



4th Sunday of Advent – Sunday, Dec 18

The **Lord's Flock** prayer group has an Advent celebration and fellowship in the hall between 2:00 and 4:00 pm. **Novena Devotions – Day 4** start today **at 5:00 pm**. The **Christmas Raffle** will be drawn at the end of the Novena Mass. The **SOCK DRIVE** continues and tickets for the parish's **New Year's Eve Family Night** remain on sale from the office or at the back of the church after all weekend Masses.

Christmas Novena devotions – Monday - Friday, Dec 19-23

Morning Mass is at 8:00 am daily, except Wednesday. **Novena Devotions – Daily** start at 6:30 pm.

A 2nd special collection:

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

in all Masses, on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day ... *a Christmas Gift to the Parish!* **Thank you!**



Shorter Office Hours over the holidays – Friday, Dec 23

The Office is on half days and shorter hours during the holidays. Check the schedule or phone the office beforehand to avoid disappointment.

CHRISTMAS DAY – Sunday, Dec 25

As does every feast of the liturgical year, Christmas celebrates the miracle of our redemption. God has sought out his people to make us holy. He acts in history – world history and our own history – but who could imagine the ways he chooses? Luke's gospel shows us the least of Israel's poor gathered about a crib in wondering amazement, while Mary keeps in memory everything that is happening. She will live out her life in faith, pondering all the while on God's immense goodness. His gracious gift of Jesus to her is his gift to us, the people he loves. In his letter to Titus Paul reminds us that our relationship to Christ is completely undeserved; baptism has made us members of God's holy people and heirs with Christ our brother. The Light has appeared: the gift of faith allows us to recognize Christ as the savior sent by God. God's Christmas gift, his own Son, gives us reason to be joyful the entire year!

Christmas Blessings

The PASTORAL TEAM at Fatima, the Parish PASTORAL COUNCIL and the Parish FINANCE COUNCIL extend wishes for God's peace, joy and every blessing on all our parishioners and friends or family visiting them this Christmas season and throughout the New Year. Thank you all for your help and support.

We are so blessed to have you and very proud of all of you.



SPECIAL OFFERING

FLOWERS for CHRISTMAS offering;

Thanks for supporting the purchase of Christmas flowers to decorate the altar and the church during the festivities. Use these envelopes, and fill in the requested information and your regular envelope number [if you want your donation to be included in the tax receipt] seal envelope with your offering and place it in the candle box at the shrine.



Thank you for your generous support!



DONATION ENVELOPES BOXES FOR 2017



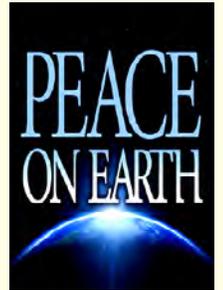
The boxes with your donation envelopes for 2017 are ready for pick up. They are sorted at the back of the church in trays and in alphabetical order according to the family's **last name**.

Registered parishioners are kindly asked to inform the office of any changes to their personal data. **New parishioners** are encouraged to register and get their personal box number so that offerings will be acknowledged by the issuing of a tax receipt at the end of the year.

Thank you

OFFICE HOURS during the festive Christmas Season:

- Fri. December 23, 2016 ----- half day: 9:00 am to noon
- Sat. December 24, 2016 ----- closed all day
- Sun. December 25, 2016 ----- closed all day
- Mon. December 26, 2016 ----- closed all day
- Tues. December 27, 2016 ----- closed all day
- Wed. December 28, 2016 ----- half day: 9:00 am to noon
- Thur. December 29, 2016 ----- half day: 9:00 am to noon
- Fri. December 30, 2016 ----- half day: 9:00 am to noon
- Sat. December 31, 2016 ----- closed all day
- Sun. January 01, 2017 ----- closed all day
- Mon. January 02, 2017 ----- closed all day
- Mon. January 03, 2017 ----- **back to regular hours**



Archdiocese of Toronto Celebrates 175th Anniversary

December 17 marks the 175th anniversary of the Archdiocese of Toronto, kicking off a year-long celebration of this historic milestone. Originally part of the Diocese of Kingston, on December 17, 1841, Pope Gregory XVI formally created the Diocese of Toronto and named Michael Power its first bishop. The Archdiocese of Toronto is planning numerous historical and spiritual activities to commemorate the 175th anniversary, including a large-scale celebration at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica on May 30, 2017. In acknowledging this significant anniversary, Cardinal Thomas Collins remarked:

"It is a tremendous blessing to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the Archdiocese of Toronto. It is always a joy to express my gratitude to those, past and present, who have made incredible contributions to our city, province and country, inspired by their faith. Over the next year, we will honour the past, energize our present faith community and look forward to an exciting future." More information on the Archdiocese of Toronto 175th celebrations can be accessed by visiting:

www.archtoronto.org

CHRISTMAS is ...

**Christmas is peace, Christmas is awe,
Christmas is love like never before,
Christmas is wonder, a child's delight,
Christmas is Santa, a wonderful sight,
Christmas is good the best to be,
Christmas is joy for you and for me,
Christmas is Christ the veins and heartbeat,
Christmas is blessing each person we meet,
Christmas is God forgiving all sin,
Saying Dearly Beloved Let Me Come In.**

By the grace of God Dennis Hayes Christmas-2016