

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

AS A MOTHER, I remember well those first fleeting taps that signaled the kicks of my growing baby and knowing that one day, soon, the baby would arrive. After all the preparation and waiting, we would welcome an everyday miracle into a home that would perhaps never be truly ready enough.

This Advent, we hear once more how Elizabeth greeted Mary, and we feel the Christ child move, already within us through the grace of baptism. Christ quickens within us in anticipation as we clean, shop, bake, write cards or emails, practise for the pageant and wrap gifts. But sometimes we feel like the child is not leaping with joy but rather lagging a little. We miss loved ones and are burdened by imperfect relationships. We can feel that no matter how hard we work, something is lacking. It is so easy to become caught up in the material aspects of the season. We forget that all we need to do is be ready.

This Sunday, we are so close to the fulfillment of the promise contained in today's readings. What does fulfillment mean for us? For Elizabeth, it meant she was assured of God's blessing. This Christmas, let us, with Elizabeth, lay claim to that promise and may we all find some small moments to leap for joy.

*(Reflection of Maureen Wicken from Living with Christ)*



### Mass Intentions

#### Monday, December 24, 2018

8:30 a.m. + Ai-Lin Chan  
4:30 p.m. Birthday Wishes for Paul Chang-Hyun Park  
7:00 p.m. + Benny & Kathleen McNamee  
Midnight + Maria McDonnell

#### Tuesday, December 25, 2018 Christmas

8:00 a.m. Deceased Members of the McDermott Family  
9:30 a.m. + Rosa and Vincenzo Spinelli  
11:00 a.m. Deceased Members of Mazzitelli, Girmonte & Turco Family

#### Wednesday, December 26, 2018

8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Magdalene Sit & Matthew Cheung

#### Thursday, December 27, 2018

8:30 a.m. + Marie McDonnell

#### Friday, December 28, 2018

8:30 a.m. Belated Birthday wishes for Minilada Bumanglag

#### Saturday, December 29, 2018

4:30 p.m. + Lazara Nituda

#### Sunday, December 30, 2018

8:00 a.m. In Thanksgiving for Peredo & Medina Families  
9:30 a.m. Special Intention for Edna Siano  
11:00 a.m. + Maria & Edwardo Fernandes

### EDGE Youth Ministry

Fridays 7 – 9 p.m.

for students in Grades 6, 7 and 8

The EDGE program concludes this term with a Christmas party on **Friday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>**. EDGE resumes in the new year, starting Friday, Jan. 11, 2019.

All young people, grades 6 – 8 are welcome to attend; no pre-registration needed. For more information, contact Jessica Bews at: [stedwardyouthministry@gmail.com](mailto:stedwardyouthministry@gmail.com)

### Vocations

Are you called to follow in the footsteps of Mary as a priest or religious or deacon to carry the Good News of God's great Love? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, **contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto 416-968-0997** email [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)

### YOUNG ADULT - NEW YEAR'S PARTY

St. Edward's Parish has been chosen, by the Archdiocesan Youth Office, as the site of the first Toronto Young Adults New Year's Eve Party, to be held Monday, December 31st, in the parish hall. Young Adults (ages 19 - 39) from across the Archdiocese will join with the regular parish community for the New Year's Eve Mass, at 5 p.m., and then go to the hall for dinner, and dancing, starting at 6 p.m.

This event is semi-formal with a cash bar and D.J. There will be a pause for a faith presentation with proceeds from the dinner going to Canadian Hearts & Hands: A Mission Without Borders. Tickets are \$60 per person and can be purchased at: [Archdiocese of Toronto https://tinyurl.com.0CYNYE](https://tinyurl.com.0CYNYE)

### Annual Christmas Eve Children's Pageant

St. Edward's Parish will again present the true story of Christmas, during the 4:30 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve!

Thank you to all those who signed up as we look forward to the presentation of the true Christmas story.

### Thank You

Last Sunday, we hosted a Children's Christmas party, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. It turned out to be a wonderful celebration for the kids and their families. I would like to thank Jessica Bews, our Youth Minister, the Knights of Columbus and the members of the parish Social Committee for organizing the food and the crafts. A fun time for all. It was great to see the children so happy.

Fr. Pat

## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

As we celebrate Christmas let us all reach out to one another in our continuing journey to the kingdom.

This Christmas season let us remember the CHRIST who cares for the hurting, the lonely, the hungry, the homeless, the sick, the oppressed, and the victims of injustice.

The heart of the Christmas story is that in Jesus  
“God has visited His people”,  
Let us make Him welcome.

God’s enduring presence is the source of the joy of this season.

In the face of all we know, and all that challenges our wellbeing,

We are reminded that we are not alone.

In Jesus, our Emmanuel, God is with us.

On behalf of Fr. Pat, our pastor, Fr. David Warren, our associate pastor, Deacon David Quail, Deacon Michael Gennaro, our seminarian, Martin Lugo, our Youth Director, Jessica Bews, our parish secretaries, Josie Paladino and Marie Gennaro, and our custodian, Lucas Pak, we wish all our parishioners and their families a holy and peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### **TCDSB Kindergarten Registration Wednesday, January 16, 2019 – 10 a.m.**

Imagine the Possibilities: Junior Kindergarten in the Toronto Catholic District School Board provides children with a variety of learning experiences in a caring, faith-based environment. TCDSB looks forward to welcoming new students for September 2019. Children born in 2015 are eligible for kindergarten. **Registration options:** Online: Parents can complete their application online, beginning at 10 a.m. EST on January 16, 2019, at **SOAR.tcdsb.org**, and follow up with a visit to the school to present required documents. In-person: Parents can register at their local school, with required documents beginning January 16, 2019 at 10 a.m. EST. **CONTACT:**

TCDSB Communications **PHONE:** 416-222-8282, ext. 5314

**EMAIL:** [commdept@tcdsb.org](mailto:commdept@tcdsb.org)

**WEB:** [www.tcdsb.org/kindergartenregistration](http://www.tcdsb.org/kindergartenregistration)

### **New Offertory Envelopes**

Those who have not yet picked up their new offertory envelopes for 2018, please do so in order to start using them in January. This allows us to make room in the foyer for Christmas activities. Thank you.



### *Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule*

**Christmas Eve – Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**  
4:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m., and 12:00 Midnight

**Christmas Day – Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**  
8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.

**Feast of the Holy Family**  
**Saturday, Dec. 29<sup>th</sup> – 4:30 p.m.**  
**Sunday, Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> – 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.**

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
**New Year’s Eve – Monday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**  
5:00 p.m.  
**New Year’s Day – Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**  
9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

### **Parish Office Christmas Hours**

**Office Closed:** Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday, December 26<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>

Regular hours resume Wednesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>

### **Perpetual Mass Cards**

Perpetual Mass cards are now available through the parish office.

### **EXERCISE CLASSES – Coming in January!**

We are excited to announce that Better Living Health and Community Services will be providing **free** exercise classes at St. Edward’s beginning January 15<sup>th</sup>, and running each Tuesday morning as follows:

**Gentle Fitness: 9:30 a.m.**

**Healthy Heart: 10:30 a.m.**

Registration will take place following the weekend Masses, Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>. More information to follow.