



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



SUNDAY, 7 DECEMBER, 2025

PLEASE TAKE THIS HOME



*Father Hannam requests that all cases
of sorrow or suffering be reported to him.*

PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR following the 11 o'clock Parish Mass!
We meet in the Parish Hall, down the front stairs and to the right.

THE ALTAR GUILD is currently collecting flower donations for the Christmas Altars. Please use the white Altar Guild envelopes provided to direct your donation and indicate in whose memory you wish flowers to be placed.

S. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHILDREN'S CENTRE: As our church family concluded this year's Joyful Giving Campaign, we're reminded of the many ways God calls us to give, with thankful hearts and joyful spirits. In that same spirit, we invite you also to keep our Children's Centre in mind as you consider other charitable giving this season. Our Children's Centre continues to be a place where children are cared for, loved, and nurtured in good faith each day. Your generosity helps us continue providing this vital care to families in our community. Thank you for your kindness, your prayers, and your continued support of all the ways our church shares God's love.

MYSTAGOGY (CONFIRMATION CLASSES): Our parish mystagogy (learning about the Christian Mystery/Mysteries) begins today at 10:00 a.m. and continues each Sunday through till the end of Advent. This is a continuation of the Catechesis (baptism preparation) class that was held during Lent, and is part of the usual preparation for Baptism. It does not, however, presuppose that one has taken the earlier course.

ORGAN REPAIR: Please note that the piano is being used during services while the S. Bart's organ undergoes substantial repair. We look forward to hearing the organ at liturgies again when the repairs are complete. Donations towards the organ fund are always most welcome, and may be made by cheque, e-transfer or via CanadaHelps (please designate "organ fund"). *Learn more about making a donation: stbartstoronto.ca/support.*

THE BREAKFAST PROGRAMME continues each Thursday. The doors open at 5:30 a.m. until 8:00 a.m., and hot food is served beginning at 6:00 a.m.

THE FOOD BANK: The Food Bank is open every Monday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

✠ INTERCESSIONS ✠

*The Advent Wreath has been given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of Marlene McCaskill.*

*The Sanctuary Lamp burns for the repose of the soul of Susan Johnson.
Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.*

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER:

- **TODAY: Sunday, 7 December:** *The Church of Bangladesh*
- **Monday, 8 December:** *The Diocese of Ruwenzori – The Church of the Province of Uganda*

- **Tuesday, 9 December:** *The Diocese of East Ruwenzori – The Church of the Province of Uganda*
- **Wednesday, 10 December:** *The Diocese of South Ruwenzori – The Church of the Province of Uganda*
- **Thursday, 11 December:** *The Diocese of Sabah – Church of the Province of South East Asia*
- **Friday, 12 December:** *The Diocese of Sabongidda-Ora – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)*
- **Saturday 13 December:** *The Sacred Circle – The Anglican Church of Canada*

INDIGENOUS CHURCH: For +Chris, National Indigenous Archbishop: for our shared Indigenous ministries and leadership. Particularly, for retiring Indigenous Clergy and Bishops: for rest and rebuilding of life and relationships; for Reconciliation, that it be a shared verb and not just a noun; for open ears and hearts, and for the willingness to humble ourselves enough truly to hear the lament of the other voice before us, and to acknowledge that pain and brokenness can be deeper than ever delved or perceived; and +Adam, Bishop of Mississippi: for a fair and equitable financial remuneration for the Bishop of Mississippi and his clergy, and for financial resources to support the ministry of the Church in Northern Saskatchewan.

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER:

- **TODAY: Sunday, 7 December:** *Toronto East Deanery*
- **Monday, 8 December:** *S. Bede*
- **Tuesday, 9 December:** *S. David, Donlands and S. Andrew, Japanese*
- **Wednesday, 10 December:** *S. John the Baptist, Norway*
- **Thursday, 11 December:** *S. Luke, East York*
- **Friday, 12 December:** *S. Matthew, First Avenue*
- **Saturday 13 December:** *S. Monica*

THE SICK & THOSE IN NEED: WED: Theresa Adderly, Andrew, Luther & Xavier; George Barkhouse, Ronald Bentley, Catherine, Sr Christine SLG; | **THURS:** David Conaster, Kimberley Curtis, Demetra, Derek, Dragan, Esther, Alexis Gray, Joanna; | **FRI:** Maria K., Paul Kent, Audrey Kern, Laura, The Mackey family, Marlyn, Nigel; | **SAT:** Patrick, Paul, Randy, The Smith family, Tegan, Hazel Thornhill, Trish, Wendy

DAILY INTERCESSIONS: Clifton Aaron, Beverly Bodnar, Christopher (*priest*), Dierdre, Donna, Grace, Lisa Hufana, Jamie, Kyla, Laura, Leotha, Lucas, Margaret McQuillan, Norma Miller, David Mulholland (*priest*), Vidhu, Mark Weymouth

DEPARTED: Giles Bryant

THOSE WHO MOURN: Jonathan

✠ POETRY CORNER ✠

LET THIS DARKNESS BE A BELL TOWER

by Rainer Maria Rilke

Quiet friend who has come so far,
feel how your breathing makes more space around you.
Let this darkness be a bell tower
and you the bell. As you ring,
what batters you becomes your strength.
Move back and forth into the change.
What is it like, such intensity of pain?
If the drink is bitter, turn yourself to wine.
In this uncontainable night,
be the mystery at the crossroads of your senses,
the meaning discovered there.
And if the world has ceased to hear you,
say to the silent earth: I flow.
To the rushing water, speak: I am.

✠ DEVOTIONAL VIGNETTE ✠

THE POINT IS THIS: For all of us, and for each one of us individually, this world, and the things of this world must pass away, not just in some vague, remote and unimaginable future, but right now. They are passing things; that is their very nature. They are passing things, and they are passing away even as we grasp them in our hands. No cleverness, no wishful thinking, no advanced technology can make them anything other than transitory things. What folly it is to focus our hopes and expectations upon such things! What foolishness to set our hearts upon them!



I think we all know that; and yet, how seductive, and how subtle, are the claims of worldliness, and how easily, how thoughtlessly are we taken in. Worldliness confidently invades the very Church of God, urging us to conform to the methods, the ideals, the manners and the morals of the present age, lest we be irrelevant. The peril is that the worldly Church becomes irrelevant to heaven.

Today's Gospel lesson is telling us that worldliness is folly, and that only when we can see the folly of it can we lift up our heads and see our redemption drawing nigh.

Behold the fig-tree, and all the trees; when they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand.

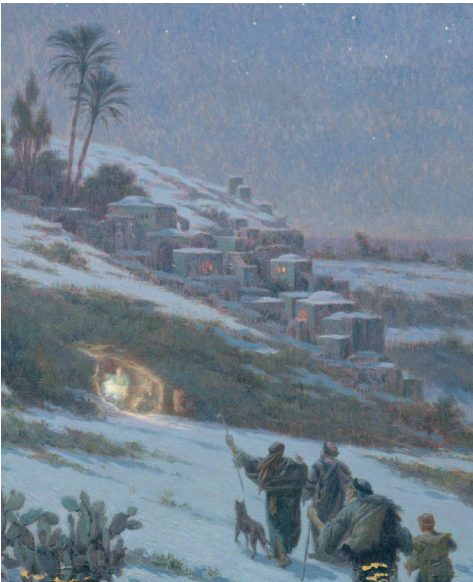
The signs are everywhere around us every day, if we have the eyes to see them.

The Advent hope is an other-worldly hope. It looks towards a Saviour who has no worldly power, no worldly recommendation of any sort. It finds in the

poor and helpless Infant of Bethlehem the eternal Word of God. It is the contradiction of all worldly hopes and expectations. The heavens and the earth pass away, they are passing away at every moment, but the Word of God does not pass away, and, as today's Collect expresses it, in that Word we have the blessed hope of everlasting life. Amen.

- An excerpt from Dr. Robert Crouse's *Sermon for the Second Sunday in Advent*

(Image: "Christmas Night at Bethlehem," Ludovic Alleaume, 1859-1941)



✠ THROUGH THE WEEK ✠

Please check the website, and subscribe to our enews list to stay informed of scheduling changes.

Sunday, 7 December	THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT
	9:00 a.m. Low Mass
	10:00 a.m. Catechesis (Mystagogy)
	11:00 a.m. Sung Mass
Monday, 8 December	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (com. Feria)
	10:00 a.m. Food Bank (until 12 noon)
	10:30 a.m. Low Mass (Rite of Trent) †

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Tuesday, 9 December	<i>In the Octave of the Immaculate Conception (com. Feria)</i>
	10:30 a.m. Low Mass (Rite of Trent) †
Wednesday, 10 December	<i>In the Octave of the Immaculate Conception (com. Feria)</i>
	7:30 a.m. Low Mass
	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
	10:30 a.m. Low Mass (Rite of Trent) †
Thursday, 11 December	<i>In the Octave of the Immaculate Conception (com. Feria)</i>
	6:00 a.m. Breakfast Ministry (Doors open at 5:30 a.m., till 8:00 a.m.)
	7:30 a.m. Low Mass
	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
	10:00 a.m. Food Bank (until 12 noon)
	10:30 a.m. Low Mass (Rite of Trent) †
Friday, 12 December	<i>In the Octave of the Immaculate Conception (com. Feria)</i>
	7:30 a.m. Low Mass
	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
	10:30 a.m. Low Mass (Rite of Trent) †
Saturday, 13 December	<i>S. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr (com. Octave of the Immaculate Conception & Feria)</i>
	10:30 a.m. Low Mass
Sunday, 14 December	<i>THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT (Gaudete)</i> <i>(com. Octave of the Immaculate Conception)</i>
	9:00 a.m. Low Mass
	10:00 a.m. Catechesis (Mystagogy)
	11:00 a.m. Sung Mass

† indicates Eucharistic celebrations of the Anglican Church,
a worldwide church within the Old Catholic succession.



FEAST OF S. LUCY

Saturday, 13 December at 10:30 a.m.

*Featuring Phos Hilaron (Medieval French tune)
& the traditional Neapolitan/Swedish song Sancta Lucia*

RORATE MASS OF OUR LADY

Saturday, 20 December at 7:30 a.m.

*Greet the dawn in contemplation by candlelight
Featuring Gregorian chant & Medieval polyphony*

CHRISTMAS EVE

Wednesday, 24 December

*10:30 a.m. Gallery Carols before Mass
11:00 p.m. Procession & Solemn First Mass of Christmas*

CHRISTMAS DAY

Thursday, 25 December

*8:30 a.m. Low Mass (at Dawn)
11:00 a.m. Sung Mass (in the Day)*