

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADEVENT



Monday, November 28, 7 p.m.

+Jeanette & Joyce Coe req by Maurice Coe

Tuesday, November 29, 9 a.m.

+Marg Hall req by Kate Hudson

Wednesday, November 30, 7 p.m.

+Michael Mlekuz req by Former Austin Staff & Students

Thursday, December 1, 9 a.m.

+Jeanette & Joyce Coe req by Maurice Coe

Friday, December 2, 7 p.m.

+Roger Tyron Fernando req by Mary Fernando

+Johnny Campozano req by Anna & Paul Colacicco & Family

+Angeline Skinulis req by Linda Saville

+Jackie Marchetti req by Marg & Mike Burke

+Zoltan Weindorfer req by Bob Weindorfer

+George Chaikowsky req by Mary Scott

+Pat Bourke req by Maurice Coe

Saturday, December 3

9 a.m. +Palma & Domenico Guzzo req by D'Aliesio Family

5 p.m. +Len Tobin req by Sheila Tobin

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please pray for the healing and recovery of all the sick members of our parish especially: Maureen Keogan, Reginald Wade, Wayne Scott, Grace Hancock and Shirley Barrett.

VOCATION

DISCERNMENT RETREAT

The Office of Vocations invites single Catholic men, 17 years and older to attend a Vocations Discernment Retreat from Dec 9 to 11, 2016 at Manresa Spiritual Renewal Centre, Pickering. (Starts on Friday at 7 pm). The retreat offers Guided reflections, Holy Mass, Adoration, confession and the assistance of a vocations team. Suggested donation of \$150 to help cover costs. For more information, please see Fr. Marijan or call 416-968-0997.



Lectio Divina

with Cardinal Thomas Collins

We are inviting everyone to attend a Lectio Divina on the Book of Psalms with Cardinal Thomas Collins (after His Eminence celebrates the **7pm Mass**) on Monday **November 28th** in the parish hall.

Lectio Divina (“divine, or sacred, reading”) is the name given to a spiritual tradition among Christians over the last two thousand years, in which *they attentively and prayerfully read the word of God.*

YOUR OPINION COUNTS

As part of our work towards developing our parish Spiritual Renovation plan, we would like to gather as much information from as many parishioners as possible. Over time, this may take different forms, but all of it will provide our team with important information about our parish and the members who make up our Holy Family community. This will then inform our plans and decisions over the next years so that all that we do in our effort, time and financial support is spent in ways to meet the needs of our parish. At this time, we are conducting the Gallup Member Engagement (ME²⁵) survey until Sunday, December 18. All parishioners over the age of 18 are asked to please complete the Gallup ME25 survey. There is a link available from our parish website, or you may navigate to:

http://my.gallupfaith.com/holyfamilywhitby_L1N6Z3 pass code: **D930BE2**

Please only complete the survey once per person. Our goal is to have over 1,000 people do the survey, and we are already at 238! Thank you so much for your support.

WELCOMING TEAM

Holy Family Hospitality is up and running! Thank you so much to all of the people who have indicated they would like to be part of this team, and to those who signed up to serve this first weekend. We will now have welcoming people serve at each weekend mass. If you are interested in becoming part of this intentionally hospitable team, please sign up at the back of the church. If you have already signed up, please see the schedules at the back to indicate when you are available. And, of course, all parishioners are invited to continue to be intentionally hospitable! Let us see the face of Jesus in all we meet.

Thank You!

We wish to thank all of the parishioners who extended a very warm and gracious welcome to our New Parishioners this past weekend. Many people came down to the church hall and had wonderful conversations as we got to know our “new” people better. Thank you so much also to all of the people who donated and dropped off the delicious treats and food so that we could provide a nice, hospitable atmosphere for the gathering. It is always amazing how our needs are met and food just appears when the call goes out! It was heartwarming to all who were there to have the opportunity to meet and have conversation.

KEN MACDONALD COLUMBIAN SQUIRES



The Ken MacDonald Columbian Squires of Whitby are running a membership drive for boys ages 10-18. Stop by and see what the Squires are all about.

We are a 'Jr' version of the Knights of Columbus and we hold our meetings every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month from 6pm-7pm in the Knights room. The first meeting of the month is always a business meeting, while the second meeting is always a social. Come help to serve the parish and community in a fun and faith based atmosphere. Remember the Squires motto: Esto Dignus - Be Worthy!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY



Holy Family Parish will host a Children's Christmas Party to celebrate Jesus' birthday on **Saturday, December 3rd from 12:00nn - 2:30pm in the church hall**. Please sign up your children at the back of the church after all Masses. There will be lots of fun activities, music, food, and even a little learning - all the good things that bring a happy community together.

There may even be a visit from a jolly man in red! We will need volunteers to help in preparation, set up/clean up on the day of the party and run the different activities. Community service hours will be given to high school students who wish to volunteer. Please call Mary Kay at (905) 668-8353 for more details.

Families are asked to please bring a non-perishable food item to donate to our St. Vincent de Paul society so that they may distribute to other families in need this Christmas. Items particularly needed are: pasta sauces, cereal, peanut butter, canned meat and fish (tuna, salmon), baby foods, though all items will be gratefully accepted.

HOLY FAMILY CHRISTMAS CAROL

The choirs of Holy Family Parish welcome all to an evening of Christmas Carols on **Saturday, December 3rd after the 5 pm mass** in church. Feel and share the joy of Christmas as you listen and sing along to timeless carols. Afterwards join us for Christmas treats, coffee and hot chocolate in the church hall. Admission is free. Bring your family, friends and Christmas Spirit.

YOUTH MINISTRY ADVENT REFLECTION

It's time to get LIT!

Darkness has a subtle way of overcoming us. As seasons change it gets darker way earlier and nights seem to get longer. The same can be said about spiritual life. When we give in to selfish wants and desires, sin darkens our lives and minds. Just like in the second reading St. Paul warns believers in Rome to "throw off the works of darkness" and protect themselves with "the armour of light" we also must be aware of the battle between light and darkness around us.

- What battle are you fighting right now? In what ways is God calling you to ask for His help?
- If Jesus were to come again right now would you be ready?

St. Padre Pio referred to the Rosary as a spiritual weapon; it can be used as your armour! This week pray the Rosary and focus on how God will deliver you from the battle you are in.

HOLY FAMILY ADVENT RETREAT

Set aside a few evenings to shift your focus during the hectic days leading to Christmas. Come & attend Holy Family's Advent Retreat on:

Monday December 12th 7pm Mass

Tuesday December 13th, 7pm Mass

Wednesday, December 14th, 7pm Mass

Advent Reconciliation will follow after the Mass on December 14th. This Advent Retreat will focus on the heart's readiness in anticipation of the coming of our Lord and Saviour. Speaker is Fr. Ben St. Croix, of the "Companions of the Cross" has a great zeal for the "New Evangelization" and his parish missions are an opportunity to proclaim the basic Gospel truth and to invite people into a dynamic relationship with Jesus. He is a spark the Lord uses to set hearts on fire!



Jesus in the confessional is not a dry cleaner: it is an encounter with Jesus, who waits for us just as we are. Is going to confession like a torture session? No! It is going to praise God, because I, a sinner, have been saved by Him. Preparation for and the celebration of Confession allows us to set aside disruptive ways, to be renewed in heart and spirit, to be reconciled with our God who abounds with gracious, gentle tenderness. From December 13 to 19, 2015, each parish in the Archdiocese of Toronto will be holding a **Day of Confessions**. Confessions at our parish will be available on **December 14, 2016 from 3:00pm to 9:00pm**.



Jesus is the Anointed One – the ultimate priest, prophet and king foreshadowed throughout the Hebrew Scriptures. Join us as we deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ through Fr. Robert Barron's new DVD-based Study Program: *Priest, Prophet, and King*. Explore the biblical archetypes of priest, prophet and king and see how Jesus is the ultimate fulfillment of each one. Throughout this experience, you will better understand who Jesus really is and also realize your own priestly, prophetic and kingly mission.

On Monday, January 16, 2017 our parish will begin the *Priest, Prophet, King* study program. There will be 2 sessions: **Morning at 10:30am and Evening at 7:30pm**. For more information, to sign up and purchase the study materials visit the table at the back of the church after all masses this weekend. You may also contact the church office to sign up.

CAMPAIGN LIFE CHRISTMAS CAKES

Holy Family is selling the **CHRISTMAS CAKES FOR CAMPAIGN LIFE** next weekend, December 3rd/4th at the back of the church. The cost is \$15 for a small cake next and \$25 for a large cake.