

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH

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THE ST. ANDREW'S COMMUNITY SINCE 2003

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PARISH TEAM

Fr. George Kibura Njuguna, IMC – Pastor StAndrewsET@archtoronto.org

Fr. Timothy Kinyua Gatitu, IMC – Associate Pastor

Rev. Mr. Joseph Owusu-Afriyie – Permanent Deacon

Fr. Alex Osei CSSp – Ghanaian Community

Mr. Martins Igbino – Parish Council

Mrs. Mina Moraes – Finance Council

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

Ms. Sharanka Prince Yogarajah – Youth Coordinator sprince@archtoronto.org

Epiphany of the Lord



We have come to Homage Him.

Welcome home to St. Andrew's A Manifestation to the World

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." Matthew 2:1-2

The Magi were most likely from Persia, modern-day Iran. They were men who regularly engaged in a study of the stars. They were not Jewish but were most likely aware of the popular belief of the Jewish people that a king would be born who would save them.

These Magi were called by God to encounter the Savior of the World. Interestingly, God used something very familiar to them as an instrument of their calling: the stars. It was among their belief that when someone of great importance was born, this birth was accompanied by a new star. So when they saw this new, bright and brilliant star, they were filled with curiosity and hope. One of the most significant aspects of this story is that they responded. God called them through the use of a star, and they chose to follow this sign, embarking on a long and arduous journey.

God often uses those things most familiar to us that are part of our daily life to send forth His calling. Recall, for example, that many of the Apostles were fishermen, and Jesus used their occupation to call them, making them "fishers of men." He especially used the miraculous catch of fish to clearly indicate to them that they had a new calling.

In our own lives, God is constantly calling us to seek Him out and worship Him. He will often use some of the most ordinary parts of our lives to send forth that calling. How is He calling you? In what way is He sending you a star to follow? Many times when God speaks, we ignore His voice. We must learn from these Magi and diligently respond when He calls. We must not hesitate and must seek to daily be attentive to the ways that God invites us to deeper trust, surrender and worship.

Reflect, today, upon God's call in your life. Are you listening? Are you responding? Are you ready and willing to abandon all else in life so as to serve His holy will? Seek Him, wait on Him and respond. Doing so will be the best decision you ever make.

"mycatholic.life"

NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE FROM FR. GEORGE!

Dear Beloved Parish Family,

As we stand at the threshold of a new year, I want to take a moment to share my heartfelt gratitude and prayers for each of you. The dawn of a new year is a sacred opportunity—a chance to reflect on God's blessings, embrace His mercy, and look forward with hope to the plans He has for us.

The past year, with its joys and challenges, has been a testament to God's faithfulness. Through every celebration and every trial, He has walked beside us, strengthening and guiding us. Let us carry that confidence into the year ahead, trusting in His unwavering love.

This New Year invites us to renew our commitment to live as disciples of Christ. It is a time to open our hearts wider to God's grace, to grow deeper in prayer, and to extend His love and compassion to those around us. As St. Paul reminds us, **"Let all that you do be done in love" (1 Corinthians 16:14).**

I encourage each of you to begin this year with a spirit of gratitude and purpose. Seek reconciliation where there is division, offer kindness where there is need, and bring light to places of darkness. Together, as a parish family, we can be a beacon of Christ's presence in our community.

May this new year be filled with God's peace, joy, and abundant blessings for you and your loved ones. Know that you are in my prayers always, and I ask for your prayers as we journey together in faith.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. George Kibura



St. Andrew's Parish Stewardship
Collection for Dec 22nd, 2024
Sunday Offertory \$ 12,454.70

LET'S COME TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY AND DECORATE OUR CHRISTMAS TREE

This Christmas season, we invite you to join us in a special act of love and kindness. We will be decorating our Christmas tree with winter accessories **(BRAND NEW)**—scarves, hats, gloves, and socks **(ONLY)**—that will later be donated to the **COVENANT HOUSE** to help those in need during the cold months ahead.

We encourage you to bring your donations to the church and hang them on the tree. It's a beautiful way to share the warmth of the season with those who need it most.



Sharing is Caring

Covenant House is a large, 501 non-profit charitable organization in the Americas, whose goal is to provide safe housing and holistic care to youth ages 16-21 experiencing homelessness and survivors of human trafficking.

We are pleased to inform you that the collection for winter accessories will continue until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Your generous donations are making a significant difference in the lives of those in need during this cold season. Let's continue to show compassion and care for those who are less fortunate.

Thank you for your kindness and support!

WEEKLY LITURGY ~ MASS INTENTIONS

† = For the soul of ♥ = Special Intention

Saturday, Jan 4

8:30 am - † Gertrude Morgan, by Alma and family
 † Anthony Misquitta, by family
 5:30 pm - † Theresa, Augustine and Mae Choong, by family

Sunday, Jan 5 - Epiphany of the Lord

8 am - † David Chapman, by friends
 9:30 am - *(Ita.Mass)* Thanksgiving for graces received, Anna Marrello and family
 11 am - For the people of the Parish
 12:30pm - † A.T. Mathew, by Jacob Mathew and family
 2 pm - *(Twi Ghana)*
 5:30 pm - *(Span.Mass)*

Monday, Jan 6 - St. André Bessette

8 am - Thanksgiving to St. Padre Pio, by Jeyamohan & family
 7pm - 29th Wed. Anniv. Jamie & Marites Lorenzo, by family

Tuesday, Jan 7 - St. Raymond of Peñafort

8 am - *(No intention)*
 7 pm - † Eugene Velasco, by Lita & José Reyes

Wednesday, Jan 8

8 am - † Jack Draguzet, by family
 7 pm - † Joseph & Maryrose Bonello, Andrew Vella & Christine Greco, by Martese

Thursday, Jan 9

8 am - *(No intention)*
 7 pm - *(No intention)*

Friday, Jan 10

8 am - † Zosimo Derpo, by Belen family
 7 pm - *(No intention)*

Saturday, Jan 11

8:30 am - † Lidia & Arcadio Delos Reyes, by Delos Reyes family
 5:30 pm - Thanksgiving for God's blessings for the new year, by family

Sunday, Jan 12 - Baptism of the Lord

8 am - † Cora deNully, by friends
 9:30 am - *(Ita.Mass)*
 11 am - For the people of the Parish
 12:30pm - † Pedro Subdido, by Josephine Subdido
 2 pm - *(Twi Ghana)*
 5:30 pm - *(Span.Mass)*

January 11-12
 After the Saturday Mass and all Sunday Masses

Handicraft Holy Land Christians
 will be selling unique hand-carved olive wood religious art pieces made by Christian families living in Bethlehem.

We are pleased to announce that on January 4-5, Paul from "Handicraft Holy Land Christians" will be visiting our parish.

Sir Sebastien Cardinal, Knight of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem and his team will briefly address the issues and concerns regarding the Christian presence in the Holy Land. In addition, she will convey the urgent need for our prayers, as well as our tangible support.

Available for purchase will be many unique hand carved religious art pieces, crafted from olive wood, and made by Christian families living in Bethlehem. The purchase of these items is a beautiful way to connect with the Holy Land, express our faith through giving meaningful gifts, and support to a local economy that helps keep a Christian presence in the Holy Land.

May God Bless you for your generosity, for your help and for your prayers.

Proceeds of the sales generate much needed employment for our Christian brothers and sisters in Bethlehem.
 Cash, debit, credit card and cheque accepted.

You can visit and support at : HolylandChristians.ca

Unique hand carved olive wood religious art pieces made by Christian families in Bethlehem



The 2025 donation envelopes are ready for pick up in the Church or you can also pick them up in the office during regular hours. Please remember to confirm that they are yours by verifying the number, name and address.

The Knights of Columbus Mother Teresa Council would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported the Christmas Caroling event on Saturday, December 21st. A special thank you to all the choir leaders and groups for their ongoing dedication and contributions.



We look forward to celebrating together again next year!

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