

# Holy Family Parish

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**PASTOR:** Rev. Fr. Laszlo Nagy

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR:** Fr. Ravibabu Kakumanu

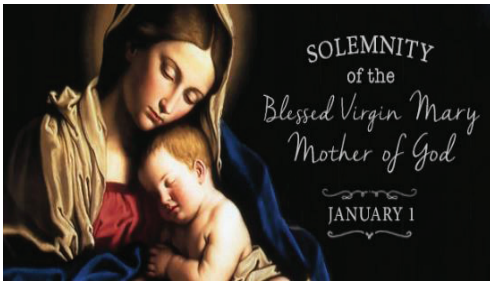
**OFFICE MANAGER:** Tess Bondoc   **Youth Minister:** Stephanie Paglia

**Office Assistant:** Sue Kanemy   **Lay Pastoral Assistant:** Karina Doyle



## Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

# SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD



Living Our Faith  
Building Our Future

## Capital Campaign Update

Our ambassadors nearing the end of the first phase ("Matthew") of the campaign with most visits having been completed. Our second phase ("Mark") is well under way with ambassadors having already contacting parishioners to set up visits to take place over the next few weeks.

Thank you to everyone who has given their time in service to this campaign and to those who have welcomed an ambassador into their home in 2022. We gratefully acknowledge all financial contributions that were made in 2022.

As we prepare to start the third phase ("Luke") later this month, the campaign needs you! Along with your financial support, find out how you can help the campaign by emailing:

[CapitalCampaignHF@gmail.com](mailto:CapitalCampaignHF@gmail.com)

## DO YOU NEED A PRAYER?

If you are in need of prayer, please use our **Prayer Request Box** located at the back of the church. Simply fill out the provided card and leave it in the box.

### Monday Jan. 2 7:00pm

+Lily Joseph req by Family

### Tuesday Jan. 3, 9:00am

Sp Int Gladys George req by  
Lise Beauchesne

### Wednesday Jan. 4, 7:00pm

CWL Members Living & Deceased

### Thursday Jan. 5, 9:00am

+Frances Bissonette req by  
Partlow Family

Sp Int Gladys George req by  
Claudia Herod

+Sydney Samuel req by Gladys George

### Friday Jan. 6, 7:00pm

Special Intentions

### Saturday Jan. 7, 9:00am

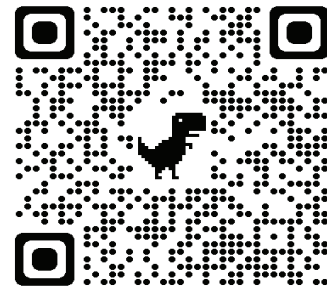
+Robert Mendonca req by  
Linette Mendonca

### Saturday Jan. 7, 5:00pm

+Leonardo Falconeri req by  
Angela Falconeri

# HFkids

## Holy Family Parish



## HFkids EVERY SUNDAY DURING THE 9:30, 11:00 MASS.

We invite **ALL KIDS** from grades JK to **GRADE 6** to join us starting **Sunday January 8<sup>th</sup>** in the hall for our HFkids Programs. Just listen for the HFkids call at the start of Mass, your children will return to join you in your pew after the offertory collection. We are offering 2 programs this fall **Adventurers** for KIDS in JK to Gr 1 and **Time Travellers** for YOUTH in Gr 2 to Gr 6. Scan the QR code or visit: [holyfamilywhitby.ca/hfkids-2/](http://holyfamilywhitby.ca/hfkids-2/) for more info!

## ➤ *Moms, Dads, Teachers, Young Adults!*

We invite you to come down and check out our two HFkids programs; Adventurers for kids in JK to Gr 1 and Time Travellers for kids in Gr 2-6. We're seeking individuals who have a flair for talking with kids! Scripts and material are all provided. This is a unique and fun way to evangelize our youth. If you would like to know more or jump right in, please contact Sue at [holyfamily.sue@gmail.com](mailto:holyfamily.sue@gmail.com) or come and find us in the hall after the 9:30 or 11:00 Masses.

**We would especially love to offer these programs at the 12:30 Mass but can only so this with your help!!**

**Together we can make this happen.**

JANUARY 1, 2023

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## Mary Christmas!

Every year when the Christmas season comes around, we called to explore the lives of the 4 Marys in the Christmas story, this way we search for different ways to present the wonder of the Incarnation. As wondrous as the God-in-flesh-holy days might be, this sanctified season is a reminder that it repeats itself every twelve months. Here I try to lead you to discover the life of the mother of Jesus, Mary and the other Marys—Mary Magdalene, Mary of Clopas, and Mary Salome. This might be for you an innovative way to communicate the message of the gospel through the narratives of these Marys.

### Mary at the Immaculate Conception

Luke 1:26-56 describes the predicted birth of Jesus Christ: He would be born to Joseph a descendant of David, and to Mary, a virgin, who by the Holy Spirit would bear her Son. This Mary was visited by an angel and told that she would give birth to a Son who will be given the name Emanuel. And, according to this angel, Jesus would be called the Son of the Most High and the Son of God. This same Son will reign by God's power on the throne of David. Finally, as Mary was informed of Elizabeth's pregnancy, she obediently gave herself to God's will. The Immaculate Conception is foundational to the deity of Jesus Christ. This text reveals an obedient, faithful lover of God, convinced to follow the dictates of heaven, no matter what the consequences.

Mary's obedience in light of this miraculous experience underscores for us this truth: We serve the Son of the Most High God who came to save us from our sins.

### Mary at the Birth of Jesus

Luke's account of the birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-20) demonstrates that God chose the lowliest to show in his holiness that Jesus Christ is Savior to all kinds of people. Here were Joseph and Mary, a working-class, even a peasant-class couple, yet deemed by God the Father as worthy to parent his Son, Jesus the Christ. No room in the inn meant a place in the barn. In those lowly conditions the Savior of the world was born. It's an ironic story with incredible contrasts. Surrounding the birth of Jesus were outcast shepherds, and high-singing angels with a baby in a lowly feeding trough. The text says, "But Mary treasured up all these things in her heart" (Luke 2:19). The riches of this earth-shattering event were captured in her thoughts and in her heart, giving her perspective on what would take place over the next thirty-three years of her Son's life. Mary's experience at Jesus' birth underscores that God chooses the lowly to show in his holiness that Jesus Christ is Savior to all kinds of people.

### Mary at Miracle of Water Turned into Wine

In this narrative (John 2:1-22), Mary the mother of Jesus appears to step in to take the place of the wedding host. The wine has run out at the wedding and she's at a loss as to how to get more—so she tells Jesus, "They have no more wine".

The conversation between Mary and her grown-up Messiah Son seems a bit sharp at first. But she seemed to know that it was "his time" and orders the servants to do what Jesus tells them to do. The water that was poured into the water pots moments later came out of the spout as "the best wine". At first, one may puzzle about Mary's role in this astonishing scene, but even though the emphasis of the narrative is that Jesus "thus revealed his glory" being his first of many miracles, his mother clearly made the way for him to demonstrate his glory.

### Mary at the Cruel Cross of Crucifixion

One cannot imagine the horror of watching one's Son slip toward death. Mary witnessed the crucifixion. It happened before her very eyes. She was gripped with grief as she stood near the Cross where her Son was crucified.

She was supported by two other Marys: Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdala. In addition, John "the disciple whom he loved" was standing nearby (John 19:26) From the Cross of pain, the caring, loving Son thoughtfully instructed his mother and John, "Dear woman, here is your son," and he said to John, "Here is your mother." The text continues, "From that time on, this disciple took her into his home." These seemingly minor details surrounding the narrative of the crucifixion add to the remarkable account about the life of Mary and the role that the disciples played—especially John—in the continuing biography of the life of Mary.

### Marys at the Resurrection of Jesus

Mary Magdalene, Mary of Clopas, and Mary Salome went to the tomb where Jesus was laid early on the morning of the first day of the week. The Mary that stands out among the other Marys was Mary Magdalene, the same Mary who had seven demons cast out of her, presumably by Jesus (Luke 8:2). Following her encounter with Jesus, she is the one who reported to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord!" The celebration of the Incarnation is the perfect time for followers of Jesus to tell others that we know this Lord, this same Lord of whom these Marys gave an account—his name is Jesus, our risen Redeemer.

We see the Incarnation through the eyes of the different Marys in the New Testament. These saintly women were used in God's providence to show the contours of the gospel story. Let us give permission to God in this New Year and make ourselves available, accountable so we can be instruments of grace in Jesus' Incarnation for others. God used women with a simple name, Mary, to change the world, he can use you too in this New Year.

A Blessed New Year to you and your family,  
Fr. László Nagy, Pastor



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