

HOLY ROSARY PARISH
TORONTO, ONTARIO
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Christmas 2009

Throughout the centuries, poets have delighted in the paradox that the Virgin Mary held within her womb what the entire cosmos could not contain, the eternal Son of the Father. One such poem is by the English poet Robert Southwell, S.J., who was martyred in 1595 by Queen Elizabeth I.



The Nativity of Christ

*Behold, the father is his daughter's son,
The bird that built the nest is hatched therein,
The old of years an hour hath not outrun,
Eternal life to live doth now begin,
The Word is dumb, the mirth of heaven doth weep,
Might feeble is, and force doth faintly creep.*

*O dying souls, behold your living spring;
O dazzled eyes, behold your sun of grace;
Dull ears, attend what word this Word doth bring;
Up, heavy hearts, with joy your joy embrace.
From death, from dark,
from deafness, from despairs
This life, this light, this Word, this joy repairs.*

*Gift better than himself God doth not know;
Gift better than his God no man can see.
This gift doth here the giver given bestow;
Gift to this gift let each receiver be.
God is my gift, himself he freely gave me;
God's gift am I, and none but God shall have me.*

*Man altered was by sin from man to beast;
Beast's food is hay, hay is all mortal flesh.
Now God is flesh and lies in manger pressed
As hay, the brutest sinner to refresh.
O happy field wherein that fodder grew,
Whose taste doth us from beasts to men renew.*

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve - Thursday, December 24

7:15 a.m. Mass
7:00 p.m. Carols
7:30 p.m. Family Mass - Fr. Joseph Walsh, C.S.B.
11:30 p.m. Carols
12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass - Fr. Daniel Chui, C.S.B.
Office hours: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
(Closed in the afternoon)

Christmas Day - Friday, December 25

Masses: 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.
Office closed all day

(Please note: St. Alphonsus Church will have a Mass at 7:30 p.m. on Christmas Day, December 25th.)

Boxing Day - Saturday, December 26

Masses: 9:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
Office closed all day

New Year's Eve - Thursday, December 31

Masses: 7:15 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. (No noon Mass)
Office open all day


New Year's Day - Friday, January 1

Feast of Mary, Mother of God

Masses: 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.
Office closed all day

MISSION: BLT YOUTH- We are decorating trees at 1 p.m. this Monday, **December 21!** Please stop by if you can help us out.

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR 2010 ENVELOPES

 You can pick up your envelopes at the Marian entrance corridor (west door). The boxes are in alphabetical order. Thank you for your continued support.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS ON SALE

This year the Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to give you an opportunity to purchase a Christmas gift card for your family or friends. For a donation of \$15.00 you will ensure that a needy family in our parish will have a turkey and dessert for their Christmas dinner.

Our members will be accepting donations after all Masses next weekend.

A tax receipt will be mailed to you.

We thank you for your continued generosity and support for our work.

Ideas "Christmas Poem"

G.K. Chesterton wrote a simple poem on the theme of Christmas as a coming home to God. It can be found under IDEAS at www.holyrosary.ca.

There will be no IDEAS during the twelve days of Christmas. The next entry will be posted on 17 January 2010.

TORONTO'S CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WELCOME NEW STUDENTS

Registration begins in January for Kindergarten and French Immersion at all Catholic elementary schools. Most schools are open for registration on **Wednesday, January 13th from 7 to 9 p.m.** Some TCDSB schools will be designated as sites for the full-day Early Learning Program announced recently by the Province of Ontario. Once those sites are confirmed, the community will be informed. Contact the Catholic school nearest you or 416-222-8282, Ext. 5314, or visit the Board's website at ww.tcdsb.org.

Registration at **Holy Rosary School** begins **Jan. 4, 2010** for children born in 2006. Registration hours are 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 – 4:00 p.m., with extended hours on Wednesday, Jan. 13. Please bring the birth certificate, baptismal certificate, immunization records, health card, and for children born outside of Canada, a permanent residency card. We also require parents' work number, emergency contact information and your family doctor's information.

Briefly Bin

Holy Rosary Charismatic Prayer Group: meets every Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall, Room 2.

Tagalog Mass: The Mass originally scheduled for **December 27 is cancelled.** The Joy of the Lord Prayer Group holds regular prayer meetings on **Sun. at 5 p.m.**

Jan. 11 (6:30 p.m. & Mass at 7:00 p.m.) – Open House & Annual General Meeting at Marguerite Bourgeois Family Centre: at Suite 100, 688 Coxwell Ave. Refreshments. RSVP before Dec. 28, at 416-465-2868.

NATIVITY SCENE AT OLD CITY HALL

Gethsemane Ministries, a lay movement of Toronto-area Catholics, will display a Nativity scene in front of Queen Street's Old City Hall from Sunday, Nov. 29 to Sunday, Jan. 10 in order to proclaim to the people of the City the true meaning of the Christmas season. The Nativity scene is also a response to the increasing commercialization of the Christmas season and the troubling trend toward using the generic term "Holiday" to refer to it. Gethsemane Ministries hopes that the many passers-by during the next several weeks see the display, pause from their rush of shopping and chores and reflect on the true spirit of Christmas. For more information please contact Suresh Dominic at 416-737-9573.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Each weekend before Christmas, there will be envelopes in all pews and church entrances for donations toward the cost of decorating Holy Rosary for Christmas. The flower guild depends entirely on your generosity. Please remember to include your weekly-envelope number for tax purposes.

With many thanks, The Flower Guild.



Saturday, December 19th, 2009

5:00 p.m. Daniel O'Hara (+)
Requested by His family

Sunday, December 20th, 2009

8:00 a.m. Holy Rosary Parishioners

9:30 a.m. Clarence Sutton (+)
Requested by Cinq-Mars Family

11:00 a.m. Deceased members of the Bruce family (+)
Requested by Family

12:30 p.m. Maria Carmen Manjon (+)
Requested by Teresa De La Nuez

Monday, December 21st, 2009

12:10 p.m. Marie Speck (+)
Requested by Virginia Edman

Tuesday, December 22nd, 2009

12:10 p.m. Anna Maria de Souza (+)
Requested by Ivan de Souza

Wednesday, December 23rd, 2009

12:10 p.m. Mary & Raymond Landry (+)
Requested by Robert Landry

Thursday, December 24th, 2009

7:15 a.m., 7:30 p.m., and 12:00 a.m.

Friday, December 25th, 2009

8:00 a.m., 9:30 p.m., 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 26th, 2009

5:00 p.m. Deceased members of the Molloy family (+)

Requested by E. Molloy

Sunday, December 27th, 2009

8:00 a.m. Holy Rosary Parishioners

9:30 a.m. Esperanza Ballacillo (+), Santiago Balneg (+) & Erodita Balneg (+)

Requested by Balneg family

11:00 a.m. David Bowyer (+)
Requested by Mary Cameron-Lyon

12:30 p.m. Mike Bruce (+)
Requested by Laura Power & Nora & Lucy Bruce

Extended Schedule for Masses

Monday to Friday - 7:15 a.m. & Saturdays & Holidays - 9 a.m.