

The Parish Community of St. Padre Pio

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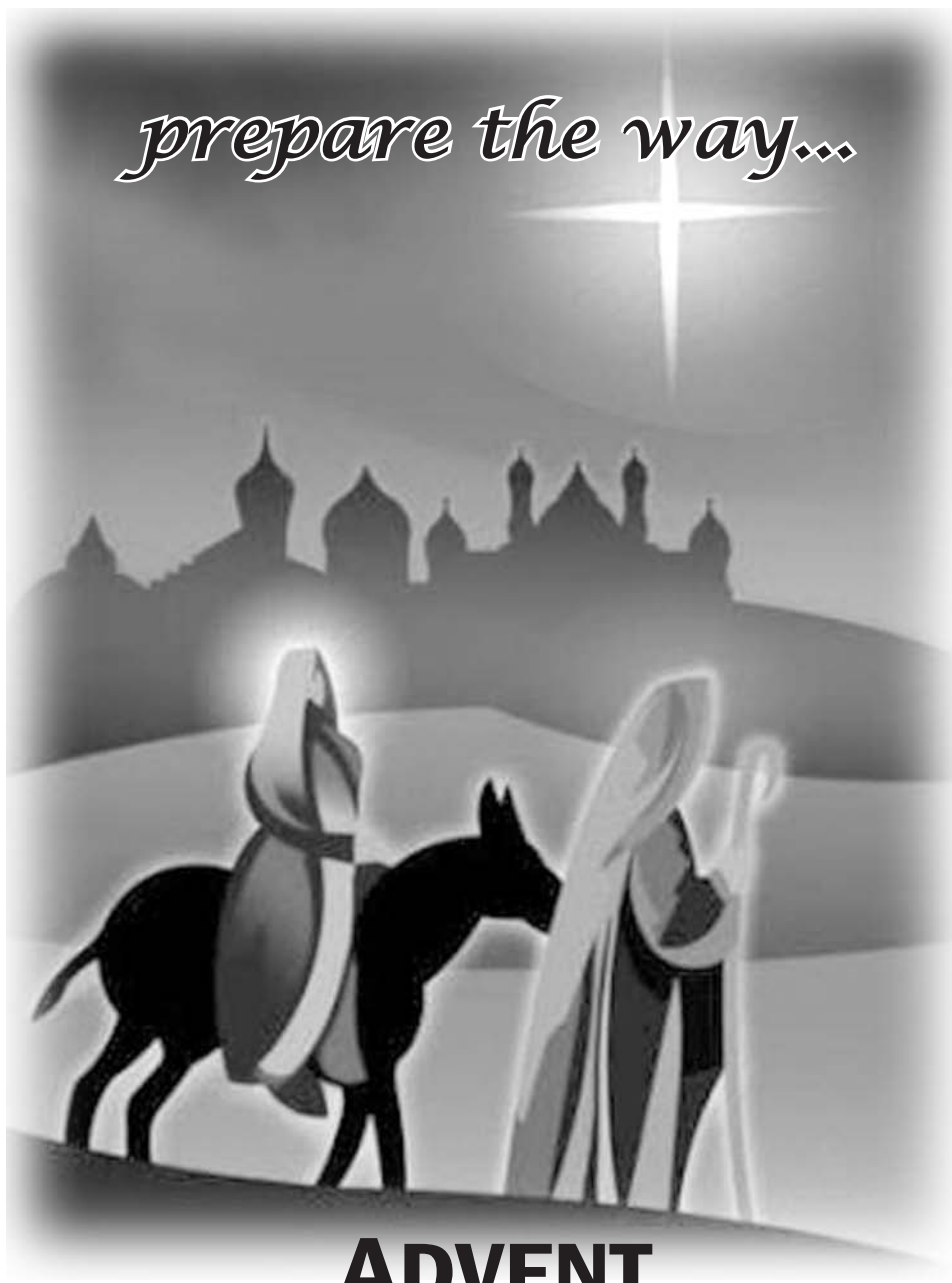
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PARISH TEAM:

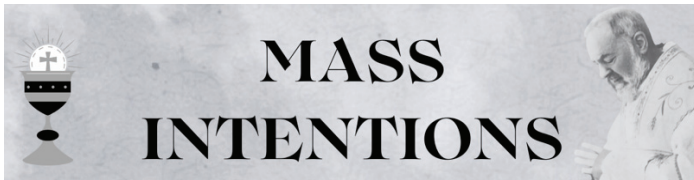
Father George Parayil - Pastor

Deacon Gary Thibodeau - Deacon Assistant

Deacon Curtis Boone - Deacon Assistant



ADVENT



Sat. Dec. 21

5:00pm – +Joao Carlos Santos

Sun. Dec. 22

8:00am – +Dulce Maria Hernandez

9:15am – +Nick Bertucci, +Nicola Barbieri,
+Stellina Barbieri

10:30am – +Maria Fernandez

12:00pm – +Antonino Comella

Mon. Dec. 23

7:00pm - +Irene Morabito, +Michele Morabito,

+Rosa Di Santo, +Massimo Francesco,

+Maria Giuseppe D'Amico, +Luigi D'Amico

Tues. Dec. 24

9:00am –

5:00pm – +Rose Burdi

9:00pm – **For all the Deceased Members of the
Amahan, Coloma and Cajuday Families.**

12:00am -

Wed. Dec. 25

8:00am –

9:15am –

10:30am - +Antonio Branco and Family,

+Albino Jorge and Family

12:00pm - +Vittoria & Domenico Congiusti

+Benedetta & Giovanni Del Mastro

Thurs. Dec. 26

9:00am –

Fri. Dec. 27

7:00pm –

Feast Days This Week

Wed. Dec. 25 – **The Nativity of the Lord**

Thurs. Dec. 26 – **St. Stephen**

Fri. Dec. 27 – **St. John**

Holiday Office Hours

The office will be closed on:

Wednesday, December 25

Thursday, December 26

Tuesday, December 31 at 12:00noon

Wednesday, January 1

Weekly Novena to St. Padre Pio

Every Friday morning, we will be praying a one-day Novena to our Patron Saint, St. Padre Pio. The Novena will happen after the 9:00am mass.

Gift Store

St. Padre Pio Gift Store will be closed for Christmas and New Year's beginning Monday, December 23, 2024 - Sunday, January 5, 2025. During this time, if you wish to purchase items, please visit the Parish office between Monday to Friday from 9:00am – 4:00pm.

Children's Liturgy

There will be no children's Liturgy from Sunday, December 29 & Sunday, January 5. We will resume our regular schedule on Sunday, January 12. We wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

HOLY JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

October 6 – 17, 2025

\$5,190.00

Under the spiritual direction of our Pastor, Fr. George Parayil, we will be embarking on a 12-Day Pilgrimage to Italy. Price includes Flight, Hotel, 2 Meals Daily, Sightseeing as per itinerary, Tips, Guides, Restaurants and Hotels. For more information and registration, visit the website at: <https://www.ihtours.com/tour/pilgrimage-to-italy-27/> or contact Stan at 647-463-9057 or the parish office at 905-893-7879. Flyers can be found in the narthex for more details.

PASSION PLAY 2025: A Musically Immersed Experience

We are excited to announce that Passion Play rehearsals will be starting in January. Following the success of the last two years, the 2025 Passion Play is highly anticipated. This year's musically immersed production will be performed on two evenings (Friday, April 11, 2025, at 7:30 PM and Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025, at 7:30 PM), at St. Padre Pio Church - and you won't want to miss it! Tickets go on sale February 1, so stay tuned for further announcements. Currently, **we are looking for Volunteer Actors for Speaking and Non-Speaking Roles, as well as Sponsors, Advertisers for the Souvenir Program and Donors for Raffle and Silent Auction Prizes.** As this is a major fundraising event for our Parish, (last year's production raised over \$78,000), we hope that our community supports this important event. For more information or to get involved in this community project, please contact Liana Del Mastro, Director, at stpadrepiopassionplay@gmail.com.

PARISH MISSION: What Does It Mean To Be Catholic Today?

Join Fr. Tom McCarthy, O.S.A. for our upcoming Parish Mission.

Monday, January 20, 2025, 7PM: The Saints

How are they the heroes of our faith? Am I a saint in training?

Tuesday, January 21, 2025, 7PM: Prayer

Is it worth it? Does God listen to me? Answered or unanswered prayers – which do I believe in?

Wednesday, January 22, 2025, 7PM: The Family of Faith

Do I consider my Parish a family? How do I build up my family of faith? I want to belong – how do I do it?

Please Mark your Calendars and join us to deepen your faith!

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Tues. December 24

5:00 pm (*Children's Nativity Play to Follow Homily*)

9:00 pm | 12:00 midnight

Wed. December 25

8:00 am (*Italian*)

9:15 am | 10:30 am | 12:00 pm

Thurs. December 26

9:00 am

Tues. December 31

5:00 pm

Wed. January 1

9:00 am (*Italian*)

10:30 am | 12:00 pm

Tip Tap Pay

St. Padre Pio, through the Archdiocese of Toronto, has partnered with Tip Tap Pay so that you can help support the parish through a convenient and easy method. Simply tap and hold your debit or credit card to the TipTap device to donate to your parish.

We have installed the kiosk in the narthex. You will see three devices and denominations - \$5, \$10 & \$20. To donate using this method, all you have to do is tap your credit or debit card on the amount you wish to donate. You can also tap more than once to customize the amount of your donation. Your card will be charged only the amount indicated on the device each time you tap using your card.

You can also receive a tax receipt. After your first tap, scan the QR code available at the stand right away using your smart phone and register your payment card. You only need to register once.

We are happy to provide this new way of giving to parishioners and visitors who no longer carry cash or prefer to use digital giving to support the Parish.

Thank you for your kind heart and for supporting our church! Should you have any questions, please contact Liana, our Lay Pastoral Associate – stpadrepiolPA@archtoronto.org.

Monthly Memorial Mass – There will be no monthly memorial mass this month. Our next mass will be on **Wednesday, January 29, at 7:00 pm.**

Offertory Donations

All donations received after December 31, 2024, will go towards your 2025 tax receipt.

Dear Friends,

Christmas is finally here. All four weeks of Advent we have been waiting and praying for the coming blessings of Christmas. And now Christmas is here. Today the angels are bringing us the good news of great joy for all the people, for to us is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. This good news of great joy is for all the people of God. As people of God, we have a claim to the joy and the peace that the birth of Christ brings to the world. But how do I personally enter this "great joy" of Christmas? Christmas rings out "joy to the world," yes, but how do I make this joy my own? This is an important question, for, even though God has declared joy to the whole world, there are still many among us who do not flow in this joy, many among us who do not know how to claim this joy and make it their own personally.

Look at the word JOY. You see that it is made up of three letters: first J, then O, and lastly Y. J stands for Jesus, O for Others, and Y for You. Joy therefore is: **Jesus, Others, before You.** To know joy in our lives we need to place Jesus first in everything. Secondly, we need to try to please others before trying to please yourself. That is the recipe for joy. That is how we can convert Christmas "joy to the world" into a personal "joy in my life" now and always.

In the Christmas story we have the innkeeper who turns Joseph and Mary out on a cold night while he enjoyed the warmth of the inn. There's also Herod who wanted above all his job security as king to the point that he was prepared to kill Jesus and others. These people never get to experience the joy of the good news. On the positive side, consider the shepherds who leave everything they own, their flock, in the bush and go to adore Jesus first. Or the magi, the wise men from the East who leave the security of their homeland and make a long and dangerous journey to Bethlehem just to worship the new-born Jesus and give him gifts. These are the ones who receive God's favor, the ones who experience in their hearts the true peace and joy of Christmas. Let us today resolve to follow their good example by always placing Jesus and others before self and then the joy of Christmas will always be ours. Thank you for your support to St. Padre Pio Parish. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Joyful New Year.
- Fr. George Parayil, *Pastor*



We extend our sympathy and prayers to the families of our loved ones who have recently passed away:

Robert Pilla

May he rest in peace. Amen

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