



Sat. Dec. 1
5:00pm + **Deceased members of the Tassone & Ariganello families**

Sun. Dec. 2
8:00am + **Antonio & Giuseppina Sicilia**
9:15am **For the People of the Parish**
10:30am + **Carlo Liut**
12:00 noon + **Vienna Baccile**

Mon. Dec. 3
7:00pm + **Giuseppe Caravaggio**

Tues. Dec. 4
9:00am + **Peggy & Emery Levesque**

Wed. Dec. 5
7:00pm + **Patricia Virgilio, +Antonietta Gortana, +Francesca Accardi, Cathy Fitzsimmons, Deceased members of the Higney & Fitzsimmons families**

Thurs. Dec. 6
7:00pm **Cosimo Femia, +Francesco, Antonio & Cosimo Oppedisano, Dina DeLeo, +Maria Teresa Fuda**

Fri. Dec. 7
9:00am + **Martin Denson**
7:00pm + **Tecla Tarantino**

Feast Days This Week

Mon. Dec. 3 – St. Francis Xavier, priest
Tues. Dec. 4 – St. John Damascene, priest, doctor of the Church
Thurs. Dec. 6 – St. Nicholas, bishop
Fri. Dec. 7 – St. Ambrose, bishop, doctor of the Church
Sat. Dec. 8 – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Carol Concert – This Sunday, Dec. 2, the First Sunday of Advent, we will be celebrating our 16th 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!

The CWL and Knights of Columbus will both have their General Meetings this Monday, Dec. 3rd at the church. They will join together for a Christmas Pot Luck.

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.

Advent School Masses are as follows:

Mon. Dec. 3 – St. Stephen @ 10:30am
Tues. Dec. 4 – Pope Francis @ 10:30am.
Masses will be held in the schools.

First Friday – Friday, Dec. 7, is the first Friday of the month. Mass will be celebrated at 9am and 7pm. Benediction and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place after the 9am Mass.

Weddings- Next Saturday, Dec. 8, we will be celebrating the wedding of Robert De Francesca and Megan DeVito. We offer them our best wishes and ask God to bless them and grant them happiness, peace, and joy and strength in trials, all the days of their lives together.

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.

St. Padre Pio Parish Annual Christmas Drive - 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! The Christmas Drive ends next weekend.

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. The

Panettone sales ends next weekend.

The CWL would like to extend a grateful “thank you” to all those who donated food for Canadian Food For Children. Your generosity was much appreciated. The donated food consisted of 166 cases in total – 79 cases of rice, 39 cases of sugar, 32 cases of lentils, and 16 cases of tuna. CWL members watched as the food was loaded onto the container to be shipped out immediately to Peru and Jamaica. Also, a “thank you” to all those who helped with the packaging and loading of the truck.

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.

Offertory Envelopes for 2019 are ready for pickup in the Narthex. 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. Please note that if your envelope box number was over 1800 it has been changed. 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.

Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens – Candidates who have completed the period of precatechumenate declare their intention to the church and the Church in turn, carrying out its apostolic mission, accepts them as persons who intend to become its members. The ceremony takes place next weekend at the 10:30 Mass.

An Advent Service for the Home

A member of the family lights one candle on the Advent wreath.

Leader: Rejoice the Lord is at hand.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

(A family member reads the suggested bible passage for the day)

First Week of Advent:

Sunday - John 1:9-14, 16-17

Monday - John 3:16-21

Tuesday - Isaiah 60:1-3

Wednesday - Psalm 43:3-5

Thursday - Isaiah 58:6-9

Friday - 1 John 2:8-11

Saturday - 1 John 3:1-2, 7-10

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray. Almighty God, be in our midst to cast away all works of darkness, which separate us from You. In Your great mercy, forgive all the things we have done that we should not have done; and all things we failed to do that we should have done; and teach us to live as children of God. This we ask in Jesus name. Amen.

All: Our Father, who art in heaven...

Leader: May the almighty and merciful God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us.

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!

Development Office – If you have appreciated publicly traded securities that you don’t want to pay capital gains tax on, consider using them to make your offertory gift for 2018. The Development Office of the Archdiocese of Toronto can assist you on this. You can also use securities to consolidate all of your other Church giving. If you make an annual gift to ShareLife, for example, we will arrange to have your parish credited with your gift.

To learn more or to ask for a donation form, please call the Development Office at 416-934-3411 or visit

www.archtoronto.org/development/ to

download the form. To ensure that you received a 2018 charitable tax receipt, the completed form should reach our office by 10am on Friday, Dec. 21 – by e-mail:

development@archtoronto.org