

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Year "A" Isaiah 62.11-12; Titus 3.4-7;
Luke 2.15-20



New Year Mass Times Saturday, December 31st

(Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God)

5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 1st

(Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God)

9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Monday, January 2nd

9:00 a.m.

Parish Office Closed

The parish office will be closed from Monday, December 26th, 2016 to Monday, January 2nd, 2017 and will reopen on Tuesday, January 3rd, 2017.

If you have an emergency that requires a priest please call 905-839-9774, press 2, leave a message and Fr. Colman will contact you. In case Fr. Colman is unreachable please contact another local Parish for assistance.

Toronto Serra Clubs

We celebrate the birth of our Lord into our world; however, many have not received the birth of our Lord into their hearts. If Christ lives in your heart and you would like to help others discover the Lord, you may be called to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister. Contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email vocations@archtoronto.org
www.vocationstoronto.ca

French Immersion Registration

We welcome all students into our French Immersion program at schools across the Durham Catholic District School Board. You are invited to enrol your child through our online registration process at dcdsb.ca from **December 12, 2016 to January 20, 2017**. Students must be entering Grade 1 in September 2017 to register.

For more information about our Board's French Immersion Program

<http://www.dcdsb.ca/en/programs-services/French-Immersion-Questions-and-Answers.aspx>

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 26th

Feast St. Stephen, The First Martyr

9:00 a.m. † Bert Leufkens

Tuesday, December 27th

Feast St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

8:30 a.m. † Ann Louise Pritchard

Wednesday, December 28th

Feast The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

7:30 p.m. † Reno Fernandez

Thursday, December 29th

8:30 a.m. † Elizabeth Dobson

Friday, December 30th

Feast The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

8:30 a.m. † Vincent Fernandez

Saturday, December 31st

5:00 p.m. † David Valladares

Sunday, January 1st

9:00 a.m. Reserved

11:00 a.m. Mass Pro Populo

5:00 p.m. Reserved

Papal Intentions for December

Universal: *End to Child-Soldiers* ~ That the scandal of child-soldiers may be eliminated the world over.

Evangelization: *Europe* ~ That the peoples of Europe may rediscover the beauty, goodness, and truth of the Gospel which gives joy and hope to life.

St. Vincent de Paul Thank You

Holy Redeemer St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank the parishioners for their generosity towards families in need this Christmas.

We were able to assist everyone who came to us looking for help; whole families, single parent families and adults, altogether approximately 35 families.

Without your help our job would be impossible.

Thank you and God Bless you all.

My Christmas Card To You

We are celebrating the ageless story of the incarnation of the SON OF GOD who came to us as a little baby boy in a manger.

'The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.' (Is.9:1)

These opening words from the first reading for the midnight mass from the prophet Isaiah, are truly powerful, poetic and prophetic. They bring comfort into a world where darkness lingers over the lives of multitudes of people.

That great and magical light, cuts right through the cold, darkness of winter and transforms a cold night into a Holy Night, and changes a fearful night into a bright night of hope. The light of Jesus' birth shines all around us, bringing with it an overflow of joy and comfort, banishing sadness from our hearts. The promise has been at last fulfilled and we have every reason to rejoice, with a joy that is 'contagious', a joy we should share with others around us because, this is so special a time of...

-not just receiving but of giving gifts, not the things we can count, but especially the values that cannot be measured like love, forgiveness and compassion

-not to have a closet full of boxes, but a heart that never shuts out some people

-gathering as family to celebrate the shared vein that connects us together and

-gathering as a Eucharistic people in thanksgiving, for peace, joy, love and acceptance,

-holding each other's hand and walking towards the little town of Bethlehem.

Yet for some, Christmas becomes a very challenging time, amplifying painful memories of loneliness, of loss of loved ones in the past year, or health difficulties, loss of a job, loss of love and family ties etc. I want to assure them all, of my prayers during this time.

Indeed it is cold and dark on the outside and in the inside of their hearts. But prayer can surround them with a warmth generated by the spirit of hope, and can ignite an intimate conversation with God and light the Christmas light. Pray that 'Emmanuel' will pour into their hearts, the mist of his eternal love and consolation. Let us together bring the good news down the valleys and up the mountain tops. To every soul let us proclaim the words from Isaiah,

'The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.' (Is.9:1)

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2017

Father Colman



Gift Shop Thank You

The Gift Shop thanks all our donors, vendors and parishioners who took part in the Christmas Bazaar, which was a big success. We also extend a Big Thank You to Father Colman, Anna & Terry Crosthwaite and Gary Tobin who helped us behind the scenes, always with a big smile. To the C.W.G. team for serving the vendors with tea and coffee. To Walter Heeney, his team of the Knights of Columbus for donating several items. Last but not the least a special thanks to Teresa de Manuel who started the Gift Shop and who spent all her time and energy to help the Church Building Fund. Please keep praying for her quick recovery.

We look forward to your generous help in the future. Merry Christmas.

2017 Envelopes Are Ready

The envelopes for 2017 are available outside the parish office. If you do not see your name please contact the office. Please check that your name and address are correct and **please do not use** the envelopes before January 1st as your number may have changed.



Knights Korner Council 11729

On behalf of all our members of the Knights of Columbus I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Our Council has enjoyed an excellent year. We have contributed thousands of volunteer hours and these efforts have been rewarded both spiritually and financially. That said, at our next meeting, we hope to approve support for our parish youth group, the band at St. Mary, bibles for the RCIA, and also the opportunity to offer everyone a parish breakfast.

In closing, enjoy your Christmas and remember to "Keep Christ in Christmas" and "Jesus is the reason for the season."

Walter Heeney - Grand Knight