edith at 416-420-5185

There are two major feasts of Our Lady coming up early December: The Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8) and Our Lady of Guadalupe (Dec. 12). We will have 7pm Masses on both days. We encourage parishioners to prepare themselves well through Confession and Novenas.



MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

Nov 26th to Dec 3rd 2022

SATURDAY, Nov 26th

5:00pm *For all Souls of Purgatory*

SUNDAY, Nov 27th

9:00am *For all Souls of Purgatory*

10:30am *For all Souls of Purgatory*

12:00pm *For all Souls of Purgatory*

6:00pm *For all Souls of Purgatory*

MONDAY, Nov 28th

9:00am *For all Souls of Purgatory*

TUESDAY, Nov 29th

9:00am *For all Souls of Purgatory*

WEDNESDAY, Nov 30th

9:00am *For all Souls of Purgatory*

THURSDAY, Dec 01st

9:00am *Eliza Ramirez + 1 año de muerte*

FRIDAY, Dec 02nd

9:00am *Memory of Charles R. Brooks + loving father & grandfather*

SATURDAY, Dec 03rd

9:00am *Maria Barbuscio +
Vincenzo & Giuseppina Tuzi +
Tala Nicholson +*

We are accepting Mass Intentions through the office during the week starting Dec 01st

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

Christmas/New Year Schedule 2022-2023



Mass Times

Saturday Dec 24th, 2022

9:00am- English

CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00pm- English
8:30pm- Trilingual

Sunday Dec 25th

CHRISTMAS DAY

9:00am- English
10:30am- Italian
12:00pm- English
2:00pm- Spanish
6:00pm- English

Saturday Dec. 31st

9:00am- English

NEW YEAR'S EVE

5:00pm- English
8:30pm- Trilingual
10:00pm- Adoration till
Midnight

Sunday Jan 1st, 2023

NEW YEAR DAY

9:00am- English
10:30am- Italian
12:00pm- English
2:00pm- Spanish
6:00pm- English

2022 Parish End-of-Year Events

Feast of The Immaculate Conception

Thursday, Dec 08 @ 7 pm

Parish Xmas Concert

Saturday, Dec 10 @ 6:30pm in the Church

Children's Xmas Party

Sunday, Dec 11 @ 3:30 in the hall

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Monday, Dec 12 @ 7pm

Parish Advent Confession

Tuesday, Dec 13, 6pm to 8pm
in the Church

CHRISTMAS 4 OUR NEEDY FRIENDS

Saturday, Dec 17, 10am to 12noon
at the parish parking lot

Soup Kitchen for All Parishioners of STA

Sunday, Dec 18, after each Mass
in the hall

Parish Xmas Party with Karaoke

Friday, Dec 23 @ 8pm in the hall

Adoration, Te Deum & Hot Drinks

Saturday, 31 Dec from 10pm to 2023

Simbang Gabi / Christmas Novena Mass & Sharing

Sunday, Dec 04, is the last day for submitting your Simbang Gabi / Christmas Novena Sponsor forms

Thursday, Dec. 15th @ 7pm, sponsored by Social Committee & Italian Community

Friday, Dec. 16th @ 7pm sponsored by Altar Servers

Saturday, Dec. 17th @ 5pm sponsored by 5pm & 9am choir, & Legion of Mary

Sunday, Dec. 18th @ 6pm sponsored by 6pm Choir, Choir Ushers, Handmaids, etc.

Monday, Dec. 19th @ 7pm sponsored by Calbayog Association

Tuesday, Dec. 20th @ 7pm sponsored by some Spanish Community and CWL

Wednesday, Dec. 21st @ 7pm sponsored by 12pm Choir and MFC

Thursday, Dec. 22nd @ 7pm sponsored by some Zestful Line Dance Members, some Lectors, etc.

Friday, Dec. 23rd @ 7pm sponsored by Circle of Prayer and 12noon Ushers



ALL ABOUT FAITH

Our Lady of Guadalupe (Dec 12 - Feast)



The humble Aztec Juan Diego moved to the home of his Christian uncle, Juan Bernardino, on the outskirts of Mexico City after his wife's passing in 1529. On Saturday, December 9, 1531, Juan Diego arose very early to walk to Mass, as he walked by the base of a hill called Tepeyac, Juan heard the gentle singing of many birds. He looked up. On the top of the hill was a radiant white cloud encircling a beautiful young woman.

The gentle, bird-like singing ceased, and the mysterious young woman spoke directly to him: "Juanito, Juan Dieguito!...I am the perfect and always Virgin Mary, Mother of the True God." The Virgin Mary told Juan, "...go now to the bishop in Mexico City and tell him that I am sending you to make known to him the great desire that I have to see a church dedicated to me built here." There followed meetings with the good but incredulous Bishop Zumárraga, more brief apparitions, and more drama until matters culminated on Tuesday, December 12, 1531. Juan was waiting patiently in the Bishop's parlour for hours. The Bishop's aids wished he would just go away. But Juan carried a secret gift for the Bishop in his coarse poncho. It was stuffed full of fragrant Castilian roses. Juan had gathered them from Tepeyac despite the cold December weather. Mary had told Juan to present the roses to the Bishop as a sign. After a long wait, Juan was finally brought into the presence of His Excellency. He recounted his conversations with Mary and then proudly unfurled his poncho. The fresh and dewy roses fell gracefully to the floor. Everyone in the room fell to their knees in wonder. Juan was the last to see it. A gentle image of the Virgin Mary was impressed on Juan's poncho. It was a miracle! The Bishop immediately took possession of the poncho and placed it in his private chapel. Events now moved quickly. The miraculous image was put in the Cathedral.

-My Catholic Life

Daily Advent Reflections

This Advent Season you are invited to take part in an online Daily Devotional Reflection with St. Gregory's Parish Catechists, Julia & Adam Kozak. Each day a new insightful and uplifting reflection will be posted to help our growth in faith through this Advent Season. This Season you are invited on a journey to delve deeper into the theme of "Christmas Presence."

To receive the link for the daily reflections on your email, please email Julia at:

ABCdailyReflections@gmail.com

God bless you.



First Sunday of Advent November 27, 2022

"They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks."

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.

E-mail: vocations@archtoronto.org

www.vocationstoronto.ca



First Sunday of Advent

"Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap."

-Luke 21:34-35

3 Minute Retreat

[English](#)

[Español](#)

LIVING YOUR FAITH

The Days of Advent Introduction Brother Francis



The Days of Advent - Celebrating the Coming of Our Lord. Join Brother Francis in this special episode that helps children observe the days of Advent in a way

[Children's Video](#)

A Theology of Working Out

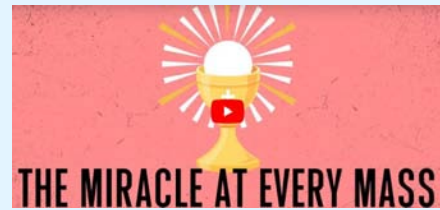


Let's talk about exercise!

Today, Fr. Mike challenges us to re-evaluate the way we treat and view our bodies as well as to compare the difference between doing a workout and training whether for a race, competition or towards a goal and that same approach to growing in the spiritual life.

[Watch Video Here](#)

The Miracle at Every Mass With Chris Stefanick



With the great Feast of Corpus Christi coming up, now is a great time for all of us to reflect on what is REALLY happening at Mass. Because listen—the way we usually talk about it, we have the whole thing backward. We think we're receiving Jesus. But actually, it's Jesus himself, Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, who is receiving us.

[Watch Video](#)

Pope: Jews and Christians Can Pave the Way for Peace



Pope addresses a delegation of the World Jewish Congress (WJC), saying the shared religious heritage of Jews and Christians should be an incentive to act together for fraternity and peace in a broken world.

[Read More](#)

[Léa Más](#)

[leggi di più](#)

**Many a man curses the rain that falls upon his head,
And knows not that it brings abundance to drive away the hunger.**

St. Basil

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