

# St. Paul the Apostle and Immaculate Conception Churches

**St. Paul the Apostle:** P.O. Box 789, 190 King St. S., Alliston, ON L9R 1V9

**OFFICE HRS: Tues-Fri 9-4:00 p.m.**

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**Pastoral Team:** *Pastor: Fr. Alan Glass [father.glass@gmail.com](mailto:father.glass@gmail.com)*

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#### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent ~ 19 December 2021

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." *Luke 1:41-42*

**First Reading + Micah 5:2-5a**  
**Second Reading + Hebrews 10:5-10**  
**Gospel + Luke 1:39-45**

### Mass for the Intentions Week

**Monday, December 20**

NO MASS SCHEDULED

**Tuesday, December 21**

5:30pm+Marian Cenacle

6:00pm+HOLY HOUR

**\*\*6:15pm – 6:45pm + CONFESSIONS**

7:00pm+Tessa MORRISON, Pers Int – P/C Morrison

**Wednesday, December 22**

8:00am+John KENNEDY, RIP – M Kennedy

**Thursday, December 23**

8:00am+Lucia/Bolek BOZEK, Pers Int – M Bogucki

**Friday, December 24**

8:00am+Fr. C.J. BENNETT, Pers Int – J/C Orr

5:00pm+Jean TURNER, RIP – Dw Donnelly

7:30pm+FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

12:00am+Kurt/Elizabeth STIEGWARDT, RIP – B Baumfeld

**Saturday, December 25**

9:00am+ Bill SMALL, RIP – M Brett

10:30pm+Antonius VERSCHUEREN, RIP – J/R Vandervoort

12:00pm+Deborah Donnelly, Pers Int – G/D Tardif

**Sunday, December 26**

9:00am+ Gord & Debbie TARDIF & FAMILY Pers Int

10:30am+Leo & Mary JOYCE, RIP – L/T Keogh

12:00pm+St. Paul's VOLUNTEERS, Pers Int

### FROM THE DESK OF FR. GLASS:

*O come, O come, Emmanuel.*

Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. — Isaiah 7:14

This passage in Isaiah has always been read by Christians as a prophecy of the miraculous conception of Jesus in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. As a literalist youth, I noted that Mary did not in fact name her son 'Immanuel.' Isaiah, however, is saying something quite radical, because in Hebrew 'Immanu-El' literally means 'God with us.' This is a most apt title for Mary's son.

The name 'Jesus' is identical to 'Joshua' in the Old Testament. It was one of the more popular male names in first century Galilee. In Hebrew it is 'Yehoshua', which gets translated into Greek as 'Iesous', and then into English as 'Jesus.' Gabriel actually said to Mary, "You shall conceive in you womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name 'Yehoshua'," or in the common dialect, "Yeshua."

There is a Christian group that insists that we must only ever refer to Jesus as 'Yeshua' because, as St. Paul writes to the Philippians:

God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

St. Paul uses the Greek form 'Iesous,' but in any case, that is *not* the name above every name. The supreme name is that which was told to Moses at the burning bush. Moses asks God: "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God replies: "YHWH, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob has sent me to you."

God's proper name is 'YHWH' (Hebrew was written with only consonants) but that most holy name was never spoken out loud; instead, the word 'Adonai' (Lord) was substituted. This tradition continues in our English Bibles, where 'YHWH' appears as 'the LORD' using all capital letters. That is the name above all other names!

Moreover, St. Paul also cites the word of God in Isaiah: "Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. ...To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear." Paul is identifying Jesus with God of the Old Testament: 'Jesus Christ is LORD.'

As we draw near to the celebration of the birth of our Savior, we ponder in our hearts this fundamental truth of our faith. Jesus was not, as many seem to think, merely a good and wise and holy man, nor was he someone in whom the Spirit dwelt in a special way. Jesus is 'God from God, light from light, true God from true God.' Jesus said, 'If you have seen me you have seen the Father' — 'the Father and I are one' — 'I am in the Father and the Father is in me.' Jesus is *literally* 'Immanuel' — God with us.

### Saint of the Week:

Fight all error, but do it with good humor, patience, kindness, and love. Harshness will damage your own soul and spoil the best cause. - *Saint John of Kanty(1390-1473), Patron St of Lithuania, Poland, Feast Day December 23*

## PARISH CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



### **Confessions:**

Every Tuesday: 6:00 – 6:45p.m. (before 7:00p.m. Mass)  
Every Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45p.m. (before 5:00p.m. Mass)  
There will be NO confessions on December 24<sup>th</sup> or  
January 1<sup>st</sup>.

ALL MASSES CELEBRATED AT ST. PAUL'S ONLY

### **Christmas Mass Times:**

**Fri. December 24<sup>th</sup>:** at 5:00p.m. 7:30p.m. & 12:00am  
**Sat. December 25<sup>th</sup>:** 9:00am, 10:30am & 12:00pm

### **New Year's Eve Mass Times:**

**Fri. December 31:** at 5:00 p.m.  
**Sat. January 1** at 9:00am & 10:30am

### **Sunday Mass Times**

**Sat. December 25<sup>th</sup>** NO 5:00pm MASS.  
**Sun. December 26<sup>th</sup> Mass Times**  
9:00am, 10:30am & 12:00pm  
**Sat. January 1<sup>st</sup>** NO 5:00pm MASS  
**Sun. January 2 Mass Times**  
9:00am, 10:30am & 12:00pm

### **Weekday Mass Times**

There will be weekday masses celebrated on  
Friday, December 24 at 8:00am  
Friday, December 31 at 8:00am

### **Good Shepherd Food Bank:**

Christmas comes and goes but there is always a need to keep the shelves stocked. We collect throughout the year and the food bank takes note of how many pounds of food our parishioners deliver to them each year. We thank all those who faithfully bring in food items every week.



### **Calling all Catholic Advisors**

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For further information, contact the Development Office at: 416-934-3400 ext. 561/519  
or [development@archtoronto.org](mailto:development@archtoronto.org).

### **Pre-Authorized Giving**

The Archdiocese of Toronto has established a Pre-Authorized Giving plan (PAG) to help you support the parish's work through your regular offertory gift. To accomplish the mission entrusted to us by Christ, parishes depend entirely on the generosity of their parishioners. Pre-Authorized Giving allows you to donate to your parish through scheduled monthly transfers from your bank account or credit card. These funds are then deposited directly into the parish's account. There are various benefits of participating in pre-authorized giving, both for you and for your parish.

**Advantages for You:** • The convenience of having your offering automatically contributed to the parish. • Knowing you continue to support the parish even when you are away. • Continual support of ministries and programs funded through the parish.  
**Advantages for the Parish:** • Regular, dependable contributions to the parish. • Reduction of cash on hand. • Reduction of paperwork.

For information on how to enroll, please contact your parish office or email [development@archtoronto.org](mailto:development@archtoronto.org)



On behalf of all the Pastoral team, we would like to wish you all a Blessed and Merry Christmas. May you and your family and friends experience the presence of the Emmanuel - 'God is with us' and be touched by His presence and love. Let us pray for the strength and courage to share that love with others especially the needy and vulnerable among us including our youth and children. *May God Bless you all.*



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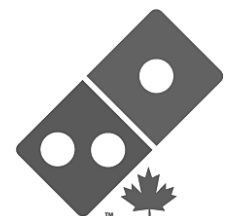
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