

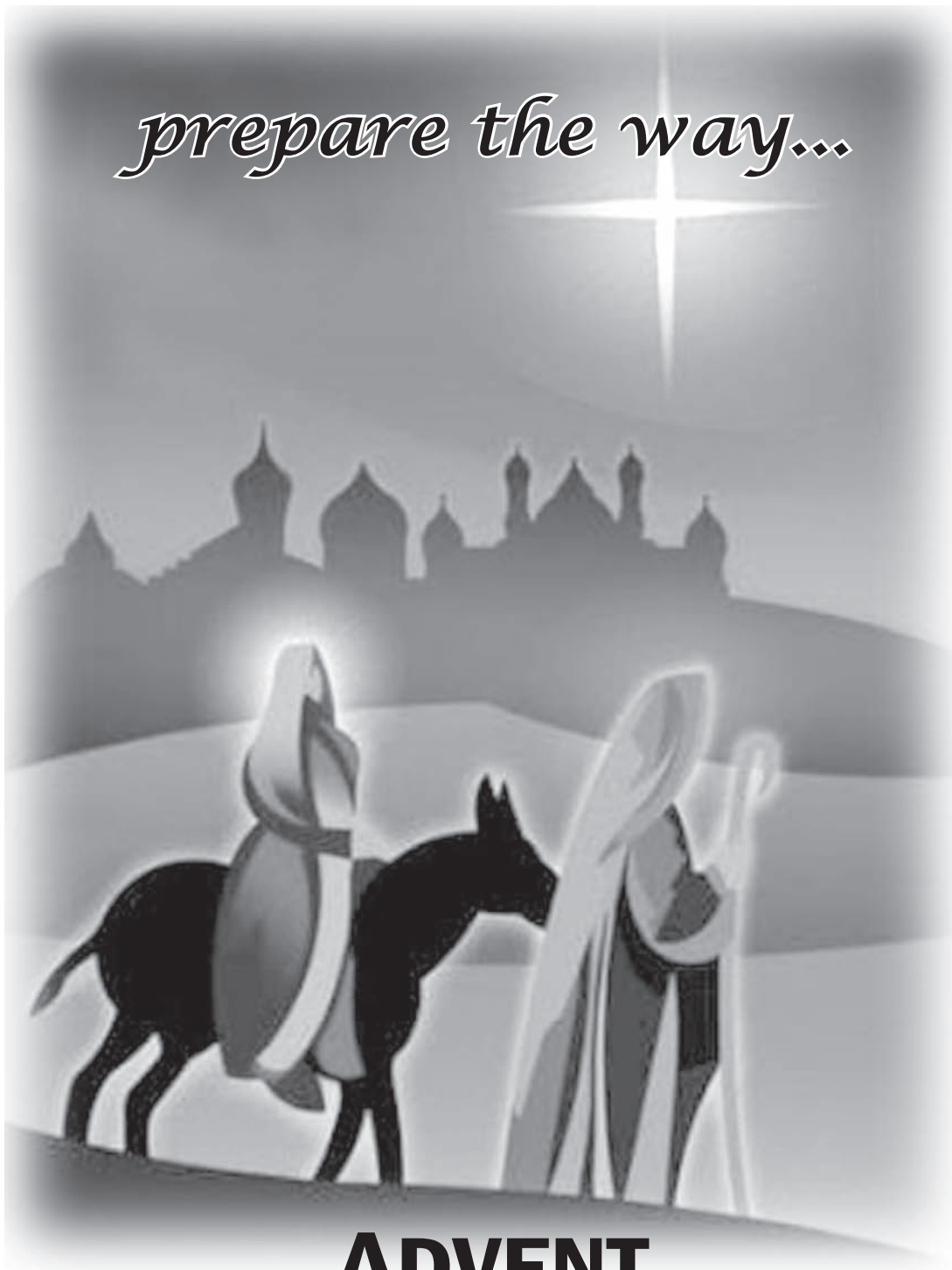
St. Leo's Parish

277 Royal York Road, Toronto, Ont. M8V 2V8 Phone: 416-251-1109
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Pastoral Team

Pastor: Fr. Nicola Defina

prepare the way...



ADVENT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat Dec 21	5 pm	† Anna Chokota & Anna Janosova (Mila & Paul)
Sun Dec 22	8:30 am	† Vittorio Nifo & Kyle Nifo (Ada Nifo & Family)
	10 am	† Silvio Ciccocelli (Lina Ciccocelli & Family)
	11:30 am	PRO POPULO
Mon Dec 23	8 am	Souls of Purgatory Most Devoted to the Blessed Mother
Tue Dec 24	8 am	Intentions of Robert & Patricia (Agnes Martinez)
Tue Dec 24 Christmas Eve	7 pm	† Gabriel Coelho (Maria Coelho)
	Midnight Mass	PRO POPULO
Wed Dec 25 Christmas Day	8:30 am	† Biagio & Bruno Forte (Civita Forte & Family)
	10 am	† Francesco, Adolfo & Anna De Marzio (Nipoti & Cugini in Canada)
	11:30 am	
Thu Dec 26	8 am	Deceased Members of the D'Ambrosio Family (John D'Ambrosio)
Fri Dec 27	8 am	Blessing & Thanksgiving on the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Jesu & Linda Luzadas (Ben & Juliet Taguinod)
Sat Dec 28	5 pm	† Chloe Rosatelli (The Family)
Sun Dec 29	8:30 am	PRO POPULO
	10 am	† Leo & Helen Molto (The Molto Family)
	11:30 am	For the Intentions of Volkan & Ruby Contreras



The birth of our Blessed Lord brings with it great joy that scatters the sadness of suffering. It is the birthday of Life, the Life which annihilates the fear of death and engenders joy, promising everlasting life. Mother Mary shares this joy as we see her embarking on a perilous journey to visit her cousin St. Elizabeth. This visitation is more than a happy exchange of support between two women sharing the joys of childbearing. It is a story of faith as well as friendship and of sacrificial love. The unborn Christ child received in this home a warm welcome as opposed to the cold welcome He receives in Bethlehem when there is no room for Him in the Inn.

At Christmas everybody is welcomed; nobody is excluded from this happiness. The same cause for joy is common to all, for as our Savior found nobody free from guilt when He came to bring an end to sin and death, so, He came with redemption for all. We are emboldened, for He has called us to life. It is through the mystery of the Incarnation that Christ takes the nature of humanity upon Himself in order to reconcile us to the Father and bestow upon us His divine life. For we were bought at the price of Christ's blood, and were rescued from the power of darkness; we are called to live in the Light of His Life.

Like Mother Mary, we are all invited in our own lives to do the will of God, by allowing Christ to be born into our hearts. So that the Gifts of the Holy Spirit may become a part of our lives and we make Christmas a pattern to be followed in everyday living. Moreover, we become that perfect Christmas Gift by saying to God as Mary exclaimed, 'Let it be done to me according to Your Will.' Wishing you and your family a very Merry Christmas, May the birth of Christ reign in our lives so He may fill us with His lasting Peace.

In Christ,
Fr. Nick

Eucharistic Adoration
 First Friday of the month January 3rd, 2025
 Following the 8 am Mass
 Rosary at 7:30am.
 Adoration concludes with Holy Mass
 Saturday morning January 4th, 2025 @ 8 am
 Come. See. Hear. Encounter.
 Experience the Real Presence of Jesus

Mass Schedule

Tuesday December 24th
(Christmas Eve)

7:00 pm & 12 midnight

Wednesday December 25th
(Christmas Day)

Regular Sunday Schedule
8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 am

Tuesday December 31st
New Year's Eve
5:00 pm Mass

Wednesday January 1st 2025
New Year's Day
10:00 & 11:30 am

In Loving Memory

The Sanctuary Lamp for the month of December is offered by Anna Maria Cerullo:

In Loving Memory of:

"All Deceased Members of the Cerullo Family"

Sunday Missals Available

We have Sunday Missals available for a donation of \$6.00 for parishioners who would like to have their personal copy. The Missals contains all the Sunday readings for the liturgical year cycle C which began the first Sunday of Advent. For help with the missal, please see one of our ushers at the back of the church.

Serra Vocation

Are you called to follow in the footsteps of Mary as a priest, deacon or religious to carry the Good News of God's great Love? Contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email vocations@archtoronto.org

Thank you message of appreciation

Sincere thanks to everyone for supporting our last week bake sale, the goodies were amazing and the bake sale was a success, we can't thank you enough! Many thanks to our wonderful volunteers for organizing the sale and for the enormous amount of work and preparation, your efforts are very much appreciated. This coming weekend we will have the raffle of the quilt and of the Christmas baskets, many thanks to all our parishioners who visited and supported the event. God Bless!



Parish Support

The new offering envelopes for 2025 are located at the back of the church, they are filed numerically; an alphabetic master list is available for your convenience. The parish



envelope weekly collection is the main source of income for our parish and it is vital that as many people use them. If it has not been your custom to use the weekly envelopes why not begin in 2025? Blank boxes are available. **A very sincere "THANKS" to all our parishioners and friends of the parish who support us by their generosity and presence. This witness is deeply appreciated and we ask you for your continuing support at this time.**

2025 Calendars

Please help yourself to the new calendars for 2025 courtesy of Hogle Funeral Home & Ridley Funeral Home. The calendars are located on the cabinets at the back of the church. We thank both Hogle & Ridley Funeral Homes for their kindness and generosity and for their continuous support.

Please pray for the sick of our Parish:

And for the souls of the deceased:

Communion for the homebound upon request, anointing of the sick with the seriously ill, or those undergoing surgery. Please call the parish office.

The Parish Office will close
Tuesday December 24th @ noon
The office will re-open on
Thursday January 2nd 2025

Christmas at Home

The wreath on the door of our homes at Christmas time is a symbol of the welcome of Christ into our city, our home and our hearts. At Christmas the whole house should be strewn with garlands and made ready for the Light of the World. During the Christmas season there is an extensive exchange of greetings and good wishes among friends.



These greetings are a reminder of those good tidings of great joy that shall be to all the people, they are a reminder of all the blessings and graces that come to us from Christ as we celebrate with joy Jesus Christ's Birth. Christmas time is happiness brought to us by the gift of grace and of eternal life. The Eternal Word has become Man and dwells among us.

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