

St. Thomas Aquinas

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



December 10th, 2023 | Second Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY MASSES

ENGLISH: Saturday—5:00 pm | Sunday—9:00am | 12:00 pm | 6:00 pm
ITALIAN: Sunday—10:30 am
ESPAÑOL: Sunday—2:00 pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday to Saturday 9:00am | First Fridays - 7:00 pm

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 4:00pm or by appt

BAPTISMS—BAUTIZOS

Please call the office, **Three months** in advance, .
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.



©Queen of Apostles Church

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

OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Friday
9:30 am - 12:00pm | 12:30 pm - 4:00 pm

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

DEVOTIONS—DEVOCIONES

Holy Rosary: 8:30am on Wednesdays
Eucharistic Adoration: 9:30am - 11am
on Fridays and 7:30 pm on First Fridays

CHURCH HOURS: The church is open
Mondays to Fridays from 8:00 am to
12: 00 pm, Saturdays from 8:00am to 6:00
pm and Sundays 8:00 am to 7:00 pm.
FOOD BANK: Tuesdays at 12:00 pm

December 9th to 16th, 2023 MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, December 9th — St. Juan Diego

9:00 am +Denzil Stephens / Death anniversary of +Rohena Das / +Primito Rueda Salvador/ For the intention of Assunta Perri and all her departed loved ones.
5:00 pm Daru and Della Mora Families/ +Aurelia Guia

SUNDAY, December 10th — Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 am +Joao da Silva/ +Canuta Yucor
10:30 am +Pietro & Maria Totera / +Pasquale & Teresa Nudo/ Morandini family / +Fortunato Petiglio e Gino/ +Loretto Sarragino / + Raffaele De Filippis
12:00 pm +Joseph Vong Nguyen/ +Maria Sen Nguyen/ +Maria Ty Tran/ +Maria Lanh Pham/ +Jean-Baptiste Phuc Tran/ +Joseph Thi Tran/ +Anna Hue Tran
2:00 pm +Ana Orcene/ Por el descanso del alma de Marcial Ruiz Cruz, +Angela Moz & +Cosme Rodas/ por la sanacion de Noemi Rodas
6:00 pm +Ana Maria Alfano/ +Palmino Alfano/ +Joseph, Barbara & +Jana Maingot

MONDAY, December 11th — St. Damasus 1

9:00 am All souls in Purgatory/ +Joseph, Barbara & +Jana Maingot

TUESDAY, December 12th — Our Lady of Guadalupe

9:00 am +Adalberto Gomez/ Birthday blessings upon Yolanda Gomez & Nallely Marque/ +Joseph, Barbara & +Jana Maingot
7:00 pm—In honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe

WEDNESDAY, December 13th — St. Lucy

9:00 am +Frank Perri on his 2nd death anniversary/ Maria Menanno's thanksgiving for the intercession of Santa Lucia/ +Joseph, Barbara & +Jana Maingot/ Thanksgiving for the ordination anniversary of Rev. Fr. Daniel Callam, CSB

THURSDAY, December 14th — St. John of the Cross

9:00 am +Jose Aguiar, +Manuel & Maria Gaspar, +Luis Clotildi-Adriando and all our deceased loved ones/ +Joseph, Barbara & +Jana Maingot/

FRIDAY, December 15th

9:00 am +Maria Elena, +Jose Denis, +Jose Antonio Elias, +Maria Cristina Duran, +Janina, +Ana Piecha & all souls in Purgatory/ +Joseph, Barbara & +Jana Maingot

7:00 pm Mass for the intention of the Social Committee and Knights of Columbus (Novena Sponsors)

SATURDAY, December 16th

9:00 am +Francisca Graciela Gutierrez, +Marina Carlota Moz, Birthday blessings upon Scarleth Guadalupe Conde
5:00 pm Mass for the intention of the Line Dance, 12pm choir & MFC (Novena Sponsors)/ +Giovanni Vincenzo & Giuseppina Tuzi/ +Tala Nicholson/



Follow the latest parish updates: [@stthomasparish](https://www.facebook.com/stthomasparish)

640 Glenholme Avenue, Toronto, ON. M6E 3G9 | Tel: 416-782-8943 | Fax: 416-781-8444
stthomasaquinasto@archtoronto.org www.stthomasaquinas.archtoronto.org

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear parishioners of STA Parish,

On this second Sunday of Advent, we are presented with two central personalities of the New Testament: John the Baptist (who baptized people for conversion) and Jesus Christ (who baptizes for filial adoption). St. Augustine says that John the Baptist was the Voice, but Jesus was the Word. As you and I prepare the way of the Lord, St. Peter instructs us to reflect on "what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness" (2 Peter 3.11)? Pray with me: "Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation" (Psalm 85). Amen. Have a blessed Advent week!

Del escritorio del Pastor

Queridos feligreses de la Parroquia STA

En este segundo domingo de Adviento, se nos presentan dos personalidades centrales del Nuevo Testamento: Juan el Bautista (que bautizaba a la gente para la conversión) y Jesucristo (que bautiza para la adopción filial). San Agustín dice que Juan Bautista era la Voz, pero Jesús era la Palabra. Mientras tú y yo preparamos el camino del Señor, San Pedro nos pide que reflexionemos sobre "qué clase de personas debéis ser para llevar una vida de santidad y piedad" (2 Pedro 3.11). Reza conmigo: "Muéstranos, Señor, tu misericordia y danos tu salvación" (Salmo 85). Amén. Que tengáis una feliz semana de Adviento.

Youth Group: Friday Evenings

Our Youth Group will be taking a Christmas break. We will see you in the New Year!

Grupo de jóvenes: Viernes por la tarde

Nuestro Grupo de Jóvenes se tomará un descanso navideño. ¡Nos vemos en el Año Nuevo!

2023-2024 Sunday Missals (Year B) are available at the parish office. Cost is \$10.

Misal 2024 Ciclo B esta disponible en la oficina parroquial. Cuesta \$10.

ADVENT PARISH CONFESSIONS

Wednesday, December 13th, 2023— 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm.
Thursday, December 20th, 2023— 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

CONFESIONES PARROQUIALES DE ADVIENTO

Miércoles, 13 de diciembre de 2023- 19:00 a 20:30.
Jueves, 20 de diciembre de 2023- 10:00 am a 12:00 pm.

Ushers' Commissioning 16/17th Dec. 2023

Our ministers of hospitality who see to the ordered celebration of our parish liturgies will be officially assigned on the weekend of December 16/17th during all the Masses. Please keep them in your prayers. May the good Lord bless you as you bless us with your unique gifts of time and talent!

Comisión de Ujieres 16/17 Dic. 2023

Nuestros ministros de la hospitalidad que velan por la celebración ordenada de nuestras liturgias parroquiales serán asignados oficialmente el fin de semana del 16/17 de diciembre durante todas las misas. Les rogamos que los tengan presentes en sus oraciones. ¡Que el buen Dios los bendiga mientras nos bendicen con sus dones únicos de tiempo y talento!

Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass and Hispanic Christmas Party

On Tuesday, 12th December at 7pm our parish Hispanic Community will lead the celebration of the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe at 7pm. There will be special songs and dances to Mother Mary, along with prayers of consecration and renewal. At the end of the Mass, the Hispanic Christmas party will take place in the parish main with lots of delicious food and pleasant surprises.

Misa de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe y Fiesta Hispana de Navidad

El martes 12 de diciembre a las 7pm nuestra Comunidad Hispana parroquial dirigirá la celebración de la Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe a las 7pm. Habrá cantos y danzas especiales a la Madre María, junto con oraciones de consagración y renovación. Al final de la misa, la fiesta hispana de Navidad tendrá lugar en el salón principal de la parroquia con mucha comida deliciosa y agradables sorpresas.

Simbang Gabi/Christmas Novena will begin on Friday, 15th December at 7pm in the Church, followed by lots of food in the parish hall. We extend a special appreciation to all our sponsors. May God bless you!

Simbang Gabi/Novena de Navidad comenzará el viernes 15 de diciembre a las 19:00 en la Iglesia, seguida de mucha comida en el salón parroquial. Extendemos un agradecimiento especial a todos nuestros padrinos. ¡Que Dios os bendiga!

2024 Envelopes/Sobres

2024 Envelopes will be available in the upcoming weeks. Stay tuned! We kindly ask that you please use these new envelopes next year. Thank you for your generosity! *Los sobres 2024 estarán disponibles en las próximas semanas. Estén atentos. Les rogamos que utilicen estos nuevos sobres el próximo año. ¡Gracias por su generosidad!*

Thank you for your generosity!

Gracias por su generosidad!

Regular Collection—November 27, 2023

\$6,317.00

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

2023-2024 Christmas/New Year Season & Mass Times



Saturday Vigil & Sunday Dec 24th 2023

4th Sunday of Advent
REGULAR **except**
NO 6PM MASS

CHRISTMAS EVE

7:00pm- Trilingual Mass
of the Nativity of the Lord

Monday Jan 1, 2024

NEW YEAR DAY

(Solemn Mass of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Holy Day of Obligation – Like **Regular** Sunday Mass)
9:00am- English
10:30am- Italian
12:00pm- English
2:00pm- Spanish
6:00pm- English

Monday Dec. 25th CHRISTMAS DAY

(Holy Day of Obligation – Like **Regular** Sunday Mass)
9:00am- English
10:30am- Italian
12:00pm- English
2:00pm- Spanish
6:00pm- English

Saturday Vigil & Sunday Jan. 7th 2024

(Solemn Mass of the Epiphany of the Lord)
9:00am- English
10:30am- Italian
12:00pm- English
2:00pm- Spanish
6:00pm- English

Saturday Vigil & Sunday Dec. 31st
(Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph)

9:00am- English
10:30am- Italian
12:00pm- English
2:00pm- Spanish
NO 6PM MASS

Monday Jan. 8th
(Feast of the Baptism of the Lord)

9:00am – English
7:00pm – Trilingual

Sunday, Dec. 31st - NEW YEAR'S EVE

7:00pm- Trilingual Solemn Mass of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

10:00pm- Rosary, Adoration & New Year toast...

2023 Parish End-of-Year Events

Parish Xmas Concert & Raffle Draw

Saturday, December 9, 2023 @ 6:30pm
in the Church & then in hall

Children's Xmas Party

Sunday, December 10 @ 3:30 in the hall

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Tuesday, December 12 @ 7pm

Parish Advent Confession

- Wednesday, December 13, 2023
7pm to 8:30pm in the Church
- Wednesday, December 20, 2023
10am to 12pm in the Church

Soup Kitchen for All Parishioners of STA

Sunday, December 17, after each Mass
in the hall

Parish Xmas Party with Karaoke

Saturday, December 23 @ 6pm in the
hall

Rosary, Adoration, Te Deum & Hot Drinks

Sunday, 31 December from 10pm to
2024

Simbang Gabi / Christmas Novena Mass & Sharing in Parish Hall

Friday, Dec. 15th @ 7pm, sponsored by
Social Committee & Knights of Columbus

Saturday, Dec. 16th @ 5pm sponsored by
Line Dance, 12pm Choir & MFC

Sunday, Dec. 17th @ 6pm sponsored by
6pm Choir, Legion of Mary & Handmaids

Monday, Dec. 18th @ 7pm sponsored by
Casaroca Group

Tuesday, Dec. 19th @ 7pm sponsored by
5pm & 9am Choirs & Lydia's Suman

Wednesday, Dec. 20th @ 7pm sponsored by
Italian Community & Elim Prayer Group

Thursday, Dec. 21st @ 7pm sponsored by
Spanish Community

Friday, Dec. 22nd @ 7pm sponsored by Altar
Servers, Youth Group & 9am Choir

Saturday, Dec. 23rd @ 5pm sponsored by
Circle of Prayer

ALL ABOUT FAITH

December 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe



Perhaps the greatest sign of the miraculous nature of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe is the spiritual impact that it has had upon the native people of Mexico and throughout the world. The fact that Our Lady appeared as a mixture of native and Spaniards was her way of communicating to the natives that God wanted them to be open to the message of the Gospel from the Spanish missionaries. The bishop who built the chapel, the priests who served there, and

especially the native Juan Diego himself could be trusted, and the message they had to share was heavenly. Miracles followed and conversions took place at a pace previously unseen by missionaries. Our Lady proved herself to be the greatest of evangelizers. Her appearance as a mixture of Spaniard and Indigenous also sent a message to the Spaniards that they needed to treat their new neighbors as family.

Today the Basilica in which the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe is enshrined remains one of the most sacred places of inspiration and pilgrimage in the Americas. She is patroness of the Americas and is especially revered in Mexico. As we honor this sacred apparition of the Mother of God, ponder the ongoing miracle of the 500-year-old tilma of Saint Juan Diego. To this simple and humble man, God sent His mother as a missionary; through him, the Blessed Virgin Mary's message resonates today.

Dearest Mother, Queen of Heaven and Earth, Ever-Virgin and Lady of Guadalupe, your love for the people of Central America led you to appear to a humble Christian and entrust him with a sacred task. His willingness to fulfill your will led to the conversion of countless people who will now spend their eternity with you in Heaven. Please pray for me, and for the Americas, that we will never turn away from your divine Son and will always rely upon your motherly intercession. Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.
—My Catholic Life

ADVENT REFLECTION SERIES 2023



Join the Catholic family of the Archdiocese of Toronto throughout the advent with our daily reflections.

[Watch Here](#)

How Advent fights the nihilism of today's culture



Advent is a season of hope, calling us to reject the modern philosophy of nihilism, which does not see any hope in this world or in the next. There are many beautiful spiritual themes of Advent, and among the greatest is the theme of hope. Advent is centered on hope, as the Jewish people longed and hoped for a Messiah to come and rescue them. That hope was finally fulfilled in the coming of Jesus Christ. Unfortunately, today's modern culture does not look forward in hope, as it too often seeing nothingness as the future.

Pope Benedict XVI commented on this reality in a homily at the start of Advent in 2007:

In writing to the Ephesians, St Paul reminds them that before embracing faith in Christ, they had "no hope and [were] without God in the world" (2: 12). This appears an especially apt description for the paganism of our day: in particular, we might compare it with the contemporary nihilism that corrodes the hope in man's heart, inducing him to think that within and around him nothingness prevails: nothing before birth and nothing after death. In fact, if God is lacking, hope is lacking.

[Read More](#)



3 Minute Retreat

Learning to Trust

John 14:7

If you know me, then you will also know my Father.

[English](#)

[Español](#)

LIVING YOUR FAITH

Catholic Kids Media - John the Baptist 2nd Sunday in Advent



Animated Story

[Children's Video](#)

Preparing Our Hearts for Christmas



Join us for an evening of Christmas festivities, fellowship and fun as we celebrate A Newman Christmas Date Night Event - Preparing Our Hearts for Christmas.

CONTACT: Newman Centre
ADDRESS: 89 St. George Street
PHONE: 416-979-2468

EMAIL: rachelle.ezechiels@newmantoronto.com
TICKETS: \$50 Per Couple - <https://bit.ly/41a8TeM>
POSTER: <https://bit.ly/49YRr0J>
WEB: www.newmantoronto.com

[Register Here](#)

Ask Mary's help to receive Jesus with an immaculate heart



The Virgin Mary is the woman of the “fiat,” the one who said “Yes” to the message of the archangel. She was ready and willing to receive Jesus and is the perfect example for us to follow now and at the end of time. Pope Benedict XVI frequently referenced Mary during his homilies in Advent, appealing to her in prayer:

A hymn of peace rang out in Heaven when God became man and was born of a woman in the fullness of time (cf. Gal 4: 4).

Let us therefore begin this new Advent — a time granted to us by the Lord of time — by reawakening in our hearts the expectation of the God-who-comes and the hope that his Name will be hallowed, that his Kingdom of justice and peace will come, that his will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Let us allow the Virgin Mary, Mother of the God-who-comes and Mother of Hope, to guide us in this waiting.

[Read More](#)

The Best Way to Begin Advent — Rejoice! An Advent Pilgrimage into the Heart of Scripture



Journey into the heart of scripture this Advent with your guide Fr. Mark Toups and his friends Sr. Josephine Garrett and Fr. Josh Johnson—every Sunday of Advent, right here on Sundays with Ascension.

[Watch Video](#)

“O Mother of our Advent, be with us and see to it that he will remain with us in this difficult Advent of the struggles for truth and hope, for justice and peace: He, alone, Emmanuel.” - St. John Paul II

D **DUFFERIN IRON & RAILINGS**
 Custom Wrought Iron Works
 Viktor Okhnovsky
 416-535-1686
www.dufferiniron.com

Zito's
marketplace
 210 Marlee Ave.
 416.789.4755
www.zitosmarketplace.ca

Lady York
 Foods

**FRESH FRUIT,
 VEGETABLES & MEAT**

2939 Dufferin St. 416-781-8585
ladyyorkfoods.com

My Little BUTCHER SHOP
 EST. 99

416-783-1437 1948 Eglinton Ave W

**NEW OWNER.
 SAME GREAT
 STORE.**

GINO'S NOFRILLS
 1951 Eglinton Avenue West, Toronto

@ginosnofrillstoronto

CASTLE
 AUTO COLLISION & MECHANICAL SERVICE
 Over 50 years serving our community
 Lifetime warranty on repairs
 Experienced Technicians
 Competitive Pricing
 Our Quality promise
 416-789-4179 castleautocollision.com

DOCE MINHO
 PASTRY & BAKERY

Tony & Dina Araujo
 2189 Dufferin Street
 416.652.8666

ST. BERNADETTE'S FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE
 "We Can Do As One!"

A Great Place To Learn

Our licensed child care provides stimulating, high quality care to enhance a child's learning and development.

Starting in 2023
50% off
 Toddler, Preschool and Kindergarten Program Fees
 18 months - 6 years

Other Programs Offered
 Before/After Care 6-12 years
 Summer Camp 4-12 years

We Need A Break and School Readiness Program
 LIMITED FREE NURSERY SPACES AVAILABLE
 2.5-4 years

20 Bansley Avenue (D'Arcy McGee School)
 (416) 397-6300 | stbernadettesfrc.org
 Transportation available from St. Thomas Aquinas School to D'Arcy McGee School

THE PERFECT SPOT TO ADVERTISE

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SPACE PLEASE CALL 905-624-4422

Darosa
 Café - Restaurant
 Churrasqueira
 2853 Dufferin at Glencairn
 416-256-4544
www.DarosaRestaurant.com



ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE SCHOOL
 Under the direction of the Basilian Fathers

Grades 7 to 12
 University preparatory

APPLYSMCS.COM

SALES REPRESENTATIVE WANTED

Liturgical Publications, your weekly bulletin printer has an opening for a **full time Sales Representative**.
 Base Salary • Commission • Car Allowance • Travel Expenses
 If you have a drive to succeed and are self-motivated, email your resume to salesrep@parishbulletins.com

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
 FUNERAL SERVICES

In keeping with your Catholic faith
www.catholic-cemeteries.com

Queen of Heaven Cemetery 905-851-5822
 Holy Cross Cemetery & Funeral Home 905-889-7467