

ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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PARISH TEAM

Fr. George Kibura Njuguna imc, Pastor StAndrewsET@archtoronto.org

Rev. Mr. Joseph Owusu-Afryie, Permanent Deacon Fr Alex Osei CSSp, Ghanaian Community

Mr. Martins Igbino, Parish Council Mr. Joseph Fragomeni, Finance Council

Mrs. Cora deNully, Parish Office standrewspar@yahoo.ca

Ms. Carolina Chavez, Parish Office standrewparish.office@gmail.com



Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Welcome home to St. Andrew

**Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
(New Year's Day) - Year A**

The Mother of Jesus is the Mother of God

And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. [Luke 2:19](#)

Today, January 1, we complete our octave celebration of Christmas Day. It's an often overlooked liturgical fact that we celebrate Christmas Day for eight straight days. We do this also with Easter Day, which concludes with the great celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday.

On this, the eighth day of the Octave of Christmas, we turn our focus to the unique and beautiful fact that God chose to enter our world through a human mother. Mary is called the "Mother of God" for the simple fact that her Son is God. She was not the mother of her Son's flesh alone, nor the mother only of His human nature. This is because the Person of Jesus, the Son of God, is one Person. And that one Person took on flesh within the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Though becoming the Mother of God was a pure gift from Heaven and not something that Mother Mary merited on her own, there was one particular quality that she had that made her uniquely qualified to fulfill this role. That quality was her immaculate nature.

First, Mother Mary was preserved from all sin when she was conceived within the womb of her mother, Saint Anne. This special grace was a grace that was imparted to her from the future life, death and resurrection of her Son. It was the grace of salvation, but God chose to take that gift of grace and transcend time to impart it to her at the moment of her conception, thus making her the perfect and pure instrument necessary to bring forth God into the world.

Second, Mother Mary remained faithful to this gift of grace throughout her life, never choosing to sin, never wavering, never turning from God. She remained immaculate throughout her life. Interestingly, it is this choice of hers, to forever remain obedient to the will of God in every way, that makes her more fully the Mother of God than the simple act of bearing Him within her womb. Her act of perfect unity with the will of God throughout her life makes her, also, the perfect mother of divine grace and mercy and perpetually the spiritual Mother of God, continually and perfectly bringing Him into our world.

Reflect, today, upon these most solemn mysteries of our faith. This eighth day of the Octave of Christmas is a solemn celebration, a celebration worthy of our pondering. The Scripture above reveals not only how our blessed Mother approached this mystery but also how we are to approach it. She "kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." Ponder these mysteries, also, in your own heart and allow the grace of this holy celebration to fill you with joy and gratitude.

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WEEKLY LITURGY ~ MASS INTENTIONS

† = For the soul of ♥ = Special Intention

Saturday, Dec 31 - St. Sylvester I - (New Year's Eve)

8:30 am - (No Mass)

5:30pm - (No Mass)

10:30pm - Private Adoration of Baby Jesus

11:30pm - Thanksgiving Mass (No personal Intentions)

Sunday, Jan 1 - SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (NEW YEAR'S DAY)

8 am - † Pina Damico, by Rosa Wharton

9:30 am - (Ital Mass) † Domenico De Vincenzis, by family

11 am - For the people of the Parish

12:30pm - (No Intention)

2 pm - (Twi Ghana)

5:30 pm - (Spanish Mass) Acción de gracias a la Virgen de la Nube, by José Pulla

Monday, Jan 2 - Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

8 am - (No Intention)

7 pm - (No Mass)

Tuesday, Jan 3 - The Most Holy Name of Jesus

8 am - Thanksgiving for Anne-Claire, by family

7 pm - (No Intention)

Wednesday, Jan 4

8 am - † Constantino, Esterina & Rosario Furguele, Cecilia & Giovanni Settino, by family

7 pm - † Gertrude Morgan, by Alma and family

Thursday, Jan 5

8 am - † Christina Giammattolo, by Carmie and family

7 pm - † For all deceased members of Bonello and Vella families, by Martese Vella

Friday, Jan 6

8 am - † Giuseppe Galati, by Anna Galati

7 pm - (No Intention)

Saturday, Jan 7 - St. Raymond of Peñafort

8:30 am - (No Intention)

9:30 am - First Saturday Devotions

5:30pm - † Francisco Rodrigues, by Lucia Pinto

Sunday, Jan 8 - THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8 am - † Jack Draguzet, by family

9:30 am - (Ital Mass) † Angelo Sergnese, by family

11 am - For the people of the Parish

12:30pm - † Remembering Antonio Campese on his birthday, by wife and family

2 pm - (Twi Ghana)

5:30 pm - (Spanish Mass)

DONATIONS 2022

Please note that all donations to be credited for Year 2022 and tax receipt issued must be received by no later than December 31, 2022. Any donations received in January 2023 cannot be applied towards the 2022 Taxation year. They will be put towards Year 2023. We thank everyone for your continued support of our parish.



St. Andrew's Parish Stewardship

Collection for Dec 18th, 2022

Sunday Offertory \$ 7,754.00



Blessed Mother as a Role Model



“After Jesus, it is the Blessed Virgin Mary who by her example most perfectly teaches the meaning of discipleship and stewardship in their fullest sense. All of their essential elements are found in her life: she was called and gifted by God; she responded generously, creatively, and prudently; she understood her divinely assigned role as ‘handmaid’ in

terms of service and fidelity.” You can’t go wrong choosing Our Lady as your role model for living a stewardship way of life. She exhibited all of the characteristics of an Everyday Steward in a profound manner. If we draw closer to her and mould ourselves to be like her, then we draw ourselves closer to Jesus and more closely resemble him.

MARRIAGE SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 11/12, 2023

Marriage Sunday highlights the importance of the sacrament of marriage, affirms couples who strengthen our faith community through their witness, and complements World Marriage Sunday celebrations that take place across North America. It also honours those who nurture marriage ministries - marriage preparation, enrichment, etc. First celebrated in the Archdiocese of Toronto in 2011, His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins designated the weekend prior to the Family Day long weekend in Ontario as "Marriage Sunday". In 2023, Marriage Sunday weekend will be celebrated on February 11/12, 2023.

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE MASS

As part of Marriage Sunday 2023 celebrations, Bishop Vincent Nguyen will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, especially those celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+) in 2023. The Mass will take place at **2:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 12, 2023 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica** (65 Bond Street, Toronto). All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their vows and milestone anniversary celebrants will be honoured with a special blessing.

The Mass is open to all, but due to space restrictions those wishing to attend are asked to register online. Milestone anniversary celebrants will be assured of reserved seating. All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who are unable to attend the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass here:

<https://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live/>.

The broadcast will begin at 2:15 p.m.

Registration closes on February 3, 2023, or until the capacity limit at the Cathedral is reached.

ST. ANDREW'S CHRISTMAS 2022 AND NEW YEAR'S 2023 SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS NOVENA - SIMBANG GABI - MASS AT DAWN FROM DECEMBER 16 - 24 AT 5:30AM

SAT. DEC. 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE | **SUN. DEC. 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY**

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| • 5:30 PM - CHRISTMAS FAMILY MASS | • 8:00 AM (ENGLISH) | • 2:00 PM (TWI MASS) |
| • 10:30 PM - CAROLS SINGING | • 9:30 AM (ITALIAN MASS) | • 5:30 PM (SPANISH) |
| • 11:30 PM - MIDNIGHT MASS | • 11:00AM (ENGLISH) | • 7:00PM (UGANDAN) |
| | • 12:30PM (ENGLISH) | |

ON MON. DECEMBER 26 - MASS AT 8AM ONLY - NO EVENING MASS

SAT. DEC. 31 - NEW YEAR'S EVE | **SUN. JAN. 1 - NEW YEAR'S DAY**

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|----------------------|
| • 10:30 PM - PRIVATE ADORATION OF BABY JESUS | • 8:00 AM (ENGLISH) | • 2:00 PM (TWI MASS) |
| • 11:30PM - THANKSGIVING MIDNIGHT MASS | • 9:30 AM (ITALIAN MASS) | • 5:30 PM (SPANISH) |
| | • 11:00AM (ENGLISH) | • 7:00PM (UGANDAN) |
| | • 12:30PM (ENGLISH) | |

ON MON. JAN 2 - MASS AT 8:00 AM ONLY - NO EVENING MASS



PLEASE NOTE: The 2023 donation envelopes are getting ready for pick up and will be located at the back of the Church and arranged by envelope number.

Thank you for your patience.

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