



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - A

Every year Christmas unites the weary and warring human family for a few days of rejoicing. Each year we are surprised anew at the richness of God's gift to us of Christ. From contemplating this gift we learn the meaning of self-giving love. Today's Mass centers on our human school of love, the family. Sirach comments on the fourth commandment to honor one's parents. The last verse of Colossians draw on a pre-Christian household code, but its first two sections are remarkable within a patriarchal culture for their fully Christian values: relationships are based on mutual love and forgiveness rather than subordination. With such love God sent his Son. The gospel reading remind us that the Holy Family was not spared the pain, separation, and need for trust experienced by those who love. Our suffering can be transformed by imitating Christ's love – a love which he learned from his parents. The miracle of Christmas assures us that God boundlessly enriches our everyday lives when lived with love.



Feast of the Holy Family – December 29, 2013

By Baptism we are God's holy family today. Pray for the grace to live faithfully your vocation as a single, married, ordained or consecrated person. If God is calling you, contact Fr. Hansoo Park at 416-968-0997 or on vocations@vocations.ca or call Fr. Victor at 416-757-2806 or at olfatima@rogers.com for more information.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

at all Masses on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.
Your Gift to the Parish
on the Octave Day of Christmas
Thank you!



OFFICE HOURS during the rest of the festive Season:	Mon December 30, 2013 --- half day: 9.00 am to noon
	Tue December 31, 2013 --- half day: 9.00 am to noon
	Wed January 01, 2014 ----- closed all day
	Thu January 02, 2014 ----- back to regular hours



Mass Intentions for the Week	Dec 30 – Jan 05, 2013 – 2014
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Mon 30	8:00 am	Somapala Prathiraja (D)
Tues 31 New Year's Eve	8:00 am	Augusto H. Villareces (D)
	5:30 pm	<i>End-of-year Thanksgiving Mass & for the People of the Parish</i>

Happy New Year

Wed 01 Mary, Mother of God New Year's Day World Day of Peace	9:00 am	Villegas Family (I) – Thanksgiving
	10:30 am	Magna & Severino Agetano (D)
	12:15 pm	Martin Fernando (D)

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Thu 02	7:00 pm	Magna & Severino Agetano (D)
Fri 03 First Friday Holy Name of Jesus	12:30 pm	Dakota Kavanaugh (D)
	7:00 pm	Steven D'Costa (I)
Sat 04 First Saturday	9:00 am	Tsegaye Birru (D)
	4:30 pm	Marianayagam Family (I)
Sun 05 The Epiphany of the Lord	9:00 am	Floro Rabadon (I) – Thanksgiving & for the People of the Parish
	10:30 am	Rosemary Joseph (D)
	12:15 pm	Alex Maropakakis (I) – for wellness



The PASTORAL TEAM at Fatima, the Parish PASTORAL COUNCIL and the FINANCE COUNCIL wish to extend to parishioners, their families and visitors heartfelt wishes for a blessed, peaceful and prosperous 2014. Thank you all for your help and support. We are really proud and privileged to be with you in the service of the Lord.



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE ... result of draw

The draw for this hand-carved, olive wood, artistic Nativity Set was made on Sunday December 22, at the end of the FATIMA CHRISTMAS CONCERT. The number of the winning tickets will be published in next week's bulletin.

Thank you all for your support.

DONATION ENVELOPES BOXES FOR 2014

The boxes with your donation envelopes for 2014 are ready for pick up at the back of the church. They are sorted in trays according to the family's last name, in alphabetical order.



Please start using them this Wednesday, January 1st, 2014. Thanks.

Remember to regularly visit our website ...

www.fatimashrine.ca

Regularly updated with weekly Bulletin and Announcements



This Sunday – Sunday, Dec 29
NO Children’s Liturgy meeting. These will resume on Sunday, January 5 at the 10.30 am Mass.
The Lord’s Flock prayer group is also not meeting this weekend; they will meet again next Sunday at the regular time.

NEW YEAR’S DAY – Mary, Mother of God – Wednesday, Jan 01, 2014

Time and again the Old Testament considers the birth of a child, especially a first-born son, to be God’s greatest blessing. But a more pessimistic strain occurs also, for to be human is to know uncertainty, pain and death. None can avoid this law. In his letter to the Galatians this is Paul’s starting point. God’s Son, a Jew born of Mary, knew the subjection of human life even to undergoing his people’s custom of circumcision. His perfect acceptance of human life has filled it with glorious possibilities. Before we were slaves; now in the name of Jesus and through his Spirit we can call God Father. But what have these readings to do with Mary, mother of God? From the fifth century, January 1, was celebrated in Rome as her feast. The mother of this child must be remembered with him. Mary’s assent to God’s plan marks the new age of humanity allowing us to pass from slavery to the freedom of God’s children. How blessed were we when God chose Mary to be the mother of his Son!



First Friday of the month – Friday, Jan 03

The regular **Frist Friday** devotions start at 12.15 pm and include prayers, Divine Mercy chaplet and holy Mass. Silent adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament proceeds through the afternoon and early evening. Prayers, devotions and Benediction begin at 6.30 pm and holy Mass conclude the day’s devotion.

Sunday of the Epiphany of the Lord – Sunday, Jan 05

The feast of the **EPIPHANY OF THE LORD** is the last of the major Christmas celebrations. Next Sunday’s feast of the *Baptism of the Lord* concludes the season. The regular schedule for Sunday Masses is followed and there will be **no Children’s Liturgy** today. The Lord’s Flock prayer meeting is at 2.00 pm.

Feast of the Infant Jesus – Jan 08

A Holy Hour of prayer, meditation and adoration of the Most Blessed Eucharist starts at 6.00 pm. The Rosary will be recited and benediction concludes the prayer hour. The festive Mass starts at 7.00 pm. All are welcome especially the Secular Carmelites and their friends.



First Holy Communion & Confirmation classes – 2014

We remind parents, students and candidates registered in our parish’s classes for 2014 that these start meeting next weekend. Friday, Jan 10 at 6.30 pm we have a parents meeting in our church hall for First Holy Communion applicants. Classes are on Sunday at 9.30 to 10.15 am for FHC applicants (in public schools) and at the 10.30 am Mass for all others.

Applicants in the Confirmation class start meeting on Saturday, January 11 in our church hall from 3.00 to 4.00 pm. The Enrolment of candidates in the Confirmation class will take place later on in the church during 4.30 pm Mass.



Attendance is mandatory for all meetings and the Sunday Eucharist. See the information notes with the application form and the Introductory Meetings.

Parishioners WANTING an Income Tax Receipt!

We are grateful to all registered parishioners who have already requested a **tax receipt for 2013** by placing a *self-addressed envelope in the collection basket* during the past weeks.



Thanks also to those who made use of the envelopes available at church entrances. Please, **only if requesting a receipt**, continue using these white envelopes [similar to the donation envelopes] with the heading: **My TAX RECEIPT request**. Pick up one on your way in church, fill in the **name** and **box number** in the space provided, **do not put money in it**, and drop it in the collection basket with your offertory envelope. We appreciate your support and co-operation.

Receipts for 2013 will only be issued when requested.

Christmas

Christmas is Christ birth, the savior is born.
 The truth and the light, on mankind, will dawn.
 With love Baby Jesus, Gods word, will reveal.
 With peace on earth, to men of good will.

Christmas is presents, with family and friends.
 With turkey and lights, and Santa pretends.
 Christmas is home, with Mom-Dad, and all.
 Christmas is memories, we all recall.

Christmas is holy, and sacred with awe.
 For God is among us, like never before.
 Resist the commercial, and worries to buy.
 The burden of debt, with expenses too high.

Take children to church, see Mary and Joseph.
 The manger and Jesus, the wise men in praise of.
 The shepherds, the sheep,-Gold-Incense-and Myrrh.
 The love and the spirit, making hearts stir.

Keep Christmas holy, by example and prayer.
 For children to follow, your foot steps, with care.
 Sing Christmas is Christ birth, are you aware.
 Christmas is Christ birth, the joy we all share.



By the grace of God – Dennis Hayes

With best wishes for the coming year

