

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 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



*We saw his star in the East
and have come to worship Him*

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Isaiah 60: 1-6 The glory of the Lord shines upon us.

Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6 The Gentiles are coheirs in Christ.

Matthew 2:1-12 Jesus is revealed to the wise and the powerful.

We sometimes speak of having “an epiphany” – a sudden, powerful realization or insight. This day celebrates the great epiphany in history: that Christ is the radiant light who has come for all who sit in darkness. Christmas focused on this revelation to the shepherds, to simple ordinary people. This ancient feast of Epiphany proclaims that Jesus’ coming is for the whole world, including the great, the powerful and the wise. No one is left in darkness.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION RECONCILIATION PROGRAM

Grade 2 or higher

**Please read the
Information Package**

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

Registration will be held from
January 10th – February 7th

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

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 23rd.

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 20th of each month. Full details are available on our website. 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 4th Jan **10:30am – 2:30pm**
- Tuesday 5th Jan **10:30am – 2:30pm**
- Wednesday 6th Jan **10:30am – 2:30pm**
- Thursday 7th Jan **10:30am – 2:30pm**
- ** Wednesday 6th Jan **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 10th or 11th 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



*Youth Ministry
will continue online*

EDGE 1st & 3rd Fridays
LIFETEEN 2nd & 4th Fridays

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

Thank you from Nativity Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

We are very grateful for the generous support you have given to our neighbours-in-need both throughout 2020 and in December for our Christmas collection. This collection and your Poor Box contributions will be used over the next year to help more than 100 families in our community with food and clothing vouchers, beds and, if they are run this year, sports registrations and summer camps. Our members and those we help thank you for your generosity. You are turning concern into action. God bless you!

Shoebox Drive Update

Thank you to all who took the time to participate in Nativity's Shoebox Drive! We are delighted to announce that the total tally was 145 shoeboxes! The day after drop-off, a team of volunteers drove the boxes down to the warehouse of Canadian Food for Children, where they were eagerly received.

Some of our shoeboxes were destined for Jamaica; the others for Malawi, East Africa. We couldn't have coordinated this drive without Father Michael and a team of volunteers! Thank you for putting a smile on the faces of children living in poverty!

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