

# THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

480 Rathburn Road, Etobicoke, Ontario M9C 3S8

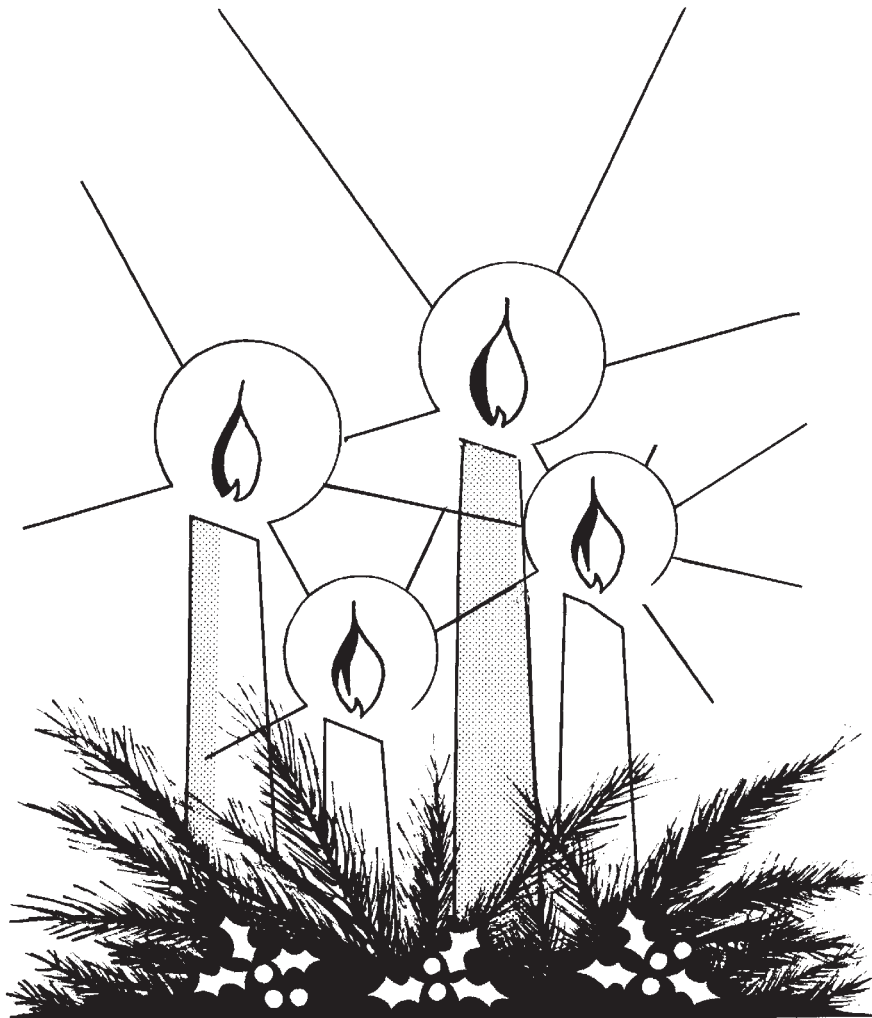
416-621-2732 Fax: 416-621-0164

Email: [nativity@myparish.org](mailto:nativity@myparish.org) Website: <http://www.myparish.org>

## OUR PARISH TEAM:

Pastor Rev. Michael Machacek

In Residence Rev. John Mullins    In Residence Rev. Anthony Akpanessien  
Permanent Deacon Mr. Gerry Almeida    Administrative Assistant Joanna Andrews  
Youth Minister Courtney Strom    Caretaker Mr. Antonio Marinucci



# Advent

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 God will establish a lasting kingdom from the House of David.

Romans 16: 25-27 Paul gives glory to God through Christ, the promised one.

Luke 1: 26-38 Mary is chosen to bear a son in the lineage of David

Today we reflect on God's often unexpected call to serve. David is called to generate a lineage and a kingdom that will last forever. Mary is called to bear a son to inherit this enduring kingdom. Neither expected such a call or envisioned the future. We pray to be ready when God calls us.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION  
RECONCILIATION PROGRAM**

Grade 2 or higher

**Please read the  
Information Package**

**using this link:  
fhc-rec.nativitym.com**

Registration will be held from  
January 10<sup>th</sup> – February 7<sup>th</sup>

To register you will need an English copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate and \$52.00 to help cover the cost of the program

If you have specific questions email the program coordinator  
[miriam.fhc.rec@gmail.com](mailto:miriam.fhc.rec@gmail.com)

or call the parish office at 416 621 2732 and ask to have Miriam Hennessy call you back

**2021 Offertory Parish Programs**

The pandemic shines a light on how we have done church and it challenges us to rethink how we carry our mission both now and in the future. But truly our mission must stay the same.

The mission of our parish community hasn't changed during the pandemic, but our methods for funding the mission must change. Parishioners are our parish's **only** source of revenue. Pre-pandemic, over 95% of our collection would be received by passing the basket during the offertory collection in the middle of Sunday mass. Obviously, this didn't work very well when the church was locked down from this past March to mid June or as is right now, or when we were only able to operate with reduced numbers from mid-June to November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

To ensure a consistent revenue stream so that we are able to continue to serve you as well maintain our parish church, we are asking that you consider switching to the online "Donate Now" system in which you use your credit card, or else to the *Pre-Authorized Giving Program* of in which a monthly amount determined by you is withdrawn on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Full details are available on our website. [www.myparish.org](http://www.myparish.org) to access it via the DONATE button.

**If you still wish to use the Offertory Envelope they are available for pick up.**

Please contact the parish office Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm to arrange a time **OR** you may pick up your envelope during the times noted below.

- **Inside the parish west doors just outside of the parish hall. A volunteer will assist you there on:**
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> Dec      **11:30am – 2:30pm**
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec    **11:30am – 2:30pm**
- Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> Dec    **11:30am – 2:30pm**
- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> Dec **11:30am – 2:30pm**
- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> Dec **6:00pm to 8:00pm**

Your monthly donations help us continue our mission of bringing God's love into the world I am grateful to all who have moved their offertory to monthly online donations. It gives our parish stable income on which to grow.

God bless you! Fr. Michael

## 2020-2021 Sunday Missals

Personal copies of the Sunday missals for **2020-2021** are available in the Parish Office for \$5 each. Please call 416 621 2732 to make arrangements to come to the office to purchase your personal copy.

### Why did Cardinal Collins cancel Masses in lockdown areas?

In response to this question frequently asked by many parishioners of the Archdiocese of Toronto, the following response was shared to parishes from the Office of Public Relations:

Places of worship in lockdown regions (the City of Toronto and Peel Region) are restricted to no more than 10 persons inside the building. On November 20, Cardinal Collins asked parishes that have the ability to do so, to be open for private prayer. Of course, even when there is no public Mass, priests continue to celebrate private Mass each day for the intentions of the faithful and for those suffering from Covid-19. In addition, close to one hundred parishes livestream Sunday services, some with daily Mass.

*"I am deeply disappointed that, in some regions of the archdiocese, we must restrict participation in the sacraments. This will inflict a great spiritual pain upon those who safely and with great dedication have been drawing spiritual strength to sustain them, and to help them to serve those suffering in this pandemic."*

- Cardinal Collins  
November 20, 2020

Offering public Masses when the civil authorities set a limit of only 10 people (in practice, 8 or 9 parishioners) creates numerous challenges to do so in a fair manner: many parishes in the affected regions have daily Mass attendance approaching 100 people or more, and several hundred worshippers attending Sunday Masses. The challenge in allowing only eight or nine people to attend Mass are significant, if we are to be fair to all. Who is permitted to attend? How does one deal with the 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> person wishing to attend? For nine or fewer people, online reservation systems are not practical nor equitable.

## Nativity of Our Lord YOUTH MINISTRY

 LIFE TEEN



**Stay safe and see you in 2021**

**Follow us on Instagram @nativityym**  
**For registration information email**  
**Courtney at**  
**youthminister@nativityym.com**

### Submit Your Nativity Scene Photos



While we prepare and wait in anticipation during the season of Advent, we invite you to email us photos of your Nativity Scenes before December 22 as we would like to display these photos in our church for the Christmas season.

### Donation Deadline for 2020 Receipts.

Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish this past year. Please note that we have been advised by the Archdiocese of Toronto as per the norms of the Canada Revenue Agency, donations must be received in the parish office or the mail box by the office door by 12 NOON on Thursday December 31<sup>st</sup> in order to be eligible for your 2020 income tax receipt.

The **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** Nativity is requesting their deadline for donations will be by end of day on the Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> December please drop off your donation at the parish office mail slot.

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