

# OUR LADY OF FATIMA SHRINE

3170 ST. CLAIR AVE. EAST, SCARBOROUGH, ON M1L 1V6

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PASTOR: Rev. Fr. Alan Glass

## OFFICE STAFF:

Aurora Fraginal - Secretary

Patrick Callahan - Property Manager Jack Tobin - Custodian



## The Nativity of the Lord



**Mass Intentions**  
FOR THE WEEK 

**Sunday, December 25**

- 9:00 a.m. +Gloria G. Viola
- 10:30 a.m. Reginald Adams (I) Thanksgiving
- 12:15 p.m. Carol Ocampo (I) Thanksgiving  
& People of the Parish

**Monday, December 26**

No Mass

**Tuesday, December 27**

- 8:00 a.m. +Felix Pingol & +Anna Maria Doti

**Wednesday, December 28**

- 7:00 p.m. +Mrs. Stella Silva

**Thursday, December 29**

- 8:00 a.m. +Johanna Taylor

**Friday, December 30**

- 8:00 a.m. +Auptin Abedini-Senoubari

**Saturday, December 31**

- 9:00 a.m. +Dennis Castellino
- 4:30 p.m. +Ida Edirimanasinghe

**Christmas Day - December 25, 2022**



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 **Rev. Fr. Matthew McCarthy, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997; email vocations@archtoronto.org** or call **Rev. Fr. Glass** at 416-757-2806 or at [olfatimasc@archtoronto.org](mailto:olfatimasc@archtoronto.org) for more information.

**Next Week Readings**

Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord  
Making Christ Manifest to all the World

**1st Reading: Isaiah 60.1-6**

**2nd Reading: Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6**

**Gospel: Matthew 2.1-12**

The Visit of the Wise Men

Latin Songs: can be found on Catholic Book of Worship (Pages 299 A, D, E, F, & G).

**FROM THE DESK OF FR. GLASS:**

*Silent night, holy night!*

And while they were there [in Bethlehem], the time came for Mary to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. — Luke 2:4-7

The Incarnation and the birth of Jesus are, as St. Ignatius of Antioch writes, “mysteries to be loudly proclaimed; yet which were accomplished in the silence of God.” The birth of the Savior takes place in the stillness of the night, announced by the angels only to some shepherds keeping watch over their flocks.

Bishop Ottokar Prohaszka, in his *Mediations on the Gospels*, says:

Our Lady was not admitted into the inn, because Bethlehem was full — full of foreigners and visitors, full of gossip and clamor. There was no room for her. (Our hearts, too, can be like Bethlehem, with no room in them for God.) Mary, in the tranquility and solitude of the stable, is conscious that her soul has been placed here in the darkness of the world to light up Jesus’ path. The night is silent as her joy wells irresistibly upward.

Many commentators emphasize the *poverty* of the circumstances of our Lord’s birth. They are not wrong, but this was a poverty of simplicity, not of squalor. In the stable at Bethlehem everything is exactly as it should be. Mary looks around at her humble surroundings “with the eyes of the mother of God. In what glorious light they must have appeared to her. It was the light of her own sweet happiness. Our Lady rejoices in this, just as God takes pleasure in the humble little churches where simple people kneel at prayer. Here is poverty, and glowing fervor.”

Cardinal Robert Sarah, in his recent book, ‘The Power of Silence’, quotes Pope John Paul II:

Mary’s example enables the Church to better appreciate the value of silence. Mary’s silence is a wise capacity for embracing in a single gaze of faith the mystery of the Word made man. It is this ability to meditate on the mystery of Christ that Mary passes on to believers. In a noisy world filled with messages of all kinds, her witness enables us to appreciate a spiritually rich silence which fosters a contemplative spirit.

Cardinal Sarah adds: “In my country, at the end of the daily Rosary, we often sing this hymn to Mary: ‘May your sweet presence enlighten us forever, O Virgin of silence. Give us your great peace.’”

In the words of Bishop Prohaszka: “Let us ask Our Lady to grant us a share in her Christmas happiness, and to give us light, so that we too may gaze upon God with the eyes of love and of faith.”

May God richly bless you this Christmas!



### CHILDREN'S LITURGY 2022-2023

The Children's Liturgy meetings and First Holy Communion classes will resume on **January 08, 15 & 22, 2023**. All children – from 6 to 10 years old – are welcome. Details **Confirmation**

**Sessions** will be announced after the holiday celebration.



### R.C.I.A. Program: Oct. 2022 – Apr. 2023

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) program



– a journey of prayer, reflection and instruction for anyone wishing to explore the beauty of the Catholic faith – in our church hall. Sessions will resume on **Saturday, January 7, 14, & 21**. If you or anyone you know are interested, contact the parish office, during office hours, pick up a form or phone us on (416) 757-2806. Email: [olfatimasc@archtoronto.org](mailto:olfatimasc@archtoronto.org)

### Let us say yes to living the Gospel

**NEW:** Your year-end gift will double in value! From now until the end of 2022, your contribution to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be matched by an anonymous donor up to a total of \$1 million.

"Our faith community has always responded heroically to the needs around us, particularly through our enthusiastic support of ShareLife. We can help alleviate the suffering of those whose lives have been upended by the pandemic. Let us say yes to Jesus' call to live the Gospel by providing for those in need." – Cardinal Thomas Collins

Our goal this year is **[34, 000.00]**. To date we have achieved **[27, 335.00]**. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate). Thank you for helping end hunger by donating generously to ShareLife today.



### DONATION ENVELOPES BOXES FOR 2023

The boxes with your donation envelopes for 2023 are ready for pick up at the back of the church. They are sorted in trays in alphabetical order according to the family's **last name** and will come in use as of **Sunday, January 1st 2023**.



Registered parishioners are kindly asked to inform the office of any changes to their personal data. **New Parishioners** are encouraged to register and get their personal box number so that at the end of the year their contributions will be acknowledged in a tax receipt. **Thank you for your support throughout the year.**

### Christmas Blessings



The **PASTORAL TEAM** at **Fatima Parish** and the **Parish FINANCE COUNCIL** extend wishes for God's peace, joy and every blessing on all our parishioners and friends or family visiting them this Christmas season and throughout the New Year. **Thank you all for your help and support.**

**We are so blessed to have you and very proud of all of you.**

### New Year's 2023 Schedules

**December 26** Regular Scheduled is followed

**Monday to Friday, December 30**

Regular Scheduled is followed.

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**Saturday, December 31** New Year's Eve at

8:00 am & 4:30 pm Holy Mass

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**Sunday, January 01** NEW YEAR's Day at

9:00 am, 10:30 & 12:15 pm Holy Mass

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**The Parish Office is closed on all statutory holidays!**

**December 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> & January 3<sup>rd</sup> in observance of Christmas Day, Boxing Day & New Year's Day falling on the weekend.**

**Thank you for your generous support!**

### Christmas Prayer of St. Ephraim

The feast day of your birth resembles You, Lord because it brings joy to all humanity. Old people and infants alike enjoy your day. Your day is celebrated from generation to generation. Kings and emperors may pass away, and the festivals to commemorate them soon lapse. But your festival will be remembered until the end of time. Your day is a means and a pledge of peace. At your birth heaven and earth were reconciled, sine you came from heaven to earth on that day you forgave our sins and wiped away our guilt. You gave us so many gifts on the day of your birth: a treasure chest of spiritual medicines for the sick; spiritual light for the blind; the cup of salvation for the thirsty; the bread of life for the hungry. In the winter when trees are bare, you give us the most succulent spiritual fruit. In the frost when the earth is barren you bring new hope to our souls. In December when seeds are hidden in the soil, the staff of life springs forth from the virgin womb.

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