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St. John Fisher Parish

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PASTOR: Fr. Regulo Imperial IN RESIDENCE: Fr. Rudy Imperial SECRETARY: Agata Wenderski



MAY THE SPIRIT OF GOD LEAD YOU THROUGH THE NEW YEAR

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, January 3rd

9 a.m. – \$Simeon Siasat Quintana requested by Orly Orlandi

Tuesday, January 4th

9 a.m. – In Thanksgiving – the Menezes Family

Wednesday, January 5th

9 a.m. – Praynette Fernandes requested by the Fernandes Family

Thursday, January 6th

9 a.m. – Daniel Cabral Andrade requested by the Andrade Family

Friday, January 7th

9 a.m. – \$\Propuls \text{ Souls in Purgatory requested by the Miles Family}

Saturday, January 8th

5:30 p.m. –

†Maurice Walsh requested by Mary Courneyea

Sunday, January 9th

9 a.m. – &Gerry Comeau requested by Lorraine Comeau & Family

10:30 a.m. – **\$**Mary & Loy Murray requested by Kim

12 p.m. – Special Intention for Ray & Julie reg by the Uy Family

Thank You Offertory:

December 19th: \$ 4,308.80



WAYS TO DONATE TO ST JOHN FISHER CHURCH:

- mail it to our parish office
- 2 drop your envelope in our secured, outdoor mailbox
- Odrop your envelope in the donation box inside the church
- give online through the Archdiocese of Toronto website (Donate Now)

2022 ENVELOPES are ready for pick-up at the main entrance. They are in alphabetical order. Please take your box only. Please begin using these new envelopes now and throw out any envelopes from previous years. Please 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.



Ushers needed at all masses. Please contact the office if you can help and for which mass you are available. Teenagers: you can usher to earn your volunteer hours.

All church volunteers must have received both doses of the Covid-19 vaccine.

"On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother: and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." God asks us to give our lives. What treasures have been given to you to share with others in Christ's name? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Matthew McCarthy, Vocations Director, ArchToronto 416-968-0997 / vocations@archtoronto.org / www.vocationstoronto.ca









Not auite. Try again.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO FOLLOW THE NOW FAMILIAR ROUTINE:

Sanitize your hands, wear a mask, sit on indicated pews, for communion make a single line in the middle of the aisle starting from the back pews, follow the instructions of the ushers, spray your seat before you leave, entrance at main doors, exit at two side doors.

If you are unable or unwilling to completely follow the guidelines for masking and sanitizing, remember that Cardinal Collins continues to dispense the faithful from their Sunday obligation. If you are symptomatic, have a compromised immune system or have a greater risk of infection, please stay home.

The Twelve Days of Christmas is a popular Christmas Carol and refers to the time between Christmas Day and Epiphany. It can be a helpful reminder of Catholic doctrine! "My true love" refers to God. The "me" who receives the presents refers to every baptized person. God offers:

1 A partridge = symbol for the Church; pear tree = Jesus Christ

2 Turtle doves = the Old and New Testament;

the sacrifice Mary and Joseph offered at the presentation

3 French Hens = the Virtues of faith, hope and love; the gifts of the Magi

4 Calling Birds = Gospels / Evangelists

5 Golden Rings = first 5 Books of the Old Testament (the Pentateuch) - gives details of our fall from grace & need for Jesus

6 Geese A-laying = days of creation

7 Swans-a-swimming = Gifts of the Holy Spirit; sacraments

Maids A-milking = the beatitudes

2 Ladies Dancing = Fruits of the Holy Spirit

10 Lords A-leaping = the 10 commandments

11 Pipers Piping = the 11 faithful apostles

12 Drummers Drumming = points of belief in the Apostles' Creed





To My Beloved Parishioners:

January is named for the Roman god Janus, a doorkeeper with two faces, one looking back and the other forward. It's an appropriate symbol for us as we enter a new year.

Looking back, we thank the Lord for the wonderful things God has done for us; appreciating the grace, faith and strength to stand firm amidst long prevailing Covid-19; and feeling sorry for the wrong doings and bad decisions in the past year.

Looking forward to 2022, we make a resolution to rediscover our faith and improve our relationship with God and with one another; praying with a firm hope for the end of the devastating pandemic that created havoc throughout the world.

It is important, therefore, that we keep intact the biblical role of Mary that we hear proclaimed in our gospel today. She continued to be a faithful disciple eager to learn about the will of God. There is hope for us in this role of Mary, who despite all odds continues to believe that God will do great things for her.

Today we celebrate Mary, the Mother of God. As the Mother of God, Mary was a young Jewish mother who experienced the hardships, struggles and poverty of our world. Mary did not fully understand the implication of what had occurred. In this situation the Gospel tells us that Mary "treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart."

What does Mary model for us as we contemplate the past year and the new year before us? We all have mysteries to ponder, sorrows to absorb, hopes to nourish for ourselves, our children, and our world. Mary offers us a lens that will see everything with the eyes of faith. We have the angel's assurance to Mary, "Don't be afraid," as our first response to whatever happens. We have Mary's "Yes", let it happen to me as God proposes, as the perfect prayer when life is difficult. This is all God asks.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

Fr. Regulo Imperial, Pastor

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - January 18-25 WE SAW THE STAR IN THE EAST, AND WE CAME TO WORSHIP HIM. (Mt. 2:2)

Join His Eminence Cardinal Thomas Collins and a wide representation of Christian leaders to pray for the restoration of the full, visible unity willed by Jesus Christ for the Church. The Middle East Council of Churches has provided the theme this year and our host is Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church. In this annual celebration, we are reminded that the unity of the Church is both a gift of the Holy Spirit and a task for all Christians.

Sunday, January 23rd at 4 p.m.

Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church, 920 Progress Ave, Scarborough In person or watch the livestream: www.facebook.com/TorontoArmenianChurch

FIRST COMMUNION CORNER

Communion Parents of Grade 2 students who wish their child to receive the First Holy Communion must celebrate Mass here

at St John Fisher regularly. If you live within the boundaries of the parish and are not registered, please do so by completing the yellow Registration forms are in the wall pocket at the back of the church.

Two important events coming:

FIRST

1Sun Dec 12th: → Registration event

2 Mon Jan 10th at 7 pm: All parents (only) are invited in the parish hall for an Information Meeting.

Please remember to always bring home a copy of the Bulletin to stay up to date with all communications about First Communion for your child.

> **CONFIRMATION UPDATES** for Grade 7 & 8 students who wish to celebrate Confirmation with St John Fisher Church. Families of the candidates must attend Sunday Eucharist

regularly. Parents should be registered members of St John Fisher Parish. If you live within the boundaries of the parish and are not registered, please do so by completing the yellow Registration forms are in the wall pocket at the back of the church. Those students who go to another church must celebrate their Confirmation at their own parish church.

Important events:

• December 18th/19th: Completed registration forms due.

• January 15th/16th: Enrolment Ceremony. The family attends their usual mass and will receive the copy of the rite at the entrance. The Confirmation candidate will prepare a hand-written (or typed) letter on a proper piece of paper, addressed to the Pastor, indicating why they want to be Confirmed. During Mass, the priest will call on the candidates to present their letter to him and receive the Blessed Wooden Cross to wear every day.

• Tues Jan 25th at 7 pm: Mandatory meeting for Parents and Teens in the parish hall.

Confirmation Ceremony Dates to be announced.

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE MASS- As part of Marriage Sunday 2022 celebrations, Bishop Robert Kasun, CSB, will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples celebrating milestone anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+) in 2022.

Mass: Sunday, February 13th at 2:30 pm

at St Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto). Due to social distancing measures, cathedral attendance is limited to pre-registered couples celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries and a maximum of one guest per celebrant couple. Registration is now open. Register early as space is limited. The mass will be livestreamed for those who are not able to register.

www.archtoronto.org/marriage

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