

# St. Thomas Aquinas

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 | Third 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

How do you feel when you see beautiful Christmas lights flashing from the trees or house corners? It gives me a sense of lively joy. This third Sunday of Advent is called "Gaudete" ("Rejoice"). Amid our tensed expectation of the Lord's return, the Church encourages us to rejoice in our hope. Isaiah's prophecy (Isaiah 35.1-6a,10) uses words such as "rejoice and blossom ... with joy and singing. Be strong, do not fear. Here is your God". In the Gospel reading (Matthew 11.2-11), Jesus gently reprimands John the Baptist for his doubt. He encourages you and I to trust in God's promise, and to have patience when things do not go exactly as we would like them to. May the power of God's word cheer you up and strengthen your heart as you continue to keep watch for our Savior's glorious return.

Happy Gaudete Sunday!

There is a major feast coming up, Our Lady of Guadalupe (Dec. 12). We will have a 7pm Mass. We encourage parishioners to prepare themselves well through Confession and Novenas.

### Our Parish Office E-mail Has Changed!

Please use [stthomasaquinasto@archtoronto.org](mailto:stthomasaquinasto@archtoronto.org) for any inquiries or to reach out to the Parish Office.

## 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.

## Flower Donation for Christmas and New Year

We need some beautiful poinsettias flowers with which to adorn our parish sanctuary and Nativity scene during this holy season.

Thank you for your generous assistance!

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**.

## 2023 Donation Envelopes

Please start collecting your 2023 donation envelopes. They can be picked up from the Sacristy, behind the altar. Boxes **will not** have your name; rather, on the first three envelopes you use, **print your full name, mailing address and phone number clearly** and you will be assigned the number on the box.

**Please only use them starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

## Blessed Sacrament's Candle and Flowers

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



## MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

Dec 10<sup>th</sup> to Dec 17<sup>th</sup> 2022

### SATURDAY, Dec 10<sup>th</sup>

**9:00pm** (Available for Mass Intention Request)

**5:00pm** For the Birthday of Francisco P. Tan Jr.

### SUNDAY, Dec 11<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** (Available for Mass Intention Request)

**10:30am** Pietro & Maria Totera, Pasquale, Teresa & Mario Nudo

**12:00pm** (Available for Mass Intention Request)

**2:00pm** (Available for Mass Intention Request)

**6:00pm** (Available for Mass Intention Request)

### MONDAY, Dec 12<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** Peter Anderson + Vincent Tuong +  
Guadalupe Estonina +

### TUESDAY, Dec 13<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** Frank Perri + Vincent Nguyen + Maria Dinh +

### WEDNESDAY, Dec 14<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** Vincent Nguyen + Maria Dinh +

### THURSDAY, Dec 15<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** Vincent Nguyen + Maria Dinh +

### FRIDAY, Dec 16<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** Vincent Nguyen + Maria Dinh +

### SATURDAY, Dec 17<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** Birthday Blessings upon Rev. Priest Patrick Ezimora CCE, all priests living & deceased, All Souls in Purgatory

**5:00pm** (Available for Mass Intention Request)

We are accepting Mass Intentions though the office during the week

# St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

## Christmas/New Year Schedule 2022-2023



### Mass Times

#### Saturday Dec 24<sup>th</sup>

9:00am- English

#### CHRISTMAS EVE

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

#### Sunday Dec 25<sup>th</sup>

#### CHRISTMAS DAY

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

#### Saturday Dec 31<sup>st</sup>

9:00am- English

#### NEW YEAR'S EVE

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

#### Sunday Jan 1<sup>st</sup>

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 8 @ 7pm

#### Parish Xmas Concert

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

#### Children's Xmas Party

Sunday, Dec 11 @ 3:30pm in the hall

#### Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Monday, Dec 12 @ 7pm

#### Parish Advent Confession

Tuesday, Dec 13, 6 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, Dec 31 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. 15 @ 7pm, sponsored by  
Social Committee & Italian Community

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

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

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

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

Tuesday, Dec. 20 @ 7pm sponsored by  
Some of the Spanish Community & CWL

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

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

Friday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 7pm sponsored by  
Circle of Prayer & 12noon Ushers



# ALL ABOUT FAITH



## Our Lady of Loreto (Dec 10)

Our Lady of Loreto is the title of the blackened Virgin found in the Holy House. By the 1600s, a beautiful “Litany of Loreto” enumerating Mary’s biblically rich and theologically evocative titles became a popular Catholic devotion. In October 2019, Pope Francis went on pilgrimage to Loreto and announced that December 10 would henceforward be

the Optional Memorial of Our Lady of Loreto on the Church’s universal calendar. The formal decree instituting the change states that the new feast “will help all people, especially families, youth and religious to imitate the virtues of the perfect disciple of the Gospel, the Virgin Mother, who, in conceiving the head of the church also accepted us as her own.”

The unwrapped gift of the Virgin Mary conceived the Lord amid her domestic concerns in the privacy of her family home in an insignificant hamlet. God did not spare Mary the demands He imposes on every human soul. The Christian God complicated Mary’s life just as He complicates every life. God is not an electric blanket or a pacifier. In satisfying His demands, we find ourselves; in imposing demands on ourselves, we find fulfillment. The dysfunctions of modernity are often the results of fools’ errands, of the search for deep meaning in hobbies, activities, clubs, sports, and occupations that, though worthy in themselves, are simply incapable of satisfying the most secret longings of the human soul. It is common to ask a pregnant woman, “What are you expecting?” Mary in the silence of her holy house was expecting the Savior, but she kept this immense secret locked inside the chamber of her heart. Perhaps Mary might ask us, with mirth, when we hopefully see her crowned in heaven, surrounded by a constellation of saints, “What were you expecting?”

-My Catholic Life

## Pope to Preside at Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe



Pope Francis is scheduled to preside at Holy Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica on the feast of the Blessed Virgin of Guadalupe on 12 December.

[Read More](#)

[Léa Más](#)



## Third Sunday of Advent December 11, 2022

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.” Are you one to be sent?

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



## Letting Go of Fear

“And coming to her (Mary), he said, ‘Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you’”

-Luke 1:28

## 3 Minute Retreat

[English](#)

[Español](#)

# LIVING YOUR FAITH

## Brother Francis Advent Day 15



Join Brother Francis in this special episode that helps children observe the days of Advent in a way that will be meaningful and fun!

[Children's Video](#)

## Behold: Advent with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT



“As we place ourselves in the position of Jesus in St. Joseph’s arms, we can learn the greatest experience of fatherhood. We learn from St. Joseph what it means to be unconditionally loved. It is an invitation to be little and childlike. When we take the risk of being vulnerable, like a child, we get a taste of divine love and we experience a father’s tenderness for his son.”

[Watch Video](#)

## Commitment is Getting Cancelled



You’ve probably heard the phrase “cancel culture”—the phenomenon where public figures get “cancelled” for something they say or do in an effort to silence them. Well, today, Fr. Mike proposes the existence of a new and rising cancel culture—a culture where we cancel everything.

[Watch Video Here](#)

## What forgiveness is Not



While true forgiveness is a process and a decision, there are many things forgiveness is not. We’ll learn how to keep your boundaries while forgiving someone who isn’t sorry.

[Watch Video Here](#)

**I believe though I do not comprehend,  
and I hold by faith what I cannot grasp with the mind**

*St. Bernard*

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