

St. John Fisher Catholic Church

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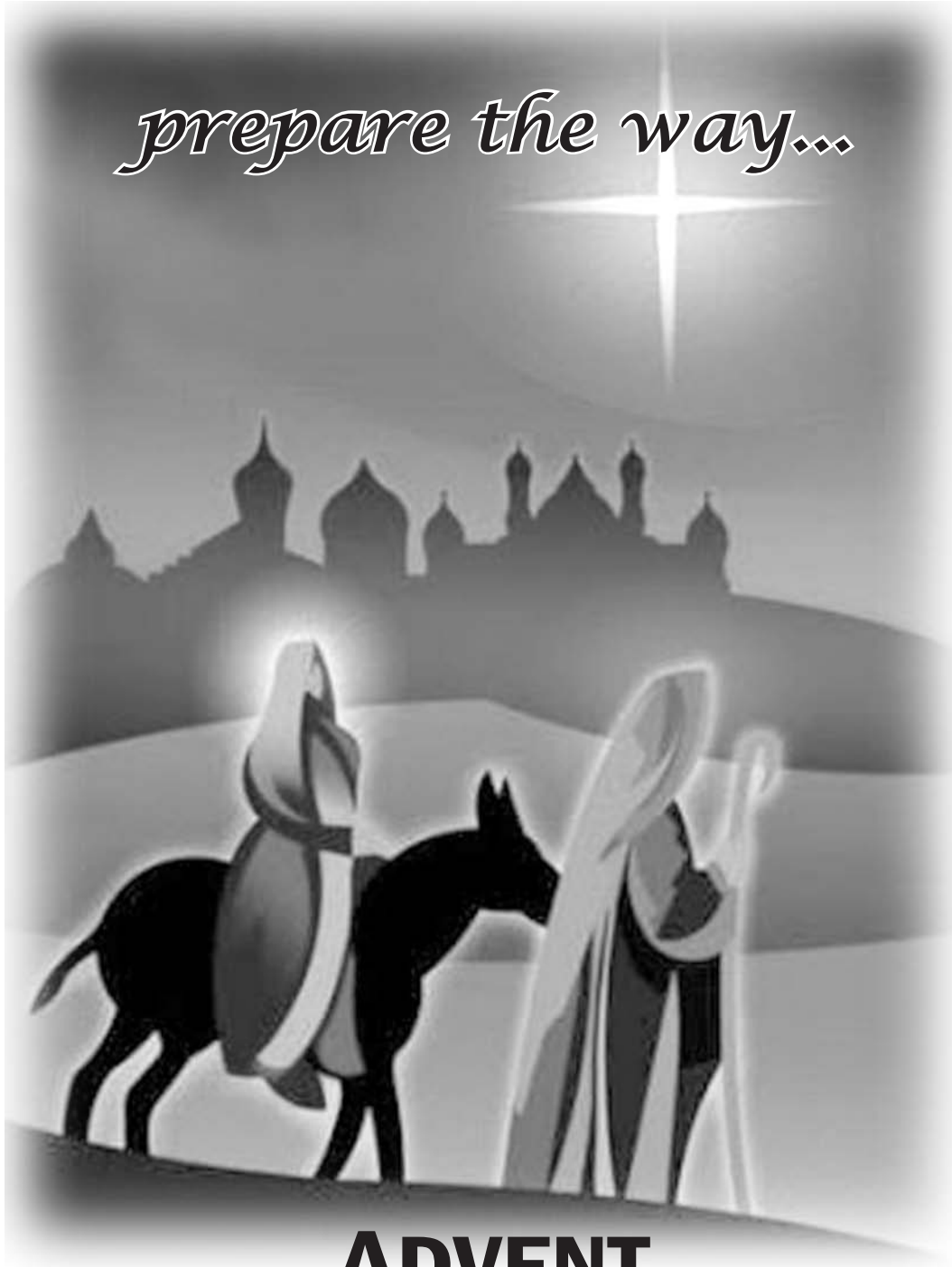
Instagram: StJohnFisherBrampton

PASTOR: Rev. Liborio Amaral

SECRETARY: Rose Jose

BOOKKEEPER: Josephine Balbidades

prepare the way...



ADVENT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 23 rd - 9 a.m. – Maurice Walsh †
Tuesday, December 24 th – Christmas Eve – No Intentions
Wednesday, December 25 th – Christmas Day – No Intentions
Thursday, December 26 th – No Intentions
Friday, December 27 th - 9 a.m. – Rita D’Souza
Saturday, December 28 th - 9 a.m. – Ronald & Honora Dias (SI)

Thank You
FOR
GIVING
GENEROUSLY

Offertory:
December 15th: \$ 5,721.45



2025 ENVELOPES are now available for pick-up. Boxes are not attached to any name. There is no need to look for your name and/or box number. *In January, when you begin using these new envelopes, please write your name & address on the outside of the envelopes for a few weeks as we register the box to you and allocate your donation for your income tax receipt.*



UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION! We continue to expand our database to be able to communicate with parishioners more easily. Parishioners are asked to email their contact information to stjohnfisherbr@archtoronto.org. Please include:
 ❶ Name(s) ❷ Mailing Address ❸ Email Address ❹ Phone Number
 Thank you for your cooperation!

Visit our website regularly to stay up to date.
www.stjohnfisherbr.archtoronto.org StJohnFisherBrampton

Sign Up to receive the Weekly Bulletin and other special alerts emailed directly to your inbox.
<https://stjohnfisherbr.archtoronto.org/en/contact-us/sign-up/>

Our **Society of St Vincent de Paul** thanks all parishioners for their generosity in providing Walmart gift card(s) for the needy families in our community this Christmas Season. If you haven't had a chance to buy your gift card(s) yet, the SSVP will continue to graciously accept them. Please put them in the collection basket OR give them directly to Fr Liborio or Deacon John after the weekend mass you attend. Thank you for giving to our neighbours in need!

Are you called to follow in the footsteps of Mary as a priest, deacon or religious to carry the Good News of God's great Love?
 Call Fr. Matthew McCarthy, Vocations Director, ArchToronto
 416-968-0997 / vocations@archtoronto.org
www.vocationstoronto.ca



Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,
 On this Fourth Sunday of Advent our Gospel focuses on the Visitation. After hearing that she will be the mother of God and upon hearing that her cousin Elizabeth is in her sixth month of pregnancy, Mary decides to go and visit her to be of help during Elizabeth's final 3 months of pregnancy.

In the Visitation, we see that Mary is not concerned for herself, but for her cousin. Mary shows us that we too are called to think of others before ourselves.

When arriving at Elizabeth and Zechariah's house, the women greet each other. Then, we hear of another deeper greeting – the greeting of the two babies in the wombs of Mary and Elizabeth.

This greeting of the two human beings in the wombs (John the Baptist, who is 6 months old in the womb Elizabeth, and Our Blessed Lord who is only a few weeks old in the womb of Mary) is so real and tangible that Elizabeth feels it within herself as Mary does. This encounter will take place again about 30 years later when John the Baptist encounters his cousin Jesus at the Jordan River.

The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth can be seen as God's way of telling us that indeed Human Life starts at conception, and that in every stage of development in the womb and outside the womb is sacred, until God calls that Human Life back to Himself. This also means that all forms of the taking of life is evil and indeed greatly sinful. Abortion, Murder, Euthanasia (MAiD) are all against the Sanctity of Life.

Let us be a people who stand up for Life in all its stages. And let us work within the political realm to ensure that all laws respect the Sanctity of Human Life from the moment of Conception until natural death.

BLESSINGS, Fr. Liborio

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 - PILGRIMS OF HOPE

The Catholic Church worldwide will be celebrating a special Jubilee Year in 2025. This has been a tradition dating back to the year 1300 when Pope Boniface VIII announced the first Jubilee, also called a "Holy Year". The Jubilee Year includes many celebrations within the city of Rome and dioceses around the world. The theme of the 2025 Jubilee is "Pilgrims of Hope". In the words of Pope Francis: "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision."

The Holy Father will open the Jubilee Year on Dec 24th, with the official opening of the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica. It will continue until Jan 6, 2026, the Solemnity of the Epiphany, with the closing of the Holy Door. **In the Archdiocese of Toronto**, we will open the Jubilee Year with a Solemn Opening Mass taking place on **Sunday, December 29th at 5 pm at St Michael's Cathedral Basilica**. All are invited to join in this special celebration. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available prior to the Eucharist from 3:30 - 4:45 pm. *May this Holy Year provide a grace-filled opportunity to nurture the seeds of faith for you and your loved ones, immersing ourselves as Pilgrims of Hope into a year-long journey of prayer, witness and service drawing on the example of Jesus, our Lord.*



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**St. John Fisher's
Christmas Schedule
2024-2025**

Date	Feast	Time
Tuesday, December 24th <i>Office Closed</i>	Christmas Eve	5:00 pm, 7:00 pm, and 9:00 pm There is NO Midnight Mass
Wednesday, December 25th <i>Office Closed</i>	Christmas Day	9:00 am, 10:30 am, and 12:00 pm
Thursday, December 26th <i>Office Closed</i>	Christmas Weekday	9:00 am Morning Mass
Friday, December 27th <i>Office Open</i>	Christmas Weekday	9:00 am Morning Mass
Saturday, December 28th <i>Office Closed</i>	Vigil: Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph	9:00 am Morning Mass 5 pm Vigil Mass
Sunday, December 29th <i>Office Closed</i>	Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph	9:00 am, 10:30 am, and 12:00 pm
Monday, December 30th <i>Office Open</i>	Christmas Weekday	9:00 am Morning Mass
Tuesday, December 31st <i>Office Closed</i>	Vigil: Feast Day of Mary, the Mother of God	9:00 am Morning Mass Vigil Mass 5:00 pm
Wednesday, January 1st <i>Office Closed</i>	Feast Day of Mary, the Mother of God	9:00 am, 10:30 am, and 12:00 pm
Thursday, January 2nd <i>Office Closed</i>	Christmas Weekday	9:00 am Morning Mass
Friday, January 3rd <i>Office open</i>	Christmas Weekday	9:00 am Morning Mass
Saturday, January 4th <i>Office Closed</i>	Vigil: Epiphany of the Lord	9:00 am Morning Mass 5 pm Vigil Mass
Sunday, January 5th <i>Office Closed</i>	Epiphany of the Lord	9:00 am, 10:30 am, and 12:00 pm

The Christmas season ends with the feast of the Baptism of the Lord on January 12th. We hope you are able to fill your heart with Hope, Love, Joy and Peace; gifts which only the King of Kings can give. Remember it is not only during this time we can encounter Jesus; we may do so daily in the Blessed Sacrament present always in the tabernacle.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM FR. LIBORIO:

I would like to wish you all a most Holy and joyful Christmas Season! I pray that each and every one of you will be able to have time for relaxation and reflection on the gift of Jesus in our lives. I also hope that people will be able, if possible, to gather with family and friends to share the JOY of Christmas. Please be assured of my prayers for all of you during this time of Mystery where we remember that God became one of us!

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