

A Faith Community Alive in Christ Jesus

St. Dominic

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PARISH STAFF

Fr. Philip Jones - Pastor

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**MAY THE SPIRIT OF GOD
LEAD YOU THROUGH THE NEW YEAR**

The Holy Family

From the desk of Fr. Phil

Feast of the Holy Family

The Universal Church celebrates the first Sunday after Christmas as the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. In the entrance antiphon we pray: *"The shepherds hastened to Bethlehem, where they found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. Amen."* We are celebrating not only the feast of the Holy Family of Nazareth, but also the feast of each Christian family, our family, and all that it means to us. The readings provided for this day's Mass, particularly the second reading, describe the atmosphere which should prevail in a Christian family: *"You should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience,"* says Saint Paul, *"and may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts."*

In the first reading, from Ecclesiasticus, Ben Sira tells us that we should honour our parents. The Gospel of Matthew highlights the importance of Joseph as the head of the family of Nazareth with responsibility to protect the infant Child Jesus and his mother, Mary. Let us pray for the grace of peace and harmony in our respective families.

Mary, the Mother of God - January 1, 2018

Before we reach Christ's birth in Luke's gospel we are already well aware of how special Mary is. The angel Gabriel calls her "most highly favored" and her cousin Elizabeth exclaims how she is "most blessed". She is the one in whom the blessings spoken of by God to Moses are to be fulfilled. Yet she has no claims to greatness. She is a maiden betrothed to a man named Joseph in an insignificant village in the unimportant region of Galilee. Luke traces the genealogy of Jesus through his foster-father, Joseph. Mary herself, in her great hymn of praise on her visit to Elizabeth, will speak of her own lowliness and marvel at how God has chosen the weak and poor to confound the rich and powerful.

In this sense the shepherds are Mary's natural companions. They too are looked down upon. Mary is great not through any social connections or natural talents but because God has blessed her and chosen her. She becomes the model for the many characters in Luke's gospel who will turn social expectations upside down: the Good Samaritan, the woman who was a sinner, Zacchaeus and the Prodigal Son, to name but a few. She is the one who, with the Spirit living in her heart, is able to cry "Abba, Father". She becomes the first of those freed from slavery, the first heir among the children of God.

How she accepts God's blessing and choice is important. In a phrase Luke will repeat, Mary is reported as treasuring all these things and pondering them in her heart. She is the model of prayerful reflection, the one who allows the Spirit to speak and inspire. The result of her reflection is in this case transposed onto the shepherds. They go back glorifying and praising God for all they have heard and seen. In the Magnificat, it is Mary herself who glorifies and praises God for all he has done.

Mary is a wonderful model for us as we begin this New Year. I wish you every blessing, happiness and health throughout 2018. May our parish and parishioners continue to be blessed through the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God and our Mother too!

SKATING PARTY – Queen of Heaven Catholic School and St Dominic Catholic School have extended an invitation to all parishioners to join them for a skating party on January 13th 2018 from 7pm – 8 pm at Carmen Corbasson arena followed by refreshments back in the parish hall. I hope to see a good turn out!!

Wishing you, your families and friends every blessing in 2018!

Happy New Year!

Fr. Phil

Office Hours for the Christmas Season

Sunday, December 31 (New Year's Eve)	-	9:00am – 6:30pm
Monday, January 1, 2018 (New Year's Day)	-	10:00am – 2:00pm
Tuesday, January 2, 2018		Office Closed
Wednesday, January 3, 2018		Office returns to regular hours



Monday, Jan 1st Solemnity of Mary

9:30AM – Mass
11:30AM – Mass

Tuesday, Jan 2nd St. Basil & St. Gregory

7:00PM – Mass
– Alex Pereira✙

Wednesday, Jan 3rd Ferial

9:15AM – Mass

Thursday, Jan 4th Ferial

7:00PM – Mass
– Edward Lane✙

Friday, Jan 5th Ferial

8:00AM – Mass
– Theresa Rivett✙

Saturday, Jan 6th Ferial

9:15AM – Mass
– Josephine Palisoc & Family
(Special Intention)

New Missal

Missal for the new Liturgical Year is available at the office. The cost is \$ 5.



School News

Kindergarten Registration begins January 8, 2018

Parents/Guardians can now register students online

This year, parents/guardians have the option to register online or in-person at their designated Catholic school. [Online registration](http://www.dpcdsb.org) will begin on January 8, 2018 at www.dpcdsb.org. The Online Registration Form should be completed prior to in-person school meetings where documentation will be received on January 15* from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. and January 17-19 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. *A snow date has been designated on January 16 from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. If parents/guardians wish to register in-person, they may do so during these specified dates and times.

Religious Items



Holy Land Christian Families are visiting the parish [on January 13-14](#) to display the Olive Woods from the Holy Land. Due to religious wars and conflict; that led many Christian families to leave their homes because of job loss. Hand Carving Olive Woods are Religious items that are hand made by these Christian families. Such as crosses, nativities, rosaries and statues. This is their only source of income and our mission is to help these families by selling their work to help with food, shelter and a better education. Especially during the upcoming lent season. Thank you for your support.

Dancing for the Compass

Dancing for The Compass returns for an 11th year to the Port Credit Legion (upstairs), 35 Front St. N. on **Saturday January 20, 2018**. Doors upstairs open at 7:00 pm and dancing from 8:00 pm to 12:00 am. The ticket price for this fundraiser is \$25/person and \$30 at the door. Please contact the church office or phone Peter Toller at 905-274-6131 to order your tickets. It will be a fun night of 50s and 60s music with the local 8-piece band, **Little Peter and the Elegants**. A light buffet will be served. Fabulous raffle prizes, too!

Major Relic of St. Francis Xavier to visit the Archdiocese of Toronto

A first-degree relic of missionary Saint Francis Xavier is coming to the Archdiocese of Toronto, **January 12-14, 2018**. The forearm of the saint, permanently displayed at the Church of the Gesù in Rome, will be in Canada from December 29 – February 2, as part of a 14-city Canadian visit. In our archdiocese, the relic will be hosted by St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (Jan. 12), St. Francis Xavier Church, Mississauga (Jan. 13) and Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Toronto (January 14). More information about the visit and a full schedule of events can be found at: www.cco.ca/relic



Organizers believe this is the first time the relic has been on Canadian soil. The body of St. Francis Xavier, which is buried in Goa, India, as well as the relic of his arm, are incorrupt—they have not experienced natural decay since his death in 1552. Organizers expect close to 100,000 people will visit the various events across the country—the same number of people it is believed Francis baptized with his right arm and hand.

Prayers for the Sick



We remember our parishioners for their recovery to health especially: Barbara Ptashinski, Denise Lamontagne, Peter Banken, Sean Seepaul, Ronie Scholfield, Stefania Pieke, Maureen Timms, Tony Fares, Reginaldo Emmerich, Louise Paquette, Anita Cottereau, Renford James, Casimiro Piscione, baby Aaron James, Eric Holgan, Marilza Alvarez, Gary Baldassi, Flavia Silva, Renee Beauregard, Colleen & Walter Popovic, Anne-Marie Cameron, Angelica Caetano, Asia Tkacz, Michael Plante, Devon Hill, Larry Elmer, Antonio Tolentino, Andrew Calder, Arlene Ceccetto, Edith Ardito, Mary Melnik, Eva Lil, Paul Von Zuben, Rusty Von Zuben, Phyllis Horbatiuk, Jim Clough, Michelle Moldenhauer, Joey Fares, Matthew Ramsay, Erna Go.

Vocation Seeds



By Baptism we are God's holy family. Pray today for the grace to live faithfully your vocation as a single, married, ordained or consecrated person. If God is calling you, Contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

email vocations@archtoronto.org
www.vocationstoronto.ca

St. Dominic's Seniors

Fun for Seniors

Our Seniors Group has started its 14th Season.



- o If you are a Senior 60+
- o Love to play Euchre
- o Engage in lively conversations,

This is the group for you.
Come & join us on Tuesdays from 1 – 3pm in the Church Hall. All are welcome!

LET US PRAY

For the Sick:

We pray for all the sick in our community.



For the Deceased:

We pray for all the deceased in our community.

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS
Weekend Dec 17, 2017**

Not known at the time of Publication.

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