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ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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The Solemnity of the Epiphany of our Lord

2 January, 2022



An Epiphany Prayer

*Lord Jesus, may your light shine our way,
 as once it guided the steps of the magi:
 that we too may be led into your presence
 and worship you, the Child of Mary,
 the Word of the Father, the King of nations,
 the Saviour of mankind;
 to whom be glory for ever. Amen*

— Frank Colquhoun

Our mission at St. Francis de Sales is to joyfully welcome you to our parish family of faith, trusting that: if you are seeking Christ, you will find Him here. If grieving, you will receive comfort. If troubled in spirit, you will receive the blessing of peace without being judged. If discouraged, you will rejoice in hope. If alone, you will find companionship and Christian love. May our parish be a sanctuary of peace for you as we journey together to the Father's house.

Parish Hours

DAILY MASS

MONDAY - THURSDAY 9:00 am
 FRIDAY 7:00 pm
 SATURDAY 9:00 am

SUNDAY MASS

SATURDAY 5:00 pm
 SUNDAY 8:30 am | 9:45 am | 11:00 am | 12:15 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

FRIDAY 6:00 pm - 6:45 pm
 SATURDAY 4:00 pm - 4:45 pm

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - SATURDAY 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Parish Contacts

PASTOR	FR. JOSEPH SINGH sfdspastor@gmail.com	☎ ext 105
ASSOCIATE PASTOR	FR. DAVID TWADDLE fr.twaddle@gmail.com	☎ ext 104
DEACON	DEACON ALBAN SOARES alban.soares@gmail.com	☎ ext 108
PARISH OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR	VANESSA LOWING sfrancisdesales@archtoronto.org	☎ ext 103
CONFIRMATION, & YOUTH MINISTRY	NOAH AQUINO naquino@archtoronto.org	☎ ext 100
FIRST COMMUNION, RECONCILIATION	DAWN SELDA dawn.selda@archtoronto.org	☎ ext 102

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www.stfrancisdesales.archtoronto.org

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD ... Every nation on earth will Adore you

... Lessons revealed in the Word

Lesson 1

The story of the three Magi “traveling from a foreign and non-Jewish nation” to see the baby Jesus reveals the important truth “that Jesus came for all people and all are called to adore Him”.

Lesson 2

The Magi, “studied the stars and were aware of the Jewish belief that a Messiah was coming”. This knowledge sparked in them a desire to seek the Lord. As in other Bible stories, we see that God will use what is familiar to us to call us to Him.

Lesson 3

When “the Magi fell prostrate before the Christ Child”, they “laid their lives down before Him in complete surrender and adoration”. Their actions provide a perfect example of worship.

Lesson 4

The Magi’s gifts reveal that they “acknowledged this Child as the Divine King who would die to save us from sin”. The gift of Gold represents His Kingship; frankincense, used in burnt offerings to God, represents His divinity and myrrh, used for burial preparation, points to the importance of His death. “If we are to adore Christ properly, we must also honor Him in this threefold way.”

Quotes & Inspirational references from: <https://catholic-daily-reflections.com/2019/01/05/the-epiphany-of-the-lord-3/>



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EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, 3 DECEMBER

9:00 AM S.I. FOR SAFE DELIVERY
+ ROBERT & SABINA RAJASINGHAM
+ MARIA GIBBILLINI

TUESDAY, 4 JANUARY

9:00 AM + ALL SOULS IN PURGATORY
+ JOHN & ANNIE D'SOUZA & REGGIE
D'SILVA
+ CONRADO BURAGA

WEDNESDAY, 5 JANUARY

9:00 AM S.I. IN THANKSGIVING
+ DELMARE RODRIGUES
+ THELMA RODRIGUES

THURSDAY, 6 JANUARY

9:00 AM S.I. ROSARIO PIAMONTE
S.I. IN THANKSGIVING
S.I. IN THANKSGIVING FOR FLORITA
DINGLASAN

FRIDAY, 7 JANUARY

7:00 PM + ANNA ROSARIO
S.I. FOR THE GALEA & ARBOUR FAMILIES

SATURDAY, 8 JANUARY

9:00 AM S.I. NADINE & TOM KOTES AND FAMILY
5:00 PM FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, 9 JANUARY

8:30 AM S.I. WINNIE REDIRO
+ BERYLL MOOKING
+ THURASINGHAM THAMBU

9:45AM S.I. ADRIANA & KEVIN RASMUSSEN AND FAMILY

11:00 AM + THE FRIENDS OF SALVADOR D'SOUZA
+ ANATA ALBERT & NOBERT ALBERT
+ DANIEL MENARD

12:15 PM + CIRILO ARANGOTE JR.
+ ROMMEL BINALLA FREJAS
+ SOCORRO ANGELES

VOCATIONS

"On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and 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 God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or deacon, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email: vocations@archtoronto.org

Visit: www.vocationstoronto.ca



ONLINE DONATIONS

Dear parishioners,

If you are not able to attend, but still wish to donate, here are the ways in which you can continue to support our parish at this time:

- Mail your regular weekly offertory contribution to the parish or drop off to the parish locked mailbox by the office door, or drop off in the donations box at Mass.
- Online donations can be made at www.archtoronto.org. Simply click on the donate now icon, select St. Francis de Sales parish from the drop-down menu and the fund you wish to donate to. This can be done as a onetime donation or as an ongoing monthly donation. It will give you a place to choose that option.
- Contribute through pre-authorized giving. You can obtain a form from the parish website. Mail the completed form and a voided cheque to the parish office. Or e-mail the form and a scanned copy or photo of a voided cheque to development@archtoronto.org for processing. Contributions are withdrawn from your bank account on the 20th of each month.

Thank you for your many contributions to our parish community.



The SFDS CWL cordially invites all parishioners to attend the **Installation Ceremony of the 2022-2024 SFDS CWL Executive Council on Wednesday, January 5, 2022**. The ceremony will begin with Mass at 7pm followed by the installation ceremony and a milestone celebration for the members who have completed 5, 10, 15 plus years of service to the CWL up to and including the 2020 membership. This evening will provide an opportunity for parishioners interested in finding out more about the CWL to do so. A short meeting will follow.



St Vincent de Paul Society

good works

Thank you from the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Our sincere thanks for the generosity of our fellow parishioners in support of our Christmas outreach program this year. Once again you have made it possible for us to help provide food and gifts for our neighbours-in-need living within parish boundaries. To date we have helped 76 families. Thank you for your compassion, generosity, and thoughtfulness.

"Charity is the cement which binds communities to God and persons to one another..."

- St. Vincent de Paul

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

What is the feast of the Epiphany?

Epiphany commemorates the first occasion when the Gentiles (non-Jews) visited Jesus, the King of the Israel. Epiphany hints at an important truth about our faith: that it must be publicly revealed. To hold up to the veracity of what the Church would later proclaim to the world, this message that Jesus is God, must undergo scrutiny. Private revelation would and could not hold up to public scrutiny as anyone can make any false claim. God the Father lit the night sky to direct these mysterious visitors to His Son. Salvation is from the Jews, but not only for the Jews. God excludes no one from His saving design. There are many more epiphanies such as the Baptism of Our Lord, the Wedding Feast at Cana and the Transfiguration of Our Lord.

Who were the Magi?

The Magi were mysterious men from the East whose trade consisted in magic or astrology. Perhaps what they saw in the sky was a particular constellation which was associated with the Hebrew people. St. Matthew does not tell us how many Magi visited Jesus. We assume that it was three based on the three gifts.

What is the significance of the gifts given to the Baby Jesus?

Gold is offered in tribute to a king; frankincense (incense) acknowledges Him as the Priest of the New Covenant; and myrrh (a fragrant resin) points to fact that Jesus was a prophet who would shed His own blood to reconcile humanity with the Father. These gifts not only pointed to Jesus' identity as a King and God, but also pointed to His destiny as the One sent by the Father to die for mankind. These gifts also reflect the very things used in the Temple in Jerusalem, thereby signifying the priesthood of Jesus. Look closely at the mysteries of this day's celebration and you will see a marriage between heaven and earth. The Babe in Bethlehem is both God and man. He has a divine nature and a human nature.

Isn't Epiphany celebrated on 6 January?

Epiphany is usually celebrated around the world on 6 January. However, the Catholic Church in Canada, with the permission of the Holy See, decided to celebrate Epiphany on the first Sunday following the Solemnity of Holy Mary, Mother of God.



FIRST COMMUNION

Mrs. Selda is looking forward to visiting all the grade 2 classrooms at the end of January and into February, in order to prepare the children for First Reconciliation. We kindly remind our virtual school children and our children in Grade 3-6 to work on their First Reconciliation books at home. Father and Mrs. Selda will send out preparation videos to compliment what the children are learning in their books. For our children who are in public schools or other Catholic schools outside of our parish boundaries, First Reconciliation classes will take place at the parish starting on Saturday January 22. First Reconciliation is tentatively booked for Saturday February 26.

CONFIRMATION

We would like to wish all of our Confirmation families a happy and healthy New Year! Confirmation preparation classes will begin next week, January 9/10. If you have not yet picked up your book please email Noah immediately. A kind reminder that classes will be virtual and a link will be sent out this week. If you are healthy and able, please continue to attend Mass in person every weekend. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to call or email Noah.

MARRIAGE & COMMUNION

Due to the many misconceptions regarding the Catholic Church and marriage, please note that a Catholic may marry a non-Catholic in the Catholic Church, without his or her conversion to the faith. In some instances, a person, who has been previously married, can also be married in the Catholic Church after consultation with the priest. If as a Catholic you're married outside of the Catholic Church without the permission of the Church, we respectfully ask that you refrain from receiving the Eucharist until your marriage has been validated ("sacramentalized") by a Catholic priest or deacon. To remedy this situation, please call one of the priests to make an appointment to have your marriage validated. We are only too happy to bring back to the couple, the graces necessary to live out their marriage, and to reconcile them with the graces of the Eucharist.



Mark your calendar - Our next **Bundle Sunday** is on the weekend of Jan. 15-16, 2022.

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