



Sat. Nov. 24

5:00pm **For the People of the Parish**

Sun. Nov. 25

8:00am +**Luigi & Gelsomina Reda**

9:15am +**Michelina Piccinini**

10:30am +**Luigi Gatti**

12:00 noon + **Cardina, Antonio, Christina & Massimiano Toto**

Mon. Nov. 26

7:00pm +**Michael Papais**

Tues. Nov. 27

9:00am +**Francesco Cavallo**

Wed. Nov. 28

7:00pm +**Angelo Tarantino, +Sr. Carmelina Tarantino, +Tony & Giuseppina Bucci, +Silvano & Agostino Zeppa, +Francesca & Vincenzo Iacobelli, +Tony & Mark Iacobelli, +Vita & Antonino Gucciardi, +Frank Lippa, +Paula Pellegrino**

Thurs. Nov. 29

7:00pm + **Patricia Virgilio, +Franco Porco +Francesco Mele**

Fri. Nov. 30

9:00am +**Loretta & Sam Sammut**

### Feast Days This Week

Fri. Nov. 30 – **St. Andrew**, apostle

**Christ the King** – Today is the feast of Christ the King. This last week of the liturgical year is devoted to themes concerning end times: Christ the King will renew all creation and restore His kingdom to the Father. The risen people of God will rejoice in a new Heaven and a new earth; then we will be freed from the corruption of sin and death, and sing God's glory with every creature through Christ our Lord.

**Carol Concert – Next Sunday, Dec. 2**, the First Sunday of Advent, we will be celebrating our 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Carol Concert at 7:00pm at the church. All of our choirs will participate to begin the festive season at St. Padre Pio. At the end of the concert we will move outside to our outdoor life-size nativity scene. There is no admission and there will be food and refreshments after the concert. Everyone is welcome to attend. Bring a friend!

**Baptism:** We offer our congratulations to the parents of the children baptized last weekend:

**John Domenico Capo  
Maya Kaur Maimone  
Nicolas Giovanni Maimone**

**Valentina Mina Montanaro  
Evan Lucas Pigliarolo  
Cristian Vincent Paimondo  
Emerson Ruben Orlando Rosello**

Our next preparation class for the parents and Godparents of the children being baptized in December will be held on November 26 at 7:30pm in the Chapel.

**St. Padre Pio Parish Annual Christmas Drive** - We have begun our annual Christmas drive to come together as a community in faith to help those in need. Our Angel Tree will be on display in the Narthex after every mass until Dec. 8/9. The tree will have angel ornaments which correspond to items of need for registered members of Family Services of York Region (FSYR) and Catholic Community Services of York Region (CCSYR). Family numbers, ages, clothing sizes, and other necessary information will be listed on the angel ornaments. To donate new items to the drive, please select an angel ornament from the Angel Tree, purchase the gift, and **return the angel ornament visibly attached to the unwrapped gift.** As this holiday season approaches, let's work together as a community of faith to help those in need by keeping Christ in Christmas!

**Christmas Panettone Sale** – The Knights of Columbus will be selling Panettone in the Narthex after all Masses until Dec. 9. Proceeds from events held by the Knights go to projects happening in our very own community.

**Offertory Envelopes for 2019** will be ready for pickup in the Narthex shortly. Envelopes are sorted by envelope number. If you don't know or remember your envelope number, there are lists available by the envelope boxes. The lists are in alphabetical order with your envelope number beside your name. The envelopes will be left out only for a short time. Please pick them up as soon as possible. If you are new to the parish and would like to start using envelopes, please ask one of the ushers to get you a new box.

**Healing Mass** – Our next Healing Mass will take place on Wednesday, December 12 at 7pm, in honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas.

**Blessing of Advent Wreath** – Next Sunday is the first week of Advent. You are invited to bring your family Advent Wreath to any of the Masses and have them blessed next weekend. Just place them

on the right side of the sanctuary steps before Mass.

**Memorial Christmas Tree** – Next weekend in the Narthex, there will be a tree standing near the offices. This is a Memorial Christmas Tree. You are invited to place an ornament on the tree in memory of a loved one who has passed away. In this way, we can remember them during the Advent and Christmas seasons. After the Christmas season, you are asked to remove the ornament for safekeeping until next year. A suggested ornament would be one which has a small photo frame, or something that is symbolic of that person.

**Paradise Tree** – Next weekend in the sanctuary, along with the Advent Wreath, there will be two Paradise Trees. A Paradise Tree was used as a prop in the Miracle Plays of the Middle Ages. These were religious plays, performed outside of churches, to teach people stories from the Bible. The Paradise Tree was used in the scene about the Garden of Eden and it was decorated with apples to represent Adam and Eve, roses to represent Mary, who would bear the future messiah, and small white discs, like communion hosts to represent Jesus. The Christmas Tree eventually evolved from this custom.

**Jesse Tree** – It is a depiction in art of the ancestors of Jesus, shown in a tree which rises from Jesse of Bethlehem, the father of King David. It is found in stained-glass, manuscripts, paintings and architectural carvings. In recent times it has been adapted to be used during the season of Advent to prepare for Christmas. Ornaments, representing Jesus' ancestors as well as other biblical figures who helped prepare the way for the coming of the Messiah, are placed on a symbolic tree each day of Advent. By Christmas, the Jesse Tree is fully decorated and represents the Family Tree of Jesus. Next weekend our Jesse Tree, a metal tree, will be on the right side of the sanctuary. Each week, at the Children's Liturgy Program, the children will learn about the various symbols and bring them up to put on the Jesse Tree during the offertory procession of the Mass.

**Chrismon Tree** – A custom that developed in the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was to adapt the Christmas Tree to more strictly Christian uses. In many churches and homes, people began using only traditional Christian symbols of Jesus on their trees. The word 'Chrismon' comes from two words, 'Christ' and 'monogram'. The ornaments can be made from wood, cloth, beads or embroidery. Our Chrismon Tree will stand near the store next week.

**Blessing of Trees** *'Holy Creator of Trees, by your abundant grace help me to see all Christmas trees as*

*sacred symbols of joy. May their evergreen branches be a sign of your never-fading promises. May their colourful lights and ornaments call me to decorate with love my home and my world. May the gifts that surround the tree be symbols of the many gifts we have received from the Tree of Christ's Cross. May Joy and Peace come and nest in the branches of Christmas trees within every home and within every heart.'*

**Nativity Scenes** – Beginning on Saturday, December 1st, St. Padre Pio Parish presents its Eighth Annual Display of Nativity Scenes, entitled 'Joy to the World'. This is an entirely new display from previous years, representing many different countries and cultures, artistic styles and materials. All of them present the different ways that artists have interpreted the birth of Jesus through the ages. Jesus was born for all people, so his birth is depicted reflecting the different artistic styles found in many cultures. The display, in the cabinets at the side entrance of the church, will continue until Sunday, January 13, 2019, the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, and the end of the Christmas season.

**Longo's Gift Cards Christmas Drive** – the Parish Office will be taking orders for our annual Longo Card Christmas Drive. Cards are available in any denomination. Just drop off your cheque to a committee member and pick up your cards the following weekend. Please consider giving Longo cards to charities, friends, family, clients or employees this Christmas. Your gift will also support our Mortgage Fund. Please call the Parish Office at 905-893-7879 to place your order.

### **Stained Glass Windows**

**Teaching the Multitudes** -1 portion available  
**Feeding the 5,000** – 4 portions available  
Each window will be sold in 10 portions at a cost of \$6,500 per portion. The entire window is \$65,000. A plaque will be placed below the window, once your portion has been paid in full. This is a wonderful way to honour those who are still living or to remember those who have died. For more information, please contact the office at 905-893-7879.

**Winter** – Please note that we have been notified by Landscape Ontario that there will be a shortage of salt this coming winter. We will do our best to keep the snow and ice away from all steps and walkways. Please be careful when walking on the property and be safe!

**New Beginnings** will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Chapel.