

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD PARISH

Established June 7, 1964

480 Rathburn Road, Etobicoke, ON M9C 3S8 416-621-2732

nativity@myparish.org www.myparish.org

OUR PARISH TEAM:

Pastor: Rev. Jan Gogolewski

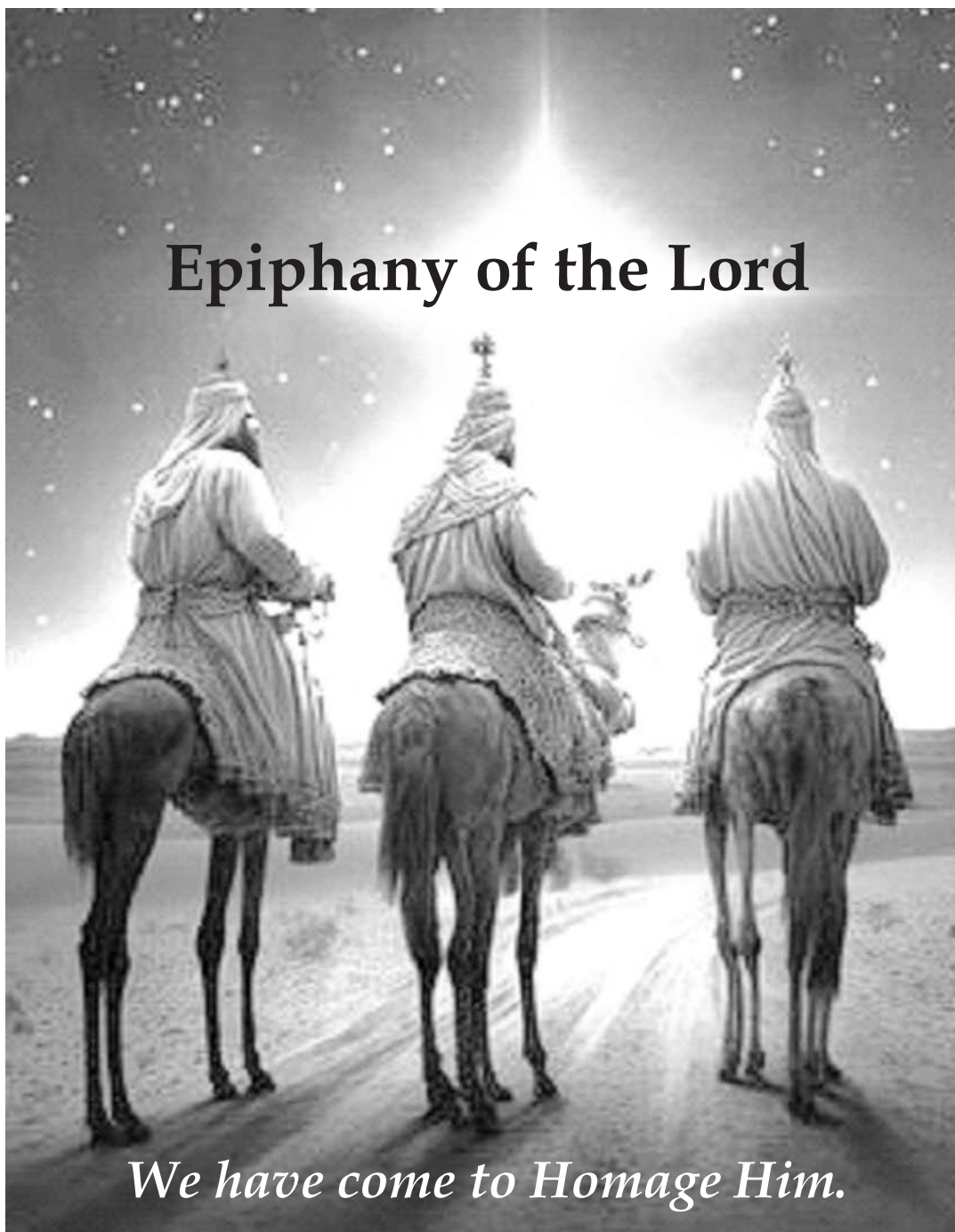
Administrative Coordinator: David Ellis

Youth Minister: Arianne Hashim

Social Communications Coordinator: Abigail Murree

Property Manager - Custodian: Antonio Marinucci

Epiphany of the Lord



We have come to Homage Him.

JANUARY 4, 2026

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, January 4 | 9:00 AM
PARISHIONERS OF NATIVITY
FOR THE HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS
LIVING AND DECEASED
Offered by the Caring Ministry
FOR THE SOUL OF DANIEL DOTZKO
FOR THE INTENTIONS OF MARIA MCEVENUE
Offered by Brad McEvenue

Sunday, January 4 | 11:30 AM
FOR THE SOUL OF SALOME BRANDAO
Offered by Dorvalino Brandao
FOR MARILYN MacDONALD ON HER BIRTHDAY
Offered by Mary Mother of Carmel Community
FOR THE SOUL OF DARRYL D'SOUZA
Offered by a Parishioner

Monday, January 5 | 9:30 AM
FOR THE SOUL OF JOHN GILLIGAN
Offered by Jackie & Joe Beaty
IN THANKSGIVING FOR MYRTLE BENJAMIN
Offered by Joanna Andrews

Tuesday, January 6 | 7:00 PM
FOR FRANCES ORAVEC, LIVING
Offered by John Martln
FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THE FAMILY TREE OF
THE NAZARETH FAMILY
Offered by Marise Nazareth
FOR HEALTH & HEALING FOR JOHN PAUL BULLOCK
Offered by Chris & Sharon Bullock

Wednesday, January 7 | 5:00 PM
FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THE FAMILY TREE OF THE
RODRIGUES FAMILY
Offered by Marise Nazareth
FOR THE SOULS OF ALSREDA &
ROMUOLD BOROWSKI
Offered by Barbara Wrobel

Thursday, January 8 | 9:30 AM
FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THE FAMILY
TREE OF THE BOTELHO FAMILY
Offered by Marise Nazareth

Friday, January 9 | 9:30 AM
FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THE FAMILY
TREE OF THE RODRIGUES FAMILY
Offered by Marise Nazareth

Saturday, January 10 | 5:00PM
FOR JEANETTE BERTHEAU ON HER 1 ST
DEATH ANNIVERSARY
FOR THE SOUL OF PATRICIA EATON
Offered by The Manuk Family
FOR THE INTENTIONS OF GEORGE & LAURA NATHAN
Offered by Michelle Nathan

Prayer for Vocations

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Message from His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo

My dear brothers and sisters, Praised be Jesus Christ and Merry Christmas to you and to your loved ones. Each year the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ invites us to delve deeper into the true meaning of the Incarnation, to ponder anew the mystery of God's love, and to renew or even seek new ways to serve our brothers and sisters because of Jesus and his teaching and example. The wonders of the Incarnation - God becoming man in Jesus - were first announced by the Archangel Gabriel nine months earlier at the Annunciation and are now fulfilled in the birth of the Messiah and as St John the Evangelist describes so eloquently, "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (Jn 1:14). Heaven and earth are joined forever giving rise to the foundation of our hope because God, who loves us, is now united to humanity forever.

This year, as the Church celebrates a Holy Year, the Jubilee - a year of grace, forgiveness, and renewal - the light of Bethlehem shines with renewed meaning. The birth of Jesus can be seen as the first and perpetual Jubilee. It is God's great proclamation of mercy: where true freedom is realized, forgiveness abounds, and our relationship with God is restored forever. For this reason, Christmas is not only a feast we celebrate but a mystery we are called to enter into and experience. We live in hope because the Bethlehem event - Christ being born among us - is not simply a scene of tenderness but the pledge of redemption: God's faithfulness has a name - Jesus. From the manger to the altar, from Bethlehem to our families, parishes and different communities, God's nearness is not a mere memory of a long-ago event, far, far away but a living presence here among us, now. And his presence always sends us forth as disciples and missionaries to proclaim, "God saves", which is the very meaning of the name of Jesus.

As Pilgrims of Hope, we live in this world witnessing to the love and mercy of God, looking forward to the day when we will be with God forever in his eternal Kingdom. As Christians we do not offer the world a new ideology, theory, or philosophy. Rather, we reveal a new reality: that God is with us, and his mercy for us endures forever. With the Incarnation the way we relate to God has changed, we are no longer merely creatures, but his beloved children called to share in his divine life.

Read more: <https://www.archtoronto.org/en/outreach/news/archdiocesan/christmas-message-from-his-eminence-frank-cardinal-leo-2025/>

New Year Prayer

Lord, You make all things new. You bring hope alive in our hearts and cause our Spirits to be born again. Thank you for this new year. For all the potential it holds. Come and kindle in us. A mighty flame. So that in our time, many will see the wonders of God and live forever to praise Your glorious name. Amen.

PARISH LIFE

Social Committee

We would like to thank all those that contributed to our shoebox drive. One hundred and seventy-five (175) shoeboxes were donated. They were dropped off at Dr. Simone's warehouse on Tuesday and that very day were leaving on a shipping container for Sierra Leone where, I'm positive, they will bring much joy to some young boys and girls. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. If you missed donating this year, you can always donate next year. The Social Committee wishes all parishioners a Blessed Christmas, filled with the peace and joy that was shared with us that very first Christmas when Jesus, our Saviour, was born.

Nativity of Our Lord CWL

SAVE THE DATE

Our Annual Planning Day will be held on Saturday, January 24th, 2026. From 9:30am to 12:00pm. More information to follow

2026 CWL MEMBERSHIP

Please remember to renew your CWL Membership for 2026. The annual fee is \$40. You can pay by cheque payable to The Catholic Women's League of Canada, place cheque or cash in sealed envelope marked CWL Membership and drop it off at the church office. Or you can do e-transfer to nativitycwl@gmail.com

WISHING A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS, to all our Nativity Parishioners, friends and families. The Nativity CWL Members wish everyone a Blessed Christmas and a Happy, Joy-filled New Year.

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, Nativity of Our Lord

Our Society assists over 100 families in our immediate area who are coping with financial insecurity. We would like to express a special thank you Nativity parishioners for their support in month's SSVP annual collection and throughout the year and to say a special word of thanks to those energetic individuals who helped us to deliver Christmas hampers on the 6th of December. Donations may be made to the poor box and by e-transfer at SSVP480@gmail.com. To request assistance or for other inquiries please call (416)695-0169.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Nativity of Our Lord Youth Ministry

2-3 hours doesn't always feel like much, but it's enough time to make a meaningful impact in someone's life. Do you have 2-3 hours of time to give every other week? Would you like to make an impact building up your parish community? Nativity Youth Ministry is looking for adult volunteers to join our core team—maybe that's you! We're calling out all young adults, adults, parents, teachers, aunts, uncles, ministers, grandparents, friends who have a heart for Jesus to reach out and learn more about what we do at Youth Ministry! Email Arianne at youthminister@nativityym.com for more info!

EVENTS & MORE

Friars Student Writing Contest 2026 (November 3, 2025, to January 12, 2026)

Theme: "The gifts he gave were for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ." (cf. Eph 4:13) High school students (ages 13-19 years) in the Catholic School Boards located in the Archdiocese of Toronto are invited to submit a 450–500-word essay and should consult the resources of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2026 at <https://bit.ly/WPCU2026>. Entries can be submitted at: <https://www.catholicregister.org/writingaward>.

Men Silent Retreat: Pilgrims of Hope: Guided by the Past, Inspired by the Future.

Friday, January 23, 2026 06:30 PM - Sunday, January 25, 2026 01:30 PM

Manresa Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre

Men Ignatian Retreat: As people of faith, we journey together as pilgrims—rooted in God's faithfulness, strengthened by hope, and called to witness in love. This year's theme, "Pilgrims of Hope: Guided by the Past, Inspired by the Future," invites us to reflect on where we have come from, where God is leading us, and how we are called to live today. Through three moments of reflection, we will: Remember the Past: Celebrating God's enduring faithfulness throughout history. Walk in Hope: Entrusting our future into God's hands with courage and confidence. Live the Present: Bearing witness through love, compassion, and service in our world today. Come and journey with us as we discover anew what it means to be pilgrims of hope—grateful for the past, trusting for the future, and faithful in the present.

This SILENT retreat begins on Friday evening and runs to Sunday with lunch. The suggested offering is \$270 per person which includes two nights' accommodation, meals, spiritual direction and retreat program. Facilitated by: Fr. Dexter Gray, SJ

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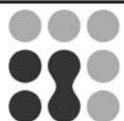
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