

St. Thomas Aquinas

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



December 15th, 2024 | Third 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.



PASTOR Fr. Patrick Ezimora C.C.E.

RESIDENT PRIEST 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 & Saturdays at 12:00 pm

December 15th to 21st, 2024 MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, December 14th

9:00 am Turello family/ +Sandra & Tony Presot/ +Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh/ +Circumcisao De Souza

5:00 pm Parishioners of St. Thomas

SUNDAY, December 15th — Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 am In honour of St. Lucy

10:30 am +Pietro e +Maria Toter, +Pasquale, +Teresa & +Mario Nudo/ +Mario Trevisan/ +Ida Giordano, +Rosario Ferragina & +Giuseppe Carpino

12:00 pm Thanksgiving for Angela & Ransdale Dean

2:00 pm +Alejandra, +Maria Elena, +Jose Denis, & +Jose Antonio Elias

6:00 pm Social Committee & Knights

MONDAY, December 16th

9:00 am +Peter Andersen & +Vincent Tuong/ +Vincent Dinh & +Maria Vu/ +Francisca Gutierrez/ Scarleth Conde

7:00 pm Line Dance Group

TUESDAY, December 17th

9:00 am +Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh/ +Giuse & +Maria Nguyen/ Birthday blessings upon Jacqueline Lopez de Gomez & Rev. Priest Patrick Ezimora, CCE

7:00 pm Hispanic Community

WEDNESDAY, December 18th

9:00 am +Peter Andersen & +Vincent Tuong/ +Maria Agustina & +Roberto Maravilla

7:00 pm Calbayog (Casaroca) Association

THURSDAY, December 19th

9:00 am +Lilia S. Palomo/ +Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh/ +Chung Kum Tuck/ +Miguel Gutierrez

7:00 pm Legion of M, ELIM & Italian Community

FRIDAY, December 20th

9:00 am +Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh/ +Salvatore Adelina, +Carmene D'Ambrosio/ +Gianni Romanyszyn & +Mario Guagiardi

7:00 pm 5pm, 9am choirs and Lydia's Suman

SATURDAY, December 21st — St. Peter Canisius

9:00 am +Vincent Nguyen & +Maria Dinh/ +Ermina Mattachione, +Saverio e +Filomena/ +Guadalupe & +Manuel Conde/ Zofia, Omar Conde / Morandini Family

5:00 pm Altar Servers, Youth & 12pm choir



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

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stthomasaquinasto@archtoronto.org www.stthomasaquinas.archtoronto.org

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Happy Guadete Sunday! In midst of our Advent preparations, the Mother Church invites us to rejoice (gaudete). What are we to rejoice for? The reading, Zephaniah 3.14-18a, has the answer; and Philippians 4.4-7 (the second reading) drives home the same message of joy as well as repeats the reason behind it. Finally, in the Gospel reading (Luke 3.10-18), John the Baptist introduces Jesus Christ as the "One who is more powerful than I". Every baptized Christian has been empowered to live in love and in joy. This Christmas, let nothing come between you and the love of God manifested in the Baby King, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Happy Sunday everyone and have a great start to your week!

Del Escritorio del Párroco

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

¡Feliz Domingo de Guadete! En medio de nuestros preparativos para el Adviento, la Madre Iglesia nos invita a alegrarnos (gaudete). ¿Por qué debemos alegrarnos? La lectura, Sofonías 3.14-18a, tiene la respuesta; y Filipenses 4.4-7 (la segunda lectura) lleva a casa el mismo mensaje de alegría, así como repite la razón detrás de él. Por último, en la lectura evangélica (Lucas 3.10-18), Juan el Bautista presenta a Jesucristo como «Aquel que es más poderoso que yo». Todo cristiano bautizado ha recibido poder para vivir en el amor y la alegría. Esta Navidad, que nada se interponga entre tú y el amor de Dios manifestado en el Niño Rey, Jesucristo nuestro Señor y Salvador. Feliz domingo a todos y buen comienzo de semana.

Thank you for your generosity! Gracias por su generosidad! Grazie per la vostra generosità!

Regular Collection—December 8, 2024

\$5054.10

STA parish warmly welcomes Fr. Ben, the Associate Pastor!



My name is Rev. Fr. Nwamuo Benedict Chibunna CCE. I was ordained priest on the 7th of November 2020 at Ohuru, Abia State in Nigeria. I have had pastoral experiences at Maria Assumpta umuode, St. Peter Claver Parish Umueleghele and St. Paul's parish Abaukwu. All in Aba diocese Nigeria. I am happy to come to Canada to share in the joyous Christian faith with the parishioners of St Thomas Aquinas Parish Toronto. My hobbies are reading and playing soccer while my favorite food is rice and stew.

¡STA parroquia da una calurosa bienvenida al P. Ben, el Pastor Asociado!

Mi nombre es Rev. P. Nwamuo Benedict Chibunna CCE. Fui ordenado sacerdote el 7 de noviembre de 2020 en Ohuru, Estado de Abia en Nigeria. He tenido experiencias pastorales en Maria Assumpta umuode, St. Peter Claver Parish Umueleghele y St. Paul's parish Abaukwu. Todas ellas en la diócesis de Aba, Nigeria. Estoy feliz de venir a Canadá para compartir la alegre fe cristiana con los feligreses de la parroquia de Santo Tomás de Aquino de Toronto. Mis aficiones son leer y jugar al fútbol, mientras que mi comida favorita es el arroz y el estofado.

PARISH HALL RENTAL

The newly renovated parish main hall is now available for rent during the week and on the weekends. Hurry and call the parish office for details! Thank you.

ALQUILER DEL SALÓN PARROQUIAL

El recién renovado salón principal de la parroquia ya está disponible para alquilar durante la semana y los fines de semana. Date prisa y llama a la oficina parroquial para más detalles. Gracias a todos.

FUNDRAISING DINNER & DANCE

Our Parish will have New Year's Eve Dinner Dance on December 31st, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall. Please call the parish office to reserve your tickets. See you there!

CENA Y BAILE PARA RECAUDAR FONDOS

Nuestra Parroquia tendrá Cena Baile de Fin de Año el 31 de Diciembre de 2024 a las 7:00 PM en el Salón Parroquial. Por favor llame a la oficina parroquial para reservar sus boletos. ¡Nos vemos allí!

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

Christmas/New Year Schedule 2024-2025



Mass Times

Tuesday Dec 24th

9:00am Mass

CHRISTMAS EVE

7:00pm- Trilingual Mass

Wednesday Dec. 25th

CHRISTMAS DAY

9:00am- English

10:30am- Italian

12:00pm- English

2:00pm- Spanish

6:00pm- English

Tuesday Dec. 31

9:00am Mass

NEW YEAR'S EVE

5:00pm- Trilingual

6:15pm- Adoration &

Te Deum

Wednesday Jan 1,

2025

NEW YEAR DAY

9:00am- English

10:30am- Italian

12:00pm- English

2:00pm- Spanish

6:00pm- English

2024 Parish End-of-Year Events

Parish Xmas Concert

Saturday, December 7, 2024 @ 6:30pm
in the Church

Immaculate Conception trilingual Mass

Monday, December 9 @ 7:00pm

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe & Reception

Thursday, December 12 @ 7pm

Parish Advent Confession

- Friday, December 13, 2024
6:00pm to 8:30pm in the Church

Soup Kitchen for All Parishioners

Sunday, December 22
After 9am, 10:30am & 12pm Masses
in the hall

Parish Xmas Party with Karaoke

Monday, December 23 @ 8pm in the hall

Adoration followed by Dinner Dance & Fellowship in the Main Hall

Tuesday, 31 December from 6:15pm to
2025

Christmas Novena Mass & Fellowship

Sunday, Dec. 15th @ 6pm, sponsored by
Social Committee & Knights

Monday, Dec. 16th @ 7pm sponsored by
Line Dance Group

Tuesday, Dec. 17th @ 7pm sponsored
by the Hispanic Community

Wednesday, Dec. 18th @ 7pm
sponsored by Calbayog (Casaroca)
Association

Thursday, Dec. 19th @ 7pm sponsored
by Legion of M, ELIM & Italian Comm.

Friday, Dec. 20th @ 7pm sponsored by
5pm, 9am choirs and Lydia's Suman

Saturday, Dec. 21st @ 5pm sponsored
by Altar Servers, Youth & 12pm choir

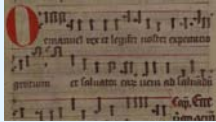
Sunday, Dec. 22nd @ 6pm sponsored by
6pm choir, HOLD & Bisaya Group

Monday, Dec. 23rd @ 7pm sponsored by
Circle of Prayer, Lectors & Ushers



ALL ABOUT FAITH

December 17—23: O Antiphons of Advent



The “O Antiphons” are prayed for 7 days in preparation for Christmas: December 17–23. For those familiar with the Liturgy of the Hours, these are the antiphons used with the Magnificat each day. They are based on Isaiah’s prophecies and reveal the different titles given to the Messiah. Since each antiphon is short, it is helpful to spend time reading it each day, pondering it and praying it meditatively throughout the day as a way to make immediate spiritual preparation for Christmas.

December 17

O Wisdom of our God Most High,
guiding creation with power and love:
come to teach us the path of knowledge!

December 18

O Leader of the House of Israel,
giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai:
come to rescue us with your mighty power!

December 19

O Root of Jesse’s stem,
sign of God’s love for all his people:
come to save us without delay!

December 20

O Key of David,
opening the gates of God’s eternal Kingdom:
come and free the prisoners of darkness!

December 21

O Radiant Dawn,
splendor of eternal light, sun of justice:
come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and
in the shadow of death.

December 22

O King of all nations and keystone of the Church:
come and save man, whom you formed from the
dust!

December 23

O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law:
come to save us, Lord our God!

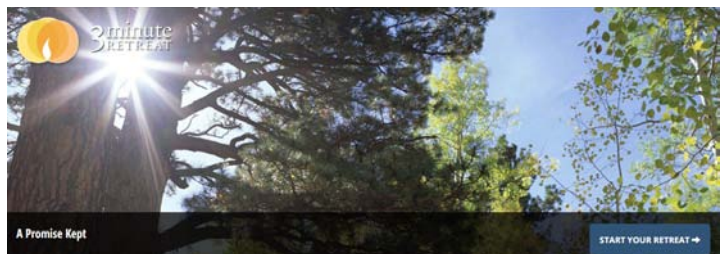
Canada’s new Cardinal: Church’s outreach must ‘start from the human heart’



Twenty-one men are being created Cardinal today, Saturday 7th December, in a Consistory held in St Peter’s Basilica. Among them is Archbishop Frank Leo, of Toronto, Canada – who, at 53 years old, will become one of the youngest members of the College of Cardinals.

Speaking to Vatican News ahead of the Consistory, Cardinal Leo said that he was excited both by the opportunity to “serve the Pope in this new way” and to “meet the other cardinals and grow in camaraderie and fraternity with them”. Asked about some of the biggest challenges facing the Church today, Cardinal Leo listed secularism and political polarisation, as well as what the Pope calls ‘throwaway culture’. The Church’s response to the problems, Cardinal Leo said, must “start from the human heart”, and our relationship with God: we need a “spiritual awakening”, one that inspires us to “bring the newness of life, of God, into the world today.”

[Read More](#)



3 Minute Retreat The Work of the Church

John 14:26

The Advocate, the holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name-he will teach you everything and remind you of all that [I] told you.

[English](#)

[Español](#)

LIVING YOUR FAITH

Rejoice! Advent 3C



Animated Story

[Children's Video](#)

Healthy Communication, Intimacy, Relationship



Friday, January 17, 2025 - Sunday, January 19, 2025
Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre, 1617 Blythe Rd.,
Mississauga

HEALTHY COMMUNICATION, INTIMACY, RELATIONSHIP

Build a joyful marriage by learning the tools of healthy communication. Retrouvaille, a Catholic-origin program, welcomes all couples to help get their relationships back on track. Registration fee \$600

CONTACT: Toronto Retrouvaille
PHONE: 437-234-5610
EMAIL: info@torontoretrouvaille.com

[Register Here](#)

A Messy Advent Can Be a Holy One



It's common for us to walk into these liturgical seasons with hopeful expectations. In years past, I know I've personally clung to my own expectations both of the Advent season and those that I place upon myself. What happens when those expectations are broken? When things aren't as perfect as expected? When unexpected suffering takes place?

Thankfully, the Advent season isn't about how productive we are, or how perfect it looks, or what we do or don't do. It's about welcoming the Infant Jesus into our hearts, and allowing Him to be born anew in us. We have our Blessed Mother Mary and Saint Joseph's example to follow.

[Read More](#)

"Holy" Does Not Mean "Perfect"



Holiness is not something we can achieve on our own—is it a grace we ask of God, and he promises that he will grant it to us. But often, the first step is acknowledging your weaknesses, accepting their existence, and handing them to God in total surrender. Fr. Mike and Sr. Miriam explore that journey in this clip from Fr. Mike's conversation w/ Sr. Miriam about Advent, healing, and forgiveness.

[Watch Video](#)

“Advent is the time we are given to welcome the Lord who comes to encounter us, and also to verify our longing for God, to look forward and prepare ourselves for Christ’s return.”

— Pope Francis

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