

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY DECEMBER 13, 2015

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Kathleen Angus, Christopher Chiu, Angeline Nazareth, Bob Hustins, Cleo Savoie, Elizabeth Wong, Anne Sequeira, Philip Selvanayagam, Vincent Marshall, Johanna Kambeitz, Sheila Steaman, Edward Hamel, Raquel Pinto, Joseph Yu, Teresa Fernandes and Anne Canagasuriam

PRAY FOR THE DEAD: Father Kenneth Decker, Hilare Harwood, Ciriaco DeGirolamo, Brenda Gutierrez and for those who have no one to pray for them.

“**ADVENT** is a period of devout and expectant delight: Advent has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ’s Second Coming at the end of time.” (The Roman Missal) May this season of Advent find us watching in prayer “as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.”

SATURDAY MORNING MASS DURING DECEMBER will be in the church and not the convent.

SCHOOL CONFESSIONS AND ADVENT MASS THIS WEEK will be at Mother Teresa. Confessions will be Thursday at the school and Mass will be on Friday in the church at 9:30. Families are welcome to attend the Mass and are encouraged to help their children prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

ADVENT DAY OF CONFESSIONS in the Archdiocese this year will vary according to parish. In our parish there will be additional confession times on Wednesday, December 16 from 11:30 – 12:00 and at 6:45-7:15 and following the evening Mass.

JOINT DECLARATION ON EUTHANASIA – from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada may be found at <http://www.euthanasiadeclaration.ca/declaration/>

OUR ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR THE WORKS OF THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL throughout the year and for Christmas baskets will be this weekend. Envelopes will be on the table at the back of the church.

CHRISTMAS MASSES will be on Christmas eve at 8:00 and midnight, and on Christmas Day at 9:00, 10:30 and 12:00.

MASSES ON NEW YEAR’S, also a holy day of obligation in Canada, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, will be on New Year’s Eve at 5:00 and on New Year’s Day at 10:30 and 12:00 (no 9:00 a.m. Mass).

ALL PARISHIONERS SHOULD BE REGISTERED and are asked to support the parish and the needs of the Church by using Sunday Offertory Envelopes and making up for any absence during vacation. New parishioners are asked to register in the parish office.

SYMBOLON COMING TO OUR PARISH – Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained is an exciting 20 part series that will be presented in our parish beginning Tuesday, January 5 from 8:00-9:00 p.m. and continuing Tuesday evenings until May. Symbolon open up the “big picture” of the Catholic faith in a way that helps us know it, live it and articulate it to others. For more information please call Philomena Bong (647)460-7932, or visit www.wymboloncatholic.org

A HOLY YEAR OF MERCY began on December 8 and will continue until the end of the Liturgical Year. Pope Francis announced the Year of Mercy in a Bull of Indiction which may be read at <http://www.im.va/>

JUBILEE OF MERCY IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO – Following the opening of the Holy Doors of papal basilicas in Rome, the doors of mercy in churches throughout the world will also welcome pilgrims. Designated churches in the Archdiocese of Toronto will be St. Paul’s Basilica, St. Patrick’s (Toronto), Merciful Redeemer (Mississauga), St. Anthony (Bramalea), St. Patrick’s (Brampton), St. Theresa’s Shrine (Scarborough), and Martyrs’ Shrine (Midland). To obtain a plenary indulgence pilgrims should receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist and recite the Creed and pray for the intentions of the Holy Father (one Our Father and one Hail Mary).

CHRISTMAS CAKES AND CARDS are available for purchase after Mass in support of the charitable works of the Knights of Columbus. Christmas Cakes are in support of the good work of Campaign Life.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 10TH ANNUAL NEW YEAR’S EVE DINNER DANCE will be on Thursday December 31st. Get a table together and join the fun. Ticket prices are \$40.00 per person and \$20.00 for children. Contact Stephen Chung 905-946-8034 or Dominic Florio 905-477-1399 or purchase after the Masses.

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Could God be calling you to be a priest or religious and announce the Good News to His People as John the Baptist did? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto 416-968-0997
email vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca

ALTAR SERVERS – Boys as young as grade 4 who would like to become Altar Servers should contact Fr. Andrews to begin preparation. This involves a serious commitment and support from parents.

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL in our parish is looking for a few new members to accomplish their good work serving our community. Volunteer hours for high school community may be served in our parish. Contact Rosemarie (416)495-1067.

CANADIAN HEARTS AND HANDS is looking for volunteers from our parish to assist at the following projects on Sundays in the GTA: St. Vincent's Kitchen in Oshawa, Happy Hour at Tendercare Living Centre in Scarborough, Good Shepherd Centre and Good Neighbours Club in downtown Toronto. Thanks to Les Rodrigues and the many volunteers who have been working with people on these projects. For more information check www.canadianheartsandhands.ca or contact Les Rodrigues l_s_r_3@hotmail.com

PROVIDE A MEAL is a monthly opportunity for the people of our parish to bring a frozen shepherd's pie which will be picked up by the Good Shepherd Centre and provide a meal for those in need. The empty containers are available for pick-up the first weekend every month and the donated pies are collected in our freezer the second weekend every month. Thanks to many parishioners who have been participating for years to help meet the needs of the homeless. For more information contact Rosemarie Ling (416)495-1067

OUR PARISH PRAYER GROUP WILL PRAY FOR YOUR INTENTIONS if you could write out your requests for particular intentions and place them in the box located near the statue of our patron, St. Thomas the Apostle.