

**ADVENT**

Advent is a season of spiritual joy and expectation. Advent is a time of wonder and anticipation as we prepare ourselves to celebrate God becoming one of us in Jesus.

The word Advent is from the Latin “adventus” meaning “coming”. In our preparation for Christmas we will sing “O Come Divine Messiah” and “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”, we will pray, we will be generous and we will share gifts because God is generous and gave us the ultimate gift: Jesus. Yes, Jesus is the reason for the season.

The traditional colour of Advent is purple or violet which symbolizes our penitential spirit. Just when the whole world seems to be caught up in the consumerism of Christmas preparations, the four weeks of Advent are punctuated with acts of penitence and caring for the poor.

We will light the Advent wreath, which consists of evergreens formed into a circle with three purple candles and one pink, representing the four weeks of Advent. The circular wreath stands as a sign of God’s love for us.

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**Christmas Concert**

We will have our traditional Christmas Concert on Saturday, December 14 at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome!



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**Christmas Confessions**

Our Christmas Confessions will be on Thursday, December 19th from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

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**Christmas Flowers**

As always every year, we have to place the order for flowers to decorate our church for Christmas. We thank you in advance for your generous donations.



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**2025 Donation Envelopes**

It’s now available by the church entrance. If you are unable to find your donation box, please feel free to contact our office.

# St. Mary's Church

**Rev. Msgr. Fernando Couto (Pastor)**  
**Rev. Fr. Benny Joseph (Associate Pastor)**

**Parish Council**

**Parish Finance Council**

**English Choir**  
Susan Taylor 416-531-0503

**Portuguese Choir**  
Ana da Silva 905-891-5444

**Santo Cristo**  
Artur Rocha 647-624-7113

**Santo Cristo Band (Hall)** 416-703-2231  
Paul Valerio (President) 647-998-5916

**Santo Cristo Association**  
Contact the Parish 416-703-2326

**Espirito Santo**  
João & Lilia Tavares 647-308-7556

**St. Vincent de Paul** 416-247-8868

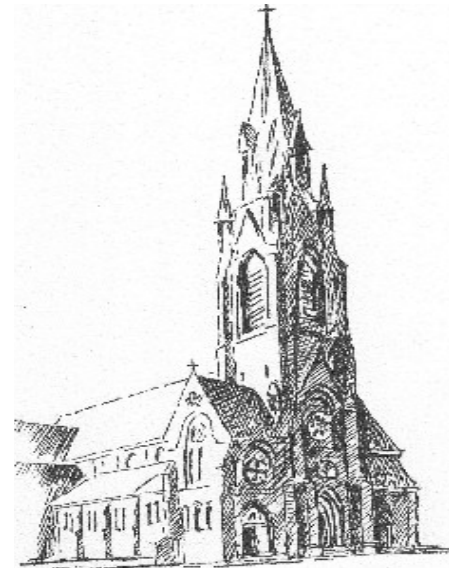
**Volunteer Co-Ordinator**  
Delia Medeiros (Please contact parish)

**Baptism—Sundays**  
Baptisms will be booked by appointment only

**Marriages**  
Please contact the priest *12 months* in advance

**Confessions**  
Every day *before* Mass, except on Sunday

**Schools**  
St. Mary Elementary 416-393-5205  
Bishop Macdonell 416-393-5462



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**Toronto, On. M6J 3P8**  
**Tel: 416-703-2326 Fax: 416-703-4196**  
**Email: [stmaryschurch2@rogers.com](mailto:stmaryschurch2@rogers.com)**  
**Website: [stmarysbathurst.archtoronto.org](http://stmarysbathurst.archtoronto.org)**

**OFFICE HOURS**

**Mon.– Fri. 8:30—12:00 and 1:00—4:00**

**Sunday Masses**

8:30 am Portuguese  
10:00 am Portuguese  
11:30 am English  
1:00 pm English

**Weekday Masses**

Monday—Friday 9:00 am Portuguese  
6:00 pm English  
Saturday 5:00 pm English



## First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

**First Reading (Jer 33:14-16).** The prophet assures the people that God will send the promised one, the Messiah.

**Psalm: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.**

**Second Reading (1 Thess 3:12-4:2).** Paul prays that the Lord may deepen the love the Thessalonians have for each other, and thus prepare them for the second coming of Christ.

**Gospel (Lk 21:25-28,34-36).** In language borrowed from the Old Testament, Luke describes the second coming of Christ. The early Christians believed that the Second Coming was near, and would be preceded by cosmic signs. The disciples are urged to wait the Lord's coming with confidence, vigilance and prayer.

### O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O come! O come! Emmanuel!  
And ransom captive Israel;  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear.

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel!**

O come, O rod of Jesse's stem,  
From every foe deliver them  
That trust your mighty power to save,  
And give them victory over the grave.

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### Be Not Afraid

You shall cross the barren desert,  
but you shall not die of thirst  
You shall wander far in safety  
though you do not know the way  
You shall speak your words in foreign lands  
and all will understand  
You shall see the face of God and live

**Be not afraid  
I go before you always  
Come follow me, and  
I will give you rest**

If you pass through raging waters in the sea,  
you shall not drown  
If you walk amid the burning flames,  
you shall not be harmed  
If you stand before the power of hell  
and death is at your side, know that  
I am with you through it all

### O Come Divine Messiah

O come, divine Messiah!  
The world in silence waits the day  
When hope shall sing its triumph,  
And sadness flee away.

**Sweet Saviour haste;  
Come, come to earth,  
Dispel the night and show thy face,  
And bid us hail the dawn of grace.  
O come, divine Messiah!  
The world in silence waits the day  
When hope shall sing its triumph,  
And sadness flee away.**

O Thou, whom nations sigh for,  
Whom priest and prophet long foretold,  
Come break the captive fetters;  
Redeem the long-lost fold.

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### People Look East

People look east, the time is near  
Of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
Trim the hearth, and set the table.  
People look east and sing today,  
Love, the Guest is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build,  
Guard the nest that must be filled.  
Even the hour when wings are frozen,  
He for fledging time has chosen.  
People look east and sing today,  
Love the Bird is on the way.

### Mass Intentions for this Week

#### **Saturday, 30th of November**

**5:00 pm.** Lourdes S. Bautista—Artur & Maria Angelina Pimentel - Maria Sofia Couto

#### **Sunday, 1st of December**

**8:30am.** Nelissa da Mota

**10:00 am.** Community — Henrique Sebastião—José Luis & Maria Teresa Branco—José, Henriqueta & John Rebelo—Maria & José Senra—António Correia—António & Maria Raposo—José Correia, spouse, parents, in-laws, family & souls in purgatory—Manuel & Natália Raposo, Manuel & Rosa Matias—Clementina & Emanuel Alves, parents, in-laws, intention of Manuel Alves

**11:30 am.** Stjepan Cicvaric—Cesar Lopes Pires, parents, siblings & in-laws

**1:00 pm.** Dino Dutra—Mercês & Cristiano Ventura, family & souls in purgatory

#### **Monday, 2nd of December**

**9:00 am.** Souls in purgatory

**6:00 pm.** World Peace

#### **Tuesday, 3rd of December**

**9:00 am.** Souls in purgatory

**6:00 pm.** Intention of Connie, Larry & Joshua Medeiros

#### **Wednesday, 4th of December**

**9:00 am.** Luciano & Rosa Borges, parents, siblings & souls in purgatory

**6:00 pm.** Richard Vicente

#### **Thursday, 5th of December**

**9:00 am.** Maria Teresa Maiato & family

**6:00 pm.** Souls in purgatory

#### **Friday, 6th of December**

**9:00 am.** Intention of Martinho, Luisa Rodrigues & family

**6:00 pm.** Ermelinda Arruda—José Paulo dos Santos & family

#### **Saturday, 7th of December**

**5:00 pm.** Intention of Victoria Guerra—Souls in purgatory