

St. Gregory The Great

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

FOUNDED 1843

THE MOTHER CHURCH OF DURHAM

OFFICE: 194 Simcoe St. N., OSHAWA, ON L1G 4S9

Tel: 905-723-8141 Fax: 905-723-3116

web site: www.stgregorythegreat.archtoronto.org email: stgregorythegreat@archtoronto.org

Administrator: Fr. Marijan Sisko

Deacon: David MacInnis

Administrative Assistant: Jacqueline Martin



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

TUESDAY	DECEMBER 21
12:10 PM	+ Paul Chester Zapora, req. George & Clara
WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 22
7:00 PM	
THURSDAY	DECEMBER 23
12:10	

Please preregister for all weekday and Sunday Masses via Eventbrite (<https://stgregoryshawa.eventbrite.ca>), or call Jacqui at the office during the week so to reserve your ticket for one person up to five persons in the same social and avoid crowding at the door. A social bubble is a group of people, members of the same household or people who are not keeping 6 feet physical distancing.

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 2ND EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, Sunday

8:00 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

12:00 noon



Today is the fourth and final Sunday of Advent in 2021. Advent is the season in which believers eagerly anticipate the celebration of Christ's birth. Reading, prayer, and reflection are ways we can cultivate a sense of holy anticipation this Advent. The fourth Sunday of Advent we meditate on the **peace** that Jesus brings our hearts and our world. Scripture is the place we can find the promises of God. Let us meditate on these truths and allow them to comfort our hearts this Advent season!

[2 Thessalonians 3:16](#) says, "Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you." This week we focus our hearts on the "Lord of peace" who came down from heaven in the form of a baby. God knows that we are in a constant battle against fear! Fear wants to cripple us, to push us to react rather than carefully respond, and fear steals our joy. God has given us the gift of peace so we can live joy-filled lives!

The [fourth candle](#) of Advent is called the "Angel Candle" and symbolizes **peace**. This name comes from the fact that the angels announced that Jesus came to bring peace ([Luke 2:14](#)). This week we are reminded that Jesus came to bring peace to our hearts and to our world!

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



HELP - Extra Volunteers Are Needed

Although we continue to follow the Province's restrictions and protocols for Covid-19 we are looking for more volunteers – ushers – to help monitor the entrances and exits of the church during the Christmas holiday season. If you wish to volunteer at one of the Masses, please call the parish office.

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

OFFICE HOURS OVER CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR

Please note: The office will close on December 22nd at 12:00 NOON We will re-open on Monday January 3rd 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.

Engaged Couples!

Marriage Preparation Classes at St. John The Evangelist
903 Giffard Street Whitby, Ontario phone 905-668-3676
Email stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org

Our next Marriage Preparation Course at St. John the Evangelist will be held on 6 Thursday evenings from January 20 to February 24, 2022 at 7:00pm to 9:00pm in the Parish Centre. Fee is \$200 per couple. Please contact the office as soon as possible.

First Holy Communion & Confirmation

The next meeting and review sessions will be as follows:

First Holy Communion: Sunday January 9, 2022 in the Parish Hall.

Confirmation: Sunday January 16, 2022

Parents are welcome to stay if they wish.

Please Consider Pre-Authorized Giving

Pre-Authorized Giving: The Archdiocese of Toronto has established a Pre-Authorized Giving plan (PAG) to help you support the Parish's work through your regular offertory gift. To accomplish the mission entrusted to us by Christ, Parishes depend entirely on the generosity of their parishioners. Pre-Authorized Giving allows you to donate to our Parish through scheduled monthly transfers from your bank account or credit card. These funds are then deposited directly into the Parish's account. There are various benefits of participating in pre-authorized giving, both for you and for your parish. Advantages for You:

- The convenience of having your offering automatically contributed to the Parish.
- Knowing you continue to support the Parish even when you are away.
- Continual support of ministries and programs funded through the parish. Advantages for the Parish:
- Regular, dependable contributions to the Parish.
- Reduction of cash on hand.
- Reduction of paperwork. For information on how to enroll, please contact our Parish office or email development@archtoronto.org

Can You Help?

We are looking to make a team of volunteers to help with Audio Visual transmission, live streaming and also a Webmaster. If you have experience in these fields and would like to help, please call the parish office.

Worth Noting: 'O Antiphons', part 2

Let us continue to prayerfully reflect every day until Christmas day on these antiphons:

December 20. O come, Key of David, opening the gates of God's eternal kingdom: free the prisoners of darkness!

21. O come, Emmanuel, God's presence among us, our King, our Judge: save us, Lord our God!

22. O come, King of all nations, source of your Church's unity and faith: save all people, your own creation!

23. O come, Emmanuel, God's presence among us, our King, our Judge: save us, Lord our God!

24. O come, Radiant Dawn, splendour of eternal light, sun of justice: shine on those lost in the darkness of death!

Re: Friars' Student Writing Contest 2022 – Win Great Prizes!

It is time once again for the Friars' Student Writing Award. Students aged 13-19 are invited to submit a 450-500-word essay for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, celebrated from January 18 to 25, 2022. This year, the theme and the resources for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2022 have been prepared by the Middle East Council of Churches based in Beirut, Lebanon. The theme of the contest is: "We saw the star in the East, and we came to worship him" (Mt. 2:2). The deadline for the writing contest is Monday, February 14, 2022 at 2 p.m. Please see the poster for more contest details:

<https://bit.ly/FriarsStudentWritingContest2022>

Prayer Corner

Almighty God, we ask salvation for those who believe in you. Hear us on behalf of your servants who are sick, for whom we humbly beg the help of your mercy, that they may be restored to health. We pray especially for:

*The sick: Imelda Jones & Andrew Sim
For the recently departed: Elizabeth Smith*

HAVE A WONDERFUL AND BLESSED WEEK

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