

St. Edward The Confessor Church

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Pastoral Team

Msgr. Patrick O'Dea, C.H.H. – *Pastor*

Rev. Andrew Taylor – *Associate Pastor*

Rev. Mr. David Quail – *Permanent Deacon*

Sr. Teresa Morrison, CPS – *R.C.I.A.*

Francesco Rampino – *Seminarian*

Josie Paladino - *Secretary*

Jeswyn Devas - *Secretary*

Gerry Robin - *Accountant*

Clare Koo - *Custodian*



ADVENT

4th Sunday of Advent

SOME 50 YEARS ago, I had a profound spiritual awakening. Being touched by the Holy Spirit in such a real and deep manner compelled me to enthusiastically go and share the experience with everyone. In today's Gospel we are privileged to witness just such a movement of the Spirit in the lives of Mary and Elizabeth.

Luke gives us an insight into the heart and person of Mary: prompted by the Spirit, she unselfishly forgets her own needs and visits her cousin who has miraculously conceived in her old age. Mary did not think twice, but in haste took the arduous journey to share the joy of her own impending mother-hood. We are also given a glimpse of the Spirit at work in the heart of Elizabeth who cannot contain her joy but must bestow blessings upon her young cousin.

This Gospel invites us to journey with Mary into the Judean hill country – a journey that will continue with Joseph to Nazareth, in flight after the Nativity and ultimately to the Cross. When our own journey is challenging, we can take heart from Mary. She followed the promptings of the Spirit, found the strength to carry out her journey and received blessings in return.

In this holy season, may the intercession of Mary and the saints give us a deeper intimacy with the Holy Family.

(Reflection of Cheryl Denis Grady, OFS of Living with Christ)



Monday, December 23, 2024

8:30 a.m. + Sabrina Rodrigues

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 Multi-intention

8:30 a.m. + Andrew Tan
Special Intentions for Susanna Lo

4:30 p.m. Special intentions for Karl & Colleen on their marriage

7:00 p.m. + Benny & Kathleen McNamee

Midnight + Bonifacio Asufra

Wednesday, December 25, 2024

8:00 a.m. + Anthony Martins

9:30 a.m. Intentions of the Wong family

11:00 a.m. Intentions of Liza Karunakaran & family

Thursday, December 26, 2024 Multi-intention

8:30 a.m. + Shui-Lin Wang

Friday, December 27, 2024

8:30 a.m. Blessings & Good Health for Sierra

Saturday, December 28, 2024 Multi-intention

9:00 a.m. + Shui-Lin Wang

+ Perfecto Vargas

4:30 p.m. + James Hutchinson

Sunday, December 29, 2024

8:00 a.m. Thanksgiving for Peredo & Medina families

9:30 a.m. Birthday wishes for Juliana Bla

11:00 a.m. + Artur Vilhena



*Christmas brings
family and friends together.
It helps us to appreciate
the love in our lives
that we often take for granted.
May the true meaning of
the holiday season
fill your heart and home
with many blessings.*



Attitude to Inspiration

On behalf of Msgr. Pat, Fr. Andrew Taylor, Fr. Dave Warren (retired), Deacon David Quail, Francesco Rampino, our seminarian, Josie Paladino and Jeswyn Devas, our secretaries, Maribeth Go our Youth Minister, and Clare Koo, our custodian, we wish all our parishioners and their families a holy and peaceful Christmas, and Happy New Year.

**Grant Awarded to St. Edward's
Outreach Ministry to Neighbourlink**

Share Life, based on the recommendation of St. Vincent de Paul Greater Toronto Council, has allocated \$15,000 toward the food/meal program that St. Edward's Parish links to through NeighbourLink in North York Region. Msgr. Pat, and the leaders of NeighbourLink, Maria Speare (Executive Director), Sebastian Biasucci (Marketing and Events Manager), met to present the grant on behalf of ShareLife at a meeting at St. Edward's Church. Also in attendance was Lily Cheng, City Councillor for Willowdale, Suanne Miedemas (St. Vincent de Paul) and Arthur Peters (Executive Director, ShareLife.).

Msgr. Pat thanked the ShareLife agency for its support of many food Banks and meal programs throughout the Archdiocese during these difficult times. More and more people are turning to food banks, and in Toronto, more than 100,000 people are expected to access a food bank for the first time this year. ShareLife has made it a priority to provide funds for this need. Please note that the funds are provided by ShareLife and the contributions of parishes, such as St. Edward's, Catholic Charities, and a generous parishioner in the Archdiocese of Toronto. Know that your financial support of ShareLife makes a difference throughout the Archdiocese.

God Bless You



Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve – Tuesday, December 24th
4:30 p.m. (with Children's Christmas Pageant)
7:00 p.m. and 12:00 Midnight

Christmas Day – Wednesday, December 25th
8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Feast of the Holy Family
Saturday, December 28th – 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 29th
8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

New Year's Eve Vigil Mass
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Tuesday, December 31st – 4:30 p.m.

New Year's Day
8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.



Offering envelopes for 2025 are available in the lobby. The boxes are in alphabetical order. Please check your name and address on the box. If there is a change of address, please contact the Parish office.

Senior Residence Masses – December 2024

Monday, December 30th – AMICA – 10:30 a.m.
Parishioners are welcome to attend; check in at the Residence Reception Desk.

Vocations

Are you called to follow in the footsteps of Mary as a priest, deacon or religious to carry the Good News of God's great Love? **Contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997**
Email: vocations@archtoronto.org

Three Exciting Contests for Youth in 2025

The Catholic Women's League (CWL) is thrilled to announce 3 inspiring contests for the youth of our parish! Do not miss this opportunity to showcase your talents and make an impact.

1. Mary Matthews Public Speaking Contest

Eligibility: Students in Grades 7 and Grade 8
Participants will present a prepared speech (3–5 minutes) on a topic of their choice and participate in a 1 minute impromptu speech.

Event Date: **Sunday, February 2, 2025**

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Parish Hall

Registration Deadline: **Saturday, January 11, 2025**

2. Mary Dobell Pro-Life Essay and Poetry Contest

Eligibility: Students in Grades 7 – 12
Share your perspective on the Sanctity and Dignity of Life through an Essay or Poem.

Submission Deadline: **Saturday, January 25, 2025**

Registration Deadline: **Saturday, January 11, 2025**

3. Jean McCann Service Award

Eligibility: Confirmed Catholic youth ages 15–18
This award honours youth who have made meaningful contributions to our parish.

Submission Deadline: **Sunday, February 22, 2025**

Registration Deadline: **Saturday, January 11, 2025**

Important Details:

Sign-Up Sheet: Available on the St. Edward's CWL Website

Questions? Email us at stedwardcwl@gmail.com

More Information: Visit the CWL Bulletin Board in the Parish Foyer

For full details on each contest, please visit the Catholic Women's League section on our Parish Website. We look forward to seeing the amazing contributions from our parish youth!

Parish Office Christmas/New Year's Hours

Tuesday, December 24 – office will close at 12:00 noon
Wednesday, December 25 – office closed – Christmas
Thursday, December 26 – office closed – Statutory Holiday
Tuesday, December 31 – office will close at 12:00 noon
Wednesday, January 1 – office closed – New Year's Day
Regular hours resume Thursday, January 2, 2025

Although the office is closed, please note that phone messages and emails, are checked and answered on a regular basis.



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