

# *St. Thomas Aquinas*

## ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

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**PASTOR** Fr. Patrick Ezimora C.C.E.  
**ASSOCIATE PASTOR** Fr. Peter Paul C.C.E.



## The Nativity of the Lord

# THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear parishioners of STA parish,

### MERRY CHRISTMAS!

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of human race. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it" (John 1.1-5). "And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a Father's only-begotten Son, full of grace and truth" (John 1.14)

The best and greatest news of all history and time: God became a human being, so that human beings may become children of God, calling God "our Father"!

On behalf of Fr. Peter and the entire STA parish staff, I wish you MERRY, JOY—FILLED CHRISTMAS!

### BUON NATALE!

"In principio era il Verbo, e il Verbo era presso Dio, e il Verbo era Dio. Egli era in principio con Dio. Per mezzo di lui sono state fatte tutte le cose e senza di lui non si è fatta nessuna cosa. Ciò che è nato in lui era la vita, e la vita era la luce del genere umano. La luce splende nelle tenebre e le tenebre non l'hanno vinta" (Gv 1,1-5). "E il Verbo si è fatto carne e ha vissuto in mezzo a noi, e noi abbiamo visto la sua gloria, la gloria come di un Figlio unigenito del Padre, pieno di grazia e di verità" (Giovanni 1.14).

La notizia più bella e più grande di tutta la storia e di tutti i tempi: Dio si è fatto uomo, perché gli esseri umani possano diventare figli di Dio, chiamando Dio "Padre nostro"!

A nome di P. Peter e di tutto lo staff della parrocchia STA, vi auguro un BUON NATALE PIENO DI GIOIA!

### ¡FELIZ NAVIDAD!

"En el principio era el Verbo, y el Verbo estaba con Dios, y el Verbo era Dios. Él estaba en el principio con Dios. Todo se hizo por medio de él, y sin él no se hizo nada. Lo que ha llegado a ser en él era la vida, y la vida era la luz de la raza humana. La luz brilla en las tinieblas y las tinieblas no la vencieron" (Jn 1,1-5). "Y el Verbo se hizo carne y habitó entre nosotros, y hemos visto su gloria, gloria como del unigénito del Padre, lleno de gracia y de verdad" (Juan 1,14).

La mejor y más grande noticia de toda la historia y de todos los tiempos: Dios se ha hecho hombre para que los hombres sean hijos de Dios y llamen a Dios "Padre nuestro".

En nombre del P. Peter y de todo el personal de la parroquia STA, les deseo ¡Una NAVIDAD FELIZ Y LLENA DE ALEGRÍA!

### Parish Office Christmas Schedule 2022-2023

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday Dec 26<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and Monday Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

### 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.*



## MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

Dec 24<sup>th</sup> to Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 2022

### SATURDAY, Dec 24<sup>th</sup>

- 9:00pm Parish Thanksgiving Mass
- 5:00pm Matichione Arminia Vincenzo & Erminia Sontina

### SUNDAY, Dec 25<sup>th</sup>

- 9:00am Parish Thanksgiving Mass
- 10:30am Parish Thanksgiving Mass
- 12:00pm Parish Thanksgiving Mass
- 2:00pm Parish Thanksgiving Mass
- 6:00pm Parish Thanksgiving Mass

### MONDAY, Dec 26<sup>th</sup>

- 9:00am Thanksgiving to the Blessed Trinity, Holy Family and for the healing of Nicola

### TUESDAY, Dec 27<sup>th</sup>

- 9:00am Thanksgiving to St. Nicholas of Bari, Blessed Carlo Acutis, St. Expedito and all Saints

### WEDNESDAY, Dec 28<sup>th</sup>

- 9:00am Elisa, Domenico, Giuseppina & Caterina

### THURSDAY, Dec 29<sup>th</sup>

- 9:00am (Available for Mass Intention)

### FRIDAY, Dec 30<sup>th</sup>

- 9:00am Shery Lyn Sta. Ana +

### SATURDAY, Dec 31<sup>st</sup>

- 9:00am (Available for Mass Intention)
- 5:00pm Luchin & Chiara Felice +

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



## Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

The first form of communion between persons is that born of the love of a man and a woman who decide to enter a stable union in order to build together a new family... The natural family, as an intimate communion of life and love, based on marriage between a man and a woman, constitutes "the primary place of 'humanization' for the person and society," and a "cradle of life and love"... Indeed, in a healthy family life we experience some of the fundamental elements of peace: justice and love between brothers and sisters, the role of authority expressed by parents, loving concern for the members who are weaker because of youth, sickness or old age, mutual help in the necessities of life, readiness to accept others and, if necessary, to forgive them. For this reason, the family is the first and indispensable teacher of peace... Where can young people gradually learn to savor the genuine "taste" of peace better than in the original "nest" which nature prepares for them?... This point merits special reflection: everything that serves to weaken the family based on the marriage of a man and a woman, everything that directly or indirectly stands in the way of its openness to the responsible acceptance of a new life, everything that obstructs its right to be primarily responsible for the education of its children, constitutes an objective obstacle on the road to peace.

*Holy Family of Nazareth, be a model of tranquility and harmony for all families. Give powerful graces to husbands and wives, children and siblings, to overcome differences so they can build a common life with your own as a model.*

-My Catholic Life

## Canadian church to Reflect in Pope's "Pilgrimage of Penance"



In their annual message for the Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops offers a reflection on Pope Francis' Apostolic Journey to Canada in July and on the path toward reconciliation

[Read More](#)

## Christmas - The Birth of the Lord December 25, 2022



We celebrate the birth of our Lord into our world; however, many have not received the birth of our Lord into their hearts.

**If Christ lives in your heart and you would like to help others discover the Lord, you may be called 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)



## Seeing God's Face

"I am the God of your father," he continued, "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob." Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

-Exodus 3:6

## 3 Minute Retreat

[English](#)

[Español](#)



# LIVING YOUR FAITH

## The Christmas Story



[Children's Video](#)

## Christmas Highlights Jesus' Personal Love for You



Why did Jesus come into this world? Have you ever thought that **He came into this world for you, in a personal way**, that He had you in His mind?

We don't always remember that Jesus didn't simply come into this world for all of us in a general way, but more importantly, **He was born in a stable for each one of us in a personal way**. He knew about us **and chose to suffer so that we might have life**.

[Quick Read](#)

## Give God Your Best Yes (Like Mary Did)



"God will never ask you to do more than Mary did." And what did Mary do? She said "yes". Today, Fr. Mike wants us to meditate on how we can learn to say "yes" to God from the ultimate example of what a "yes" looks like: Mary, our mother.

[Watch Video](#)

## 9 Things Every Catholic Should Know About Novenas



In this episode of the Catholic Talk Show, the guys discuss the ancient Catholic practice of Novenas, or 9-day devotional prayers.

[Watch Video Here](#)

**"We desire to be able to welcome Jesus at Christmas-time, not in a cold manger of our heart, but in a heart full of love and humility, in a heart so pure, so immaculate, so warm with love for one another."**

*St. Teresa of Calcutta*

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