

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 16:16-19, 64 1, 3-8 Why do you let us wander, O Lord?

1 Corinthians 1:3-9 We await the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Mark 13:33-37 Be watchful: we do not know when the time will come.

On this First Sunday of Advent, the candles of the Advent wreath remind us of the passing of time, and our readings speak of the end of time.

As we begin this new liturgical year and this new era in the church with new texts to learn and pray and make our own, let us realize that while all created things end and there are always new beginnings, in God, there is constancy and faithful presence.

Vocations

The season of Advent calls us to be vigilant in anticipation of the Master's return so that we live each day according to the teachings of Christ. Could God's "particular task" for you be a call to a Church vocation? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, call Fr. Hansoo 416 968 0997 or email vocations@vocations.ca .

Christmas Cakes

Cakes for Life 2011, the Campaign Life Coalition's annual fund raiser – with your help, allows us to continue our work for the unborn and carry out the

- *Annual March of Life* in Ottawa,
- *40 Days for Life* prayer vigil in front of abortuaries,
- *Life Chain*, and
- produce pro-life educational material.

Our cakes, made by pro-life Brampton bakers, will be *on sale at Nativity of Our Lord during the weekend of December 10 – 11, 2011.*

Please support our work and encourage others to buy these excellent quality Christmas cakes!

The Roman Missal

3rd Edition

Today, the **First Sunday of Advent, the 27th of November 2011**, Roman Catholics in the Archdiocese of Toronto, Canada, and in most English-speaking dioceses throughout the world, will begin to use the 3rd edition of the Roman Missal during the celebration of the Mass.

“We are going to have to think before we speak!

The Second Vatican Council called for full, conscious and active participation in the liturgy. ...Because we know our liturgy by heart, it is easy to fail to pay attention to our words and to go through the motions without being conscious of what we are saying. Having to use new expressions will make us more attentive to the meaning of our prayers. Hopefully, we will also ask “Why?” and “What does that mean?” Consequently, our participation in the liturgy will become more conscious and active.....

We are going to be more formal!

While there have been clear benefits to making church a more informal and welcoming place, there have also been some unforeseen problems. A loss of reverence is probably the most obvious. Certainly, this is the case in some parishes where it has become necessary, at times, to tell people that we do not play video games, text on our cell phones, chew gum, (etc)...during Mass. While we may not want to return to a strictness that once characterized our churches, a little formality may serve as a necessary corrective in a culture both inside and outside the church that has forgotten its good manners.

We are going to be more united with Catholics around the world!

If we were to attend Mass in Italian or Spanish or French, we would realize that the new English translation of the Mass is more similar to the translations in these other languages. This means that our new words will place us in a more direct correspondence to our brothers and sisters in other parts of the world... (or other parts of the city). There is something profoundly beautiful in knowing that not only in the neighbouring parish, but in parishes on the other side of the globe, we are all lifting our voice to praise God with the same words in many different languages....”

Embracing Change: by Christine Skinner

Catholic Women's League

Dec. 6 – Last Executive Meeting for 2011
Dec. 11 – CWL Mall at 9:30 am; Annual Christmas Lunch will follow the Mass at The Mandarin

Seniors Social Club

When: December 2, 2011
Time: 11:15 am
Activity: Christmas Movie/Bingo
Over a Light Lunch
All men and women are welcome!

Advent Confessions

Please calendar the date for our Parish Advent Confessions:

Wednesday, December 14, 2011
After the 7:00 pm Mass

We will have several priests available for confessions. Please take the opportunity to prepare for the coming of the Christ child – for Christmas – in the most beautiful way: by making sure that we are spiritually ready to receive Him on the day of His birth.

St. Augustine's Seminary Advent Retreat
At His Feet, At His Service, In His Name: An Advent Reflection

Saturday, December 3, 2011 10 am to 2:30 pm
St. Augustine's Seminary
2661 Kingston Road, Scarborough.

Come and enjoy a day of reflection with Dr. Josephine Lombardi, as we prepare ourselves to receive Christ. This retreat will lead us through self-examination and will affirm the need for humility and self-awareness as we prepare to meet and serve the Lord. Cost is \$25 lunch included. To register, call 416 261 7207 Ext 221.

Wonderful Peace – St. Michael's Choir School

Saturday Dec 10, 7:30 pm Tickets: \$20-\$40
Sunday, Dec 11, 3 pm Tickets \$19-\$38
Massey Hall, Toronto

Peace on earth, goodwill to all! Celebrate Christmas as the 270 boys of St. Michael's Choir School blend holiday classics with songs of peace from around the globe. A tradition in Toronto for 74 years, the Choir School Christmas Concert at Massey Hall is sure to stir the soul and warm the heart. Enjoy timeless music for a peaceful world! For tickets and information, visit www.christmasconcert.ca

Faith Connections...Theology on Tap

Young adults (19-39) are invited to a social evening of thought-provoking discussions on "Icons of Christ, Mary and the Nativity" with guest Jaroslav Skira, professor of Eastern Christianity. Munchies provided, cash bar, come and bring a friend! Monday, Nov. 28, 7 pm, Duke of York Pub, 39 Prince Arthur Ave., Toronto.

Advent Retreat for Young Adults(18-39)

The Journey of the Clay – Join Faith Connections and Sr. Helen Kluge, CSJ, for a chance to work with clay as a tool for Advent reflection and prayer. Saturday, Dec. 3, 1 pm to 6 pm at Studio on the Hill (967 O'Connor Dr., East York), cost \$40. .

For more information, call 416 467 2645 or visit www.faithconnections.ca – a ministry of Fontbonne Ministries, Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto.

"Fourth Day of Christmas Dinner"

Would you like to be somewhere special for Christmas? Come for dinner or all three days at St. Mary of Egypt Refuge: Wednesday Dec 28, 2:00 pm/Hospitality Days: Dec 27-29.

RSVP to infor@stmarysrefuge.org or call 416 629 8264.
