

# *St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church*

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## **Parish Staff**

Rev. A. Maderak, Pastor

Rev. Mr. Oswald D'Paiva, Deacon

Sheila Mills, Secretary



## *Feast of the Holy Family*



## Masses For The Week

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### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

5:00 pm Paolo Sala - Anna Ngo

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

9:00 am The People of the Parish

11:00 am Demetrio & Aleja Edralin R.I.P.

- Edralin Family

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

7:00 pm Maria Nhiem Tran R.I.P.

- Phuong Nguyen

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31 *New Year's Eve*

5:00 pm Edgardo Javillo R.I.P. - Dema Javillo

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 1 *New Year's Day*

9:00 am In Thanksgiving - Adeline Marcos

11:00 am The People of the Parish

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 2

9:00 am Unannounced

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 3

5:00 pm Ellen & Vincent Proctor R.I.P. &

Kitty Goodman R.I.P.

- Martin & Kevin Proctor

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

9:00 am The Abe Family

11:00 am The People of the Parish



## Pray

**Sick:** That our family members who are ill may enjoy the consolation of the Lord and the presence of their loved ones, especially Bill Bennett and Dora Cortese.

**Deceased:** For the family of God seeking eternal rest: that they may find light, happiness and peace, especially Rev. Frank Kelly, S.D.B.

**Pope's December Prayer Intention:** *For Christians in areas of conflict* - Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

## *The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God*

**All Catholics are required to come to  
Mass on December 31<sup>st</sup> or January 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Wednesday, December 31 - 5:00 pm**

**or**

**Thursday, January 1 - 9:00 am & 11:00 am**

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## **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God January 1<sup>st</sup>**



This feast recognized Mary as the physical parent of Christ, the God-Man defined at the Council of Ephesus in the 5<sup>th</sup> century. The third Mass of Christmas reflects the role of Mary in the Redemption, so her role has always been connected with the Christmas Mystery. Later from the 5<sup>th</sup> century to the 7<sup>th</sup> century, the feast was transferred to the

Octave Day of Christmas, January 1.

Prior to the time that this feast occurred on January 1, New Year's Day was observed as a day of prayer to offset pagan practices, since there were many riotous pagan celebrations. In the 5<sup>th</sup> century until the Middle Ages it honoured Mary and her Divine Maternity. Then it was observed as the Octave of Christmas, which developed into the Feast of the Circumcision. From 1961 to 1969 the title changed back to the Octave of the Nativity. Finally in 1969 the ancient Marian character was restored, so that we have its present title. It is a Holy day of Obligation.

This Solemnity celebrates the part played by Mary in the Mystery of Salvation, exalts the singular dignity that this Mystery brings to the holy Mother, renews adoration to the newborn Prince of Peace, and implores from God, through Mary's intercession, the supreme gift of peace.

## **Closing Mass for the Jubilee Year St. Michael's Cathedral this Sunday, December 28, 2025**

Last December, we officially launched the Year of Jubilee. His Eminence Cardinal Leo had the opportunity, along with our Auxiliary Bishops, to celebrate the Jubilee through regional celebrations at parishes identified as special Jubilee pilgrimage churches. We wish to sincerely thank these parishes for welcoming pilgrims throughout the Year of Jubilee, serving as places of prayer, welcome and reflection.

We wish to extend a warm invitation to the faithful of the archdiocese to join with Cardinal Leo for the Closing Mass for the Year of Jubilee this Sunday, December 28, 2025 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica at 5 p.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available with numerous priests present from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. All are most welcome.

Each Jubilee Pilgrimage Church will also celebrate a Closing Mass for the Year of the Jubilee on Sunday, December 28, 2025, at a regularly scheduled mass of their own choice. Please visit the pilgrimage church websites for further details:

<https://www.archtoronto.org/en/offices-and-ministries/sub-sites/year-of-prayer/home/pilgrimage-churches/>



Due to early printing of the bulletins, because of the publisher's holiday schedule, offerings for December 28<sup>th</sup>, Christmas, and January 4<sup>th</sup> will be printed in our January 11<sup>th</sup> bulletin.

There will be a second collection for the Building Fund on the weekend of January 3/4.



If you used offertory envelopes this year, your 2026 offertory envelopes are available for pickup in the church foyer with your name on it. If you do not use Sunday Offering envelopes, and would like to begin, please see staff at the counter in the church foyer.

## **World Day of Peace January 1**

The World Day of Peace was established by Pope Paul VI in 1968 who asked that "every year, this commemoration be repeated as a hope and as a promise, at the beginning of the calendar which measures and outlines the path of human life in time, that Peace with its just and beneficent equilibrium may dominate the development of events to come." Each year has a specific theme, chosen by the Holy Father - "Peace be with you all: Towards an 'unarmed and disarming' peace."

The theme of Pope Leo XIV's Message for the World Day of Peace 2026 invites humanity to reject the logic of violence and war, and to embrace an authentic peace based on love and justice. This peace must be unarmed, that is, not based on fear, threats or weapons. And it must be disarming, capable of resolving conflicts, opening hearts and generating mutual trust, empathy and hope. It is not enough to call for peace; we must embody it in a way of life that rejects every form of violence, whether it be visible or systemic.

The greeting of the Risen Christ, "Peace be with you" (Jn 20:19), is an invitation addressed to everyone - believers, non-believers, political leaders and citizens - to build the Kingdom of God and to work together to build a humane and peaceful future.

<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/it/bollettino/pubblico/2025/08/26/0592/01015.html>

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## **Thank You**

Thank you very much for your kind greetings, cards and various gifts over the holidays. On behalf of our parish staff and myself, I would like to extend our best wishes for a Blessed New Year.

Fr. Maderak



**The parish office will be closed  
Wednesday, December 31 to  
Friday, January 2.**

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