

Holy Family Parish

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PASTOR: Rev. Fr. Laszlo Nagy

ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Fr. Ravibabu Kakumanu

OFFICE MANAGER: Tess Bondoc

DIRECTOR OF NEW EVANGELIZATION: Mary Kay Boase

YOUTH MINISTER: Stephanie Paglia

OFFICE ASSISTANT: Sue Kanemy



Feast of the Holy Family

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

May the love of Christ fill you and your family with great hope & joy.



"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." John 3:16

Monday December 27, 7:00pm

+Lilibeth de los Angeles req by the Family.
 +Marcus Rodrigues req by Melissa Rodrigues.
 Sp Int Alexia Hawkins.

Tuesday December 28, 9:00am

+Lucy D'Souza req by Joyce D'Souza.
 +Geronimo Lorenzana Kondzior Family.
 Sp Int Antonietta Orecchio.

Wednesday December 29, 7:00pm

+Antonio, Maria & Mimi Defreitas and
 Thomas Ferguson req by Kelly Defreitas.
 +Annunziata DeFilippis req by Carmela
 & Donato DeFilippis.

Sp Int Fr László & Fr Ravi by Legion of Mary.

Thursday December 30, 9:00am

+Alice Mary Cooper req by June Refearo.
 +Marguerite Delphine Gillard req by
 Marguerite Gillard.
 Sp Int Tess Bondoc.

Sp Int Antonietta Orecchior req by
 Claudia Herod.

New Year's Even Mass, Friday Dec 31

5:00pm only

New Year's Day, Saturday Jan 1

8:00am, 9:30am & 11:00am

Sunday Jan 2

Regular Mass Schedule.

LOOKING FOR PRAYER?

If you are in need of prayer, please use our **Prayer Request Box** located in the back of the church or submit your prayer request using our **Online Prayer Request Form** which can be found on our website. Our Intercessory Prayer Warriors will whatever situation you may be faced with, trust in the Lord. Please rest assured your prayers requests will be handled with the utmost respect.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Are you looking for parent resources? Want to learn more about Prayer or the Rosary? Or learn what happens during Mass or how to prepare for Confession? Find it all and much more on our website! We've curated the latest videos and resources to help you in your faith journey!



hollyfamilywhitby.ca



Someone's coming to dinner...
are you ready?

Someone's coming to dinner, are you ready?

When we have invited someone to come to our home, there are many things that we do to prepare to welcome them. You know what they are, the cleaning, the cooking, the decorating and gifts if it is a celebration. These are all surface preparations that we go through to make sure in a practical way that things are ready and look nice. What would a more reflective and deeper preparation look like? What if we have not seen the person for a long time? What if it is someone with whom we have had a falling out, or someone we have hurt? Or when we know that there is something we should have done and we didn't. How do we prepare in our thoughts and our hearts for greeting this person?

You know the analogy...the person coming to dinner is Jesus. Yes, to celebrate the birthday of Jesus at Christmas we adorn our houses with decorations, we cook and bake special foods to share, we purchase gifts to give and we plan happy gatherings. We may even go out of our way to contribute our time or money to a charity or acts of kindness. All of this is lovely, it is all a lot of work, yes, but these things are the practical matters just the same.

Jesus was born into the world of a woman, Mary, who gave her total "yes" to God, over 2000 years ago...and as we have waited through Advent, we were reminded that he continues to come into the world, every Christmas, and continually in our life every time we invite him. While Advent was a time of preparation and our opportunity to reflect on who we are and how we live our lives and ask if we are truly followers of Christ, now, all is done, all is ready, and so it is time to ask ourselves if we are prepared to give him our "yes". He appeared among us as an innocent, vulnerable baby, signifying that it is not through power and prestige that we can be his disciples, but that we can be signs of hope and peace for others through the sharing of his overwhelming love for us, imperfect and broken as we are. Every Christmas, we are reminded of his unfailing effort and desire to be present in our lives now, and in the future, as we wait for him to come again.

It is so easy in the busyness of life and this season to rush past any intruding thoughts about our own shortcomings and sinfulness, much less to find time to pause and prayerfully open and prepare our heart. Hopefully, we did some of that, and now on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, we take a moment in the quiet peacefulness to be truly grateful for the many blessings we have, to pause and seek reconciliation with God and others, and recognize the gifts he has equipped us with, and bring his light into the world through our joyful celebration of his birth. Jesus is coming to dinner, are you ready?

May God bless you all with hope, peace, joy and love this Christmas - Fr. Laszlo

Feeling lost in the crowd? Looking for connection?

We are all inherently looking to belong, to be deeply connected...to be loved. That's because life is meant to be shared, with and for others. We were created for relationships! Small Groups give you the opportunity to gather in a smaller setting outside of Mass, get to know each other better and grow deeper in faith. It's in these interactions, with ordinary, imperfect believers, that we learn real fellowship and experience the connection God intends for us. **Find out more!** Visit hollyfamilywhitby.ca/small-groups.

YOUTH & TEEN MINISTRY

Praise God for another year of youth ministry, sharing the Joy of His love with our youth & teens in our community! Despite the obstacles and disruptions of everyday life, God has continued to provide us with opportunities to reach His sheep!

With every storm that God allows us to face, we are able to grow stronger, love deeper and focus more on the things that truly matter- our family, our neighbours and most importantly, God.

May this Christmas bring us another step closer to Him and the true purpose of our lives- preparing to come home, in union and Communion with God in Heaven!

Our youth programs range from grades 3 to 12. Please visit the YOUTH & TEENS page of our website for more information, to see what we've been up to and to register.

holyfamlywhitby.ca/youth-ministry-corner/

Have a blessed Christmas!

Our Hope is in the one, faithful and unchanging, Jesus Christ!

Stephanie Paglia, Youth Minister- Holy Family



Are you a young man who has questions about your faith? Do you find it hard to talk about your faith outside of church? Do we have a solution for you!

In the New Year, Holy Family Parish will be starting two Small Groups for our high school men, which will be led by our Youth Ministry's male core leaders. These small groups will provide a safe and comfortable space for discussions, as well as help answer many questions our young men may have about our faith.

If you are interested in joining or have any questions, please email, Stephanie, at youthministryholyfamlywhitby@gmail.com

Your 2022 envelopes are ready for pick up at the back of the church!

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the volunteers & parish ministries who participated in this year's Christmas celebration! Thank you to the Holy Family Choir who serenaded the parishioners with beautiful hymns & carols. Special thank you to all the volunteers who helped set up our beautiful Christmas Trees and flowers on the altar, as well as those who set up the Christmas Lights outside. Thank you as well to the **Plastina family for the Christmas flowers** and to the Wilkes family for the candy canes.

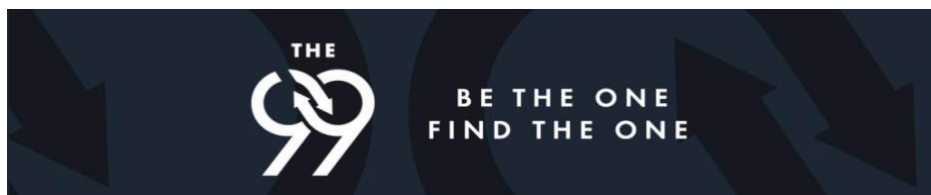


A BLESSED CHRISTMAS

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul at Holy Family would like to thank Father Laszlo, Father Ravi and all the Parishioner at Holy Family for their generous support this Christmas to help over 90 families have a Joyful Christmas. Wishing Happiness and Peace this Christmas and the coming 2022 New Year from our Vincentian Families to yours.



A GIFT FOR YOU! Are you using FORMED yet? Try it today – its FREE! Holy Family Parish has purchased a parish-wide subscription to a Catholic-content streaming network called FORMED (works like Netflix). It's our gift to you! Discover thousands of books, audio talks, movies, documentaries, and studies... there is something for every member of your family to help them grow closer to Christ and His Church. Visit our website for suggestions on what to watch and how to get started. holyfamlywhitby.ca/formed/



Our mission: love God, love others, make disciples. We have increased our love of God and our relationship with Him. We have learned how to better love our families, our neighbours, even those who are difficult to love. **But how can we make disciples? Especially if we are not sure if we are disciples...**

Did you know that almost half of baptized Catholics do not know or don't believe that it is even possible to have a personal relationship with God? This is a total misunderstanding of the Christian faith. How can this be so? Do you believe that God loves you? Do you believe that He would want to be in a relationship with you and that he would leave everything behind to come and find you?

We know Jesus' parable of the lost sheep (*Matt 18: 12-14, Luke 15: 3-7*), when the Good Shepherd who knows and cares for his sheep so deeply that he leaves the 99 to go in search of the one that is lost. This is the metaphor for an upcoming new movement in our parish to further our understanding of being disciples and making disciples.

Can you think of anything that is worth so much more to you than the mere cost of replacing it that you would stop everything, give anything to get it back? This is how God feels about you, and he will search to bring you closer to Him.

We are all called as part of "The 99" to go help Jesus find "the one".

Please watch for more details about "The 99 Master Class" – sessions to start in January to prepare and form the facilitating team; "The 99 Experience" – an immersive retreat experience to take place during Lent; and "The 99 Handbook" – a follow-up book study in late spring to further build our community of faith. Consider how you can be part of the flock of Jesus to go out to His people.



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