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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.*

John Xerri – Seminarian

Josie Paladino - Secretary Jeswyn Devas - Secretary Gerry Robin - Accountant Clare Koo - Custodian

prepare the way...



ADVENT

4th Sunday of Advent

TODAY'S GOSPEL STORY is so familiar that it feels like a warm blanket surrounding us, comforting us, giving us a sense of peace and security. We are drawn into the unfathomable mystery of God's astounding decision to enter our reality as one of us so that, through the Son, we might find the way to eternal life. That statement alone is enough to engage us in fruitful contemplation.

In his Gospel Matthew is inviting his Jewish readers to consider how Jesus is the fulfillment of everything they have heard from the long line of prophets in their history. He emphasizes the role of Joseph, who is of the house of David, to assure the unbroken patrilineal heritage of the Messiah, which is detailed at the beginning of chapter 1 of Matthew's Gospel, The angel encourages Joseph to accept the responsibility of supporting Mary in bringing the Son of God into the world.

But for me the most significant detail in this beautiful story is Matthew's quotation from Isaiah: "and they shall name Him Emmanuel... God is with us." It is utterly mind-boggling to consider that the omnipotent, eternal, omniscient God in whom we believe would deign to put aside all that to become human just so He could *be with us*. May this inspire our contemplation in the days that remain before Christmas.

(Reflection of Rev. Leonard Altilia, 57 of Living with Christ)

COR PROGRAM A NEW SPIRITUAL PROGRAM FOR THE MEN OF THE PARISH

The men of the parish are invited to attend a new spiritual program designed to assist men to grow in faith and fellowship. The program is called "COR" (from the Latin, meaning "Heart"). The meeting time is early on a Saturday morning, to allow less disruption of family life. There is no need to sign up or to feel obligated to attend all the meetings. The program will run in the parish hall on the first and third Saturdays of the month. The next meeting is

Saturday, January 17th Schedule as follows:

7:00 a.m. - Hall Doors Open;

Gathering time for social/coffee/refreshments

7:30 a.m. - Themed Talk and Spiritual Discussion

8:30 a.m. - Concludes with Prayer

SHARELIFE - DOUBLE YOUR GIFT

Your love is helping put food on the table... Your gift will double in value! From November 1 until year end, your contribution to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be matched by an anonymous donor up to a total of \$500,000. Through your support for ShareLife and the Food Security Grants, you are ensuring that food finds its way to the tables of those who need it most.



Monday, December 22, 2025

8:30 a.m. + Eric Mullaney Jr.

Tuesday, December 23, 2025 Multi-intention

8:30 a.m. + Sabrina Rodrigues

+ Ajanthi Andrew + Mary Ng

+ Kim-Ya Poon

+ MIC Sister Virginia Hung

+ Souls of Hong Kong Tai Po Fire

+ Corinne Belovay

Wednesday, December 24, 2025

8:30 a.m. + Bernadette Carvalho

4:30 p.m. + Agnes D'Silva

7:00 p.m. + Benny & Kathleen McNamee 12:00 Midnight The Parishioner of St. Edward's

Thursday, December 25, 2025 - Christmas

8:00 a.m. + Bernadette Carvalho

9:30 a.m. + Intentions of the Wong Family 11:00 a.m. + Elizabeth Tan & Family

Friday, December 26, 2025

8:30 a.m. + Norfelia Garcia

Saturday, December 27, 2025 Multi-intention

9:00 a.m. Wedding Anniversary of

Frances & Vince Cosentino

+ Memia Masculino

Intentions for Gloria Kang & Family Intentions for Fannie Lee & Family Blessings for Magdalen Yam & Family

Blessings for Sarah Tayag

+ Adrian Faccio

4:30 p.m. + James Hutchinson

Sunday, December 28, 2025 - Feast of the Holy Family

8:00 a.m. Thanksgiving – Peredo & Medina Families

9:30 a.m. + Vincenza Ruggiero 11:00 a.m. + Arthur Vilhena

Youth Contests 2026!

The Catholic Women's League of St. Edward the Confessor Parish invites all youth to grow in faith, build confidence, and share their gifts! Contests include the:

- 1. Mary Matthews Public Speaking (Grades 7–8)
- 2. Mary Dobell Pro-Life Essay & Poetry (Grades 7–12)
- 3. Jean McCann Service Award (Ages 15–18)
- 4. CWL Michael's Scholarship.

Registration deadline: January 2, 2026

Contest and submission dates run Feb.-May 2026.

Questions or more details on how to apply:

Email Gene: stedwardcwl@gmail.com

Website: cwltoronto.ca



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Wednesday. December 24th, 2025 *4:30 p.m.* (with Children's Christmas Pageant)

> 7:00 p.m. 12:00 Midnight

Christmas Day
Thursday, December 25th, 2025
8:00 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
11:00 a.m.

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph Saturday, December 27th, 2025 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 28th, 2025 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.

New Year's Eve Vigil Mass Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God *Wednesday, December 31st, 2025* 4:30 p.m.

> New Year's Day Thursday, January 1, 2026

> > 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.

Closing Mass of the Jubilee Year Sunday, December 28, 2025 – 11:00 a.m. Feast of the Holy Family

You are invited to attend the closing Mass for the Year of Jubilee on Sunday, December 28th at 11:00 a.m. The celebrant will be Msgr. Patrick O'Dea. All are welcome.



family and friends together."

It helps us to appreciate
the love in our lives
that we often take for granted.

Whay the true meaning of
the holiday season
fill your heart and home



On behalf of Msgr. Patrick O'Dea, Fr. Andrew Taylor, Fr. Dave Warren (retired), Deacon David Quail, John Xerri, 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.

ANGEL TREE

Thank you to all who participated in this year's Angel Tree Program, which assists the families served by the St. Vincent de Paul Society of our parish and St. Clare's parish, Children's Aid Society, and the Good Shepherd Ministries. Gifts and gift cards will be distributed before Christmas. May God bless all our works and outreach to the needy this Christmas. A more detailed report will be presented once all deliveries have been made.

Parish Office Christmas/New Year's Hours

Wednesday, December 24 – office will close at 12:00 noon Thursday, December 25 – office closed – Christmas Friday, December 26 – office closed – Statutory Holiday Wednesday, December 31 – office will close at 12:00 noon Thursday, January 1 – office closed – New Year's Day Regular hours resume Friday, January 2, 2026

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





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for Peace

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