

# *St. John Fisher Parish*

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**PASTOR:** Fr. Regulo Imperial

**IN RESIDENCE:** Fr. Rudy Imperial



## *Feast of the Holy Family*



**MASS INTENTIONS  
FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday, December 30<sup>th</sup>**

**9 a.m.** – Special Intentions for Maikel & Iskandara Michriky

**Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**

**9 p.m.** –

**Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**

**10:30 a.m.** – Winston Albert Craig requested by Yolande Craig & Family

**12 p.m.** –

**Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**9 a.m.** – Jas & Hettie D’Souza & Eddie & Vida-Marie Soares requested by Reg & Shirley Digby

**Friday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**9 a.m.** – Souls in Purgatory requested by the Miles Family

**7 p.m.** – Holy Souls in Purgatory requested by Disa Oberg

**Saturday, January 4<sup>th</sup>**

**5:30 p.m.** – Germina Lopez requested by Elizabeth Cherian

**Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>**

**9 a.m.** – Giuseppe Brancatella requested by Vito & Maria Brancatella

**10:30 a.m.** – Rosa Brancatella requested by Vito & Maria Brancatella

**12 p.m.** – Vito & Rosa Manno requested by Vito & Maria Brancatella

**5:30 p.m.** – Vito & Maria requested by Vito & Maria Brancatella

Dear Parishioners:

Today we celebrate the **FEAST OF THE HOLY**



**FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH.** Family must be very important for God. He could have sent His Son out of the blue and showed himself in our midst. God could have sent His Son from heaven riding in on a cloud with angels trumpeting His coming. But no! God wanted His Son to be born as a baby and grow up in a natural way within the confines of a family. The very fact that God put His Son into a family affirms its importance and significance for both society and the church.

Today’s Feast of the Holy Family offers each of us an occasion for recognizing and appreciating the treasure which is family. Many of us become so caught up by material things and numerous tasks to accomplish that we forget to appreciate the treasure of the family. Those of you who are parents should check what kind of blessed experiences you are giving your children. It is not simply enough to feed and clothe your children. We must nurture their minds and hearts and souls. How are your children at the present?

For most of us, our family is the closest thing we have to heaven. A family is the place where children learn right from wrong and begin to develop a moral sense. Family is also the place where values are taught, priorities are set and virtues are cultivated. The family has two beautiful descriptions:

- ❶ It is called *the school of love* – a family is the first and primary place to learn to love.
- ❷ It is called the *domestic Church or mini-church* - where we learn about God.

**HAPPY FAMILY DAY!**

God Bless, *The Pastor*

**TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD AT ST JOHN FISHER PARISH:**



Greetings of Peace and Joy!

The angels said to the shepherds:

*You will find a child wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.*

We may be tempted to think that the

birth of Jesus was as ordinary as the birth of any child; there may have not been an untoward event except for the fact that the child was born and lying in a manger. By the way, who knows what the facts of Jesus’ birth actually were?

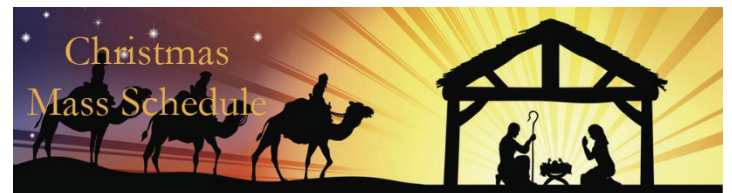
I believe the Gospel writers are not really interested in the facts of the birth but in the significance - the meaning for them of that birth. Just as the people who love us are not really interested in the basic facts of our births, they care about what it meant to them when we were born; how the world around us was changed with the new significance of our birth.

The world was dark, people were groping in darkness, the chosen people were waiting for deliverance from foreign oppression and in the midst of it all was born a child named Jesus. Behold the angels who proclaimed to the whole world: *“I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, who is the Christ, the Lord.”* Here is the significant event – the birth of the child into the darkness of the world made possible not just a new way of understanding life but a new way of living life. All the way down the twenty centuries since that child was born, people started to believe there is the power of God to bring light into our darkness, there is a way to accept suffering and trials in life and the presence of **JOY** becomes the symbol of the presence of Jesus in our life.

The significance of the birth of Jesus in us and in our world this Christmas is enough for people here at St John Fisher to believe that Jesus will never leave us or forsake us.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!**

*Shalom, Fr Regulo Imperial, Pastor*



**New Year’s Eve** – Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

8 pm Exposition & Holy Hour – 9 pm Mass

**New Year’s Day** – Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>

10:30 am – 12 pm - No 5:30 pm Mass



**Rosary Devotion** - Please join us on *Saturday January 4<sup>th</sup>* for our First Saturday Rosary Devotion. See you in the Chapel at **4:30 pm** **BEFORE** the 5:30 pm mass. All are welcome.

**2020 ENVELOPES** are ready for pick-up at the main entrance. They are in alphabetical order. Please take your box only. Please do not use these new envelopes until January 1<sup>st</sup> and complete the outside of the envelope for the first 3 weeks so we can verify the information. If you would like to start using envelopes and don't yet have them, please contact the church office. Thank you.

Please contact the office if you are interested in volunteering for the **PARISH SCREENING COMMITTEE**. A member of the Screening Committee coordinates the interviews and/or documentation required to perform background checks on volunteers wishing to serve our Parish.



By Baptism we are God's holy family today. Pray for the grace to live faithfully your vocation as a single, married, ordained or consecrated person. If God is calling you, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, ArchToronto 416-968-0997 / [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org) / [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)



**CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE MASS WITH CARDINAL COLLINS** on Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup> @ 3 pm St Isaac Jogues Parish (1148 Finch Ave., Pickering) As part of Marriage Sunday 2020 celebrations, Cardinal Thomas Collins will preside at a special Mass to honour couples celebrating milestone anniversaries in 2020. If you (or a couple you know) are celebrating a 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> or 60+ wedding anniversary in 2020, they are invited to join in this special celebration. A reception will follow Mass. The Mass is open to all, but due to space restrictions those wishing to attend are asked to register online or by phone. Milestone anniversary celebrants will be assured of reserved seating. Registration and other important information can be found at: [www.archtoronto.org/marriage](http://www.archtoronto.org/marriage) or by calling (416) 934-3400 x523

**INFORMATION SESSION TO SUPPORT THE TRANSITION OF CHILDREN WITH DIFFERING ABILITIES INTO SCHOOL 2020**  
Hosted by The Special Education and Learning Services Department for families of children with differing abilities who are transitioning into the DPCDSB in September 2020.  
The Catholic Education Centre, 40 Matheson Blvd West, Room 301  
Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> from 7 – 8:30 pm  
Snow date Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup> from 7-8:30 pm  
Families are asked to contact their local school or visit [www.dpcdsb.org](http://www.dpcdsb.org) for additional info and for a list of required registration documents.

It was the Sunday after Christmas and the Pastor was looking at the nativity scene when he noticed the baby Jesus was missing. He was about to call the police when he saw little Harry with a red wagon, and in the wagon was the figure of the little infant, Jesus. Pastor walked up to Harry and asked, *Well, Harry, where did you get the little infant?* Harry replied honestly, *I TOOK HIM FROM THE CHURCH. And why did you take him?* With a sheepish smile, Harry said, *WELL, ABOUT A WEEK BEFORE CHRISTMAS I PRAYED TO LITTLE LORD JESUS. I TOLD HIM IF HE WOULD BRING ME A RED WAGON FOR CHRISTMAS, I WOULD GIVE HIM A RIDE AROUND THE BLOCK IN IT.*



**Families of Grade 2 Students:**

▶ Registration forms for First Communion are now available at the back of the church. Please complete and drop them off at the back of the church or in the Rectory Mailbox. Remember to include a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate.

▶ *Families* of the First Communion Candidates must attend the Sunday Eucharist regularly. Parents should be registered members of St John Fisher Parish. If you are not registered yet, please do so by completing the yellow cards at the main entrance of the church and dropping them off in the Rectory mailbox.

▶ **Mandatory Meeting** for Parents: *Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm* in the Church Hall.

▶ **First Communion Dates:**  
*St John Fisher School: May 9<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 pm*  
*St John Henry Newman School: May 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 5:30 pm*  
*Georges Vanier School: May 24<sup>th</sup> @ 12 pm*

*Please note:* According to the Archdiocese of Toronto, the **Sacraments of First Communion & Confirmation** must take place in the Parish where the family attends weekend masses on a regular basis. Sacraments are NOT a school-based event.

**Confirmation Update:** In order to be Confirmed, Candidates must complete ALL 6 sessions. By not doing so, we presume that the candidate is not fully ready for the reception of the Sacrament. Consider if celebrating this Sacrament in the future is a better option.

**All sessions are on Saturdays from 4-5:15 pm and then the class will attend the 5:30 pm mass together.**

- ▶ January 25<sup>th</sup>: Intro & the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit
- ▶ February 1<sup>st</sup>: Prayer & the Seven Sacraments
- ▶ March 7<sup>th</sup>: Social Justice
- ▶ March 14<sup>th</sup>: Social Justice II
- ▶ March 28<sup>th</sup>: Confirmation Liturgy
- ▶ April 4<sup>th</sup>: Called for Missioning
- ▶ **Confirmation Mass**, celebrated by our Pastor: **Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm**



**Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibit**

*Saturday February 1<sup>st</sup> to Sunday February 9<sup>th</sup> – 9 am to 9 pm*  
This Vatican approved exhibit was designed and created by Venerable Carlo Acutis and features panels that each tell the story of a Eucharistic miracle and allows you to “virtually visit” the places where the miracles took place. The exhibit's purpose is to increase awareness of the Real Presence of our Lord in the Eucharist and promote Eucharistic Adoration.  
*St Maximilian Kolbe Parish, 4260 Cawthra Rd., Mississauga*

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