

# St. Gregory The Great

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
FOUNDED 1843  
THE MOTHER CHURCH OF DURHAM



## OFFICE:

**194 Simcoe St. N.  
OSHAWA, ON L1G 4S9**

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web site: [www.stgregorythegreat.archtoronto.org](http://www.stgregorythegreat.archtoronto.org)

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**Administrator:** Fr. Marijan Sisko

**Deacon:** David MacInnis

**Administrative Assistant:** Jacqueline Martin

## Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

## Sunday Mass

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. & Noon

## Weekday Masses:

Tuesday and Thursday 12:10 p.m.

Wednesday and Friday 7:00 p.m.

## Sacrament of Penance

Thursday 11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Saturday 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

## Baptism

Please contact the parish office for more information.

## Marriage

One year notice (Archdiocesan guideline)

Marriage Preparation required

Please contact the parish priest

## Visits To The Sick

Please contact the parish office for more information.

## Parish Organizations and Ministries

For information 905-723-8141

or [www.stgregorythegreat.ca](http://www.stgregorythegreat.ca)

## Archdiocese of Toronto

1-416-934-0606

or: [www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org)

## Catholic Cemeteries

St. Gregory's & Resurrection

905-668-8912

or: [www.catholic-cemeteries.com](http://www.catholic-cemeteries.com)

## Durham Catholic District School Board

905-576-6150 or [www.dcdsb.ca](http://www.dcdsb.ca)

## Society of St. Vincent De Paul- Help Line

905-720-0003

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

TUESDAY	DECEMBER 7 St. Ambrose
<b>12:10 PM</b>	Darren Knight, req. Ken Knight
WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 8 Solemnity: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
<b>7:00 PM</b>	Alberto Iezzi, req. Ada Iezzi
THURSDAY	DECEMBER 9
<b>12:10</b>	Souls in Purgatory
FRIDAY (up to 5 Intentions)	DECEMBER 10
<b>7:00 P.M</b>	Herve LeBreton, req. daughters Florence & Carole & Family
SATURDAY	DECEMBER 11
<b>5:00 PM</b>	
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 12
<b>8:00 AM</b>	
<b>9:30 AM</b>	
<b>12:00 NOON</b>	+ John Richardson, req. Joan Richardson

### Adopt a Family for Christmas

Only a couple of weeks left! For our new families to the parish here is a little explanation of how the program works. Sponsors (Parishioners who wish to help another family from this Parish) are given information about their chosen family. We try to match the content of their own families with the family in need, in this way your own children can shop and help in the selection of gifts and make it rewarding for all. You are given the gender, ages, sizes and interests of the children. There is no dollar value suggested, it is whatever you care to spend. You will be asked to bring your wrapped gifts to the Parish Office no later than December 17<sup>th</sup>.

If you do not wish to purchase the gifts you can provide gift cards to the family and the parents can go out and purchase the gifts for the children. If you want a tax receipt for your donation than you can write a cheque St. Gregory's Church and mark it "Adopt A Family". The bookkeeper will then write a cheque for the amount and our Parish Secretary will go out and purchase the gifts/gift cards for the family.

However you wish to help is greatly appreciated!!

### Advent Confessions

In preparation for Christmas Fr. Marijan and Fr. Ed will hear confessions on Tuesday December 14<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, and from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm in the Parish Hall. There is no sin that cannot be forgiven. The only sin that can't be forgiven is one that is refused to be given to God in the Sacrament of Confession.

Confession resources,

<https://www.archtoronto.org/en/offices-and-ministries/sub-sites/confession/home/>

**Please remember St. Gregory's Parish in your will.**

### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



The second Sunday of Advent gives us the opportunity to **prepare our hearts in faithful waiting**, celebrate the birth of Jesus, and ready ourselves for his second coming.

It's a beautiful chance to reflect on the ways prophecy has been fulfilled and to ponder what the future (promised to us through prophecies) will bring.

[Psalm 46:10-11](#) says: "...Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress."

This week, we pause to remember who God is and what He has done for us. When our lives are hurried, we only have the chance to focus on our to-do lists. Making space in our schedules for prayer and meditation helps us to better see God at work in our lives and in our world.

As we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Jesus' arrival as a gift to all humanity, let's stir up in our hearts and homes a sense of anticipation. May God's Spirit transform the days leading up to Christmas into a time of holy anticipation; preparing our hearts, as we **faithfully await** the chance to celebrate the arrival of our Lord and King.

### Worth Noting

On December 12 is Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, which means, also of Canada, because we are in the North American continent.

Accordingly, December 12 is also National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples in the dioceses of Canada. All of us are invited to join to our Indigenous brothers and sisters in a special way this day through prayer and acts of solidarity.

Thus, this year let us pray for truth and reconciliation as a delegation of leaders of the Indigenous Peoples will encounter Pope Francis in Rome.

## Book Presentation and Meet the Author

*Five Smooth Stones: Facing the Goliath of our Fears* is a five-part reflection based on the biblical story of David and Goliath. Like David, as we prepare to take on the Goliaths of our fears, we too must pick up five smooth stones: Humility, Wisdom, Virtue, Courage and the Grace of God. Each chapter examines how these aspects of our Catholic faith embolden us to face the fears of our daily lives, calling the reader to delve more deeply into their relationship with God.

Meet local author Robert LeBlanc Sat. Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> 1-3pm at Cherub's Cupboard or Thurs. Dec 16<sup>th</sup> 6-9pm at the Old Flame Brewing Co. in Port Perry.

[catholicmoment.ca/book](http://catholicmoment.ca/book)

*"Five Smooth Stones will powerfully enhance your understanding of the biblical account of David and Goliath." Al Smith, Bishop Sheen*

## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

### CHRISTMAS EVE DECEMBER 24

6:00 p.m. Music – Michelle & Dmitri

9:00 p.m. Music – Michelle & Dmitri

### CHRISTMAS DAY DECEMBER 25

8:00 a.m. Music – Paul & Dave

9:30 a.m. Music – Paul & Dave

12:00 noon Music – Carm & Michelle

(NO evening Mass or confessions)

### ST. STEPHEN - BOXING DAY DECEMBER 26

#### FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY, Sunday

8:00 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

12:00 noon

### TUESDAY DECEMBER 28

12:10p.m. Mass

### WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 29

7:00 p.m. Mass

### THURSDAY DECEMBER 30

12:10 p.m. Mass

### MARY, MOTHER OF GOD DECEMBER 31

5:00 p.m.

### JANUARY 1

8:00 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

12:00 noon

(NO evening Mass or confessions)

### JANUARY 2<sup>ND</sup> EPIPHANY OF THE LORD,

#### Sunday

8:00 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

12:00 noon

## OFFICE HOURS OVER CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR

Every year the office closes on December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12:00 NOON. We will re-open on Monday January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2022. We have an Answering Service with Operators who answer our phone lines 24 hours a day 7 days a week. If an emergency arises, the Answering Service will contact Fr. Marijan directly.

## Confirmation Meeting

We invite the parents of the children in grades 7 and possibly 8 that seek to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation to bring their children to the first meeting on Sunday December 5 before or after Mass at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Please preregister for the Sacrament ahead of time at the office.

## First Holy Communion

If you missed the meeting last Sunday, it is not too late to register. Please contact the Parish Office.

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

If you wish to become fully a Catholic Christian, join us at RCIA on Tuesdays beginning November 23 in the Parish Hall from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) provides instruction and spiritual formation to anyone 16 years of age and older who are not baptized, or baptized in another Christian community, who would like to become a member of the Catholic Church. Catholic adults who have not yet received their First Holy Communion or the Sacrament of Confirmation may also take part. Please speak to Fr. Marijan or call the office for more information and/or to register.

## Booking Reservations for Mass

We will continue the practice of making reservations for weekend Masses for purposes of contact tracing. You can go online and register via Eventbrite (<https://stgregoryoshawa.eventbrite.ca>), or call Jacqui at the office during the week. **One ticket is for a person up to five people in a social bubble.** We are asking parishioners to reserve their seat online before each weekend. Reservations open at **1:00 pm on Tuesdays and close at 3:00 pm** on Friday on our website. You may leave a message with the answering service **BUT ONLY DURING THE WEEK. YOU MUST REGISTER BY FRIDAY AT 3:00 to reserve a seat. The answering service will not take messages for reservations after 3:00 Friday afternoons.**



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