

# *St. John Fisher Parish*

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**PASTOR:** Fr. Regulo Imperial



*Father, You revealed Your Son to the nations  
by the guidance of a star. Lead us to  
Your Glory in Heaven by the Light of Faith.*



**MASS INTENTIONS  
FOR THE WEEK**

**Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup>**

**5:30 p.m.** – ☩ Daniel Cabral Andrade req by the Andrade Family

**Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**

**9 a.m.** – In Thanksgiving requested by the Antao Family

**10:30 a.m.** – Special Intentions for El Friede Frey & Family requested by the Martins Family

**12 p.m.** – ☩ Esmeralda & Romeo Yee req by Elvin & Christina Yee  
– ☩ Edgardo Palad

**Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**

**9 a.m.** – ☩ Souls in Purgatory & World Peace req by the Antao Family

**Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**

**9 a.m.** – ☩ Souls in Purgatory & World Peace req by the Antao Family

**Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**

**9 a.m.** – ☩ Souls in Purgatory & World Peace req by the Antao Family

**Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**

**9 a.m.** – In Thanksgiving for blessings received & answered prayers

**Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**

**9 a.m.** – ☩ Souls in Purgatory requested by Silvana Miles

**Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup>**

**5:30 p.m.** – ☩ Souls in Purgatory & In Thanksgiving for countless blessings received requested by the Santos Family

**Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>**

**9 a.m.** – ☩ Nellie Zammit req by Monica & Gordon Newman

**10:30 a.m.** – ☩ Luis dela Cruz requested by the dela Cruz Family

**12 p.m.** – ☩ John Randall Chapman requested by the Catholic Women's League



To My Beloved Parishioners:

The birth of Jesus created shock waves throughout creation. The angels were the first to feel it. They were God's highest, noblest creatures. They shouted "Alleluia!"

Secondly, the shepherds were the first visitors to the manger. They were simple, hardy, outdoor, rough-cut men in tune with the climate and cycles of creation. All they saw was this little baby. There was no divinity apparent in Jesus, all babies look pretty much the same. Yet they simply believed what the angel told them and immediately adored the baby as somebody greater than themselves. They represent the simple and humble people of the world.

Thirdly, the wise men (Magi) who came from far away arrived on the scene. They represent the whole world. This is the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. Epiphany means manifestation. Christ is revealed as Lord and Saviour of the whole world. The first reading speaks of kings, camels and dromedaries as well as gold and frankincense.

The magi represent all the nations (you and I, all the races and all colors and beliefs). All were present when Christ was born. We might think, "Surely tyrants and dictators are excluded" or "Surely there's no place for atheists or agnostics". NO! They tell us, simply and profoundly, that no one is excluded from the love of God. "All the nations on earth will adore you Lord..." Gay or straight, addicted or free, male or female, faithful or faithless, saint or sinners, we are all welcomed to the grace and love found in Jesus Christ.

Finally, there is Herod the Great. He reminds believers of the hostility of Herod and his successors shown to Jesus both at his birth and his death. Along with him, the inhabitants of Jerusalem are also against Jesus. It warns us also that the secular society will not be friendly with those who follow Jesus. Christians are persecuted in many parts of the world.

In the midst of all this global darkness, we are the sign of God in this world.

**HAPPY EPIPHANY DAY!**

Fr Regulo Imperial, Pastor



The Son of God was first manifested to the world through the visit of the magi. Today, God's Son is brought into the world and is present to the world through His Church. If you think that God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon,

Contact Fr. Matthew McCarthy, Vocations Director, ArchToronto 416-968-0997 / [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org) / [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)

Beginning Thursday January 11<sup>th</sup>, the **CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** will be meeting on the 2nd week of the month on Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:30 am in the church hall (right after the 9 am mass).



**PRAYER GROUP** will be meeting on the 2nd week of the month on

Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:30 am in the church hall (right after the 9 am mass).



**Offertory:**

December 24<sup>th</sup>: \$ 6,704

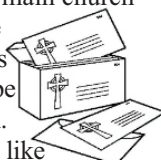
Christmas: \$ 7,447

December 31<sup>st</sup>: \$ 4,389



January 1<sup>st</sup> collection amount was not available at time of printing.

**2024 ENVELOPES** are available for pick-up at the main church entrance. They are in alphabetical order. Please take your box only. Please do not use these new envelopes until January and complete the outside of the envelope for the first 3 weeks so we can verify the information.



If your box of envelopes is not there, or if you would like to start using envelopes and don't yet have them, please contact the church office. Thank you.



Do you have gifts and talents that you can share with our parish? Join a parish ministry today! Volunteer what you can, when you can and as often as you can.

No contribution is too small. Training and support will be provided. We especially need:

**Communion Ministers, Lectors & Ushers.**

*Call or email the office to sign up!*



Please include: ❶ Name(s) ❷ Mailing Address ❸ Email Address ❹ Telephone Number

We are expanding our database to be able to communicate with parishioners more easily. Parishioners are asked to email their contact information to [stjohnfisherbr@archtoronto.org](mailto:stjohnfisherbr@archtoronto.org).

Thank you for your cooperation!





**PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY:** As we celebrate the 58<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Parish and construction of our church, it is the last year of our Pastor, Father Regulo Imperial's leadership of our parish. To honour all of this, we are working with *IPC Canada Photo Services* to create a *2024 Parish Directory* – a yearbook of our parish with photos of all parishioners, families, and organizations who wish to participate. The Anniversary Committee encourages you all to join in this great project.

**WHY SHOULD YOU PARTICIPATE?**

- ▶ Get to know your fellow parishioners, including those you regularly sit near to during mass, those of different generations than your own, and others who attend different mass times.
- ▶ Help Father Reg know the faces of his flock.
- ▶ Make it easier for the Church Office to know who we are.
- ▶ Increase community spirit!

**WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?**

- ▶ Your photo in the directory gets you a FREE copy of the directory. If you choose to buy copies of your pictures, the prices are reasonable.

**HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR A PICTURE?**

- ▶ Volunteers will be at the back of the church after all masses to register parishioners, families, and members of parish organizations for a photo appointment in the Parish Hall. Appointments are the week of January 30<sup>th</sup>.



**CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE MASS:** As part of *Marriage Sunday 2024* celebrations, Archbishop Francis Leo will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, with special recognition for those celebrating 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2024. Couples celebrating a milestone anniversary in 2024 may register for reserved seating. Reserved seating is limited, so please register early. All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their marriage commitment. Click the register button at: <https://www.archtoronto.org/marriage> Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm at St Michael's Cathedral Watch the Mass via livestream: <https://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live/>



**GIVE YOURSELF THE GIFT OF A JOYFUL MARRIAGE!**

Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship. By learning the tools of healthy communication, you can build greater intimacy. Retrouvaille is Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. *January 19-21* (Mississauga). 437-234-5610 or visit [torontoretrouvaille.com](http://torontoretrouvaille.com) or [helpourmarriage.org](http://helpourmarriage.org)

**PATRISTIC CONCEPTIONS OF MARTYRDOM AND THEIR RELEVANCE TODAY:**

The Pontifical Faculty of Theology at St Augustine's Seminary presents this talk as part of its Series of Patristic Talks for the 2023-24 Academic Year. Speaker: Dr. Katherine E. Milco, Ph.D. *Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> / 6:30-8 p.m.* Charbonnel Lounge, University of St. Michael's College, Elmsley Hall, 81 St. Mary Street (Toronto) Questions? [chere.maclean@utoronto.ca](mailto:chere.maclean@utoronto.ca) Registration: <https://staugustines.on.ca/events-listing/patristic-talk-jan2024>



**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - January 18-25**

**YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD...AND YOUR NEIGHBOUR AS YOURSELF. (Luke 10:27)**

Join Archbishop Francis Leo and a wide representation of Christian leaders to pray for the restoration of full visible unity willed by Jesus Christ for the Church.

**Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 4 p.m.**

St Mark Coptic Orthodox Cathedral / 455 Ferrier St, Markham This event is jointly organized by the Office for Promoting Christian Unity and the Greater Toronto Area Council of Christian Churches.



As we begin a new year, here are 12 suggestions from Archbishop Francis Leo to help the reality of the Kingdom abide in our lives – one for each month of the year! (1) *Acknowledge personally, and communally Christ's eternal and lasting Kingship and invite him to reign in our hearts, families and communities as King and Sovereign Lord.* (2) Adopt an attitude of profound docility to the Holy Spirit to exercise daily conversion of heart so as to know and fulfill the will of God. (3) *Place the Eucharistic Christ at the centre of our life of faith, of our Sunday worship, our entire Christian life and the daily living out of our particular vocation.* (4) Embody in our daily living the three-fold “style of God” according to Pope Francis: closeness, compassion and tenderness. (5) *Love those Jesus loved particularly and actively care for them, especially the vulnerable, the poor and the abandoned, the ill and the elderly, the young and the ostracized.* (6) Engage in the spiritual and temporal works of mercy, charity, justice and peace by active participation in the public square (education, politics, science, the arts, economics/finance, communications, social aid). (7) *Daily seek out opportunities to spread and strengthen the Kingdom of God by working intentionally for truth and life, holiness and grace, justice, love and peace.* (8) Get more involved in the local community's renewal and blessing by sowing seeds of goodness, truth and beauty and sharing our gifts, talents and charisms. (9) *Be socially conscious and engaged with regards to our environment, the climate crisis and caring for our common home.* (10) Let daily prayer in its many forms (personal and communal, liturgical and devotional, vocal and mental) as well as the daily reading and meditation on the Word of God (lectio divina) nourish, heal and empower us. (11) *Daily examine one's conscience, using also the Ignatian examen, and frequently celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.* (12) Welcome into our lives and communities, through a profound devotion to and spirituality of Our Lady as our Mother and Queen since she has been entrusted to us as a loving maternal presence and we entrusted to her as devoted children. **Read the full pastoral letter at [bit.ly/KingdomPDF](http://bit.ly/KingdomPDF).**

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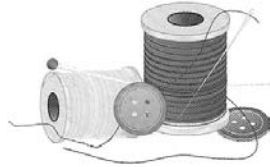
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