

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 9, Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
8:00 a.m. (+) Angela Campbell, req. by the CWL

Wednesday, December 11, St. Damasus I, Pope  
8:00 a.m.

Thursday, December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe  
8:00 a.m.

Friday, December 13, St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr  
8:00 a.m.

Saturday, December 14, St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of Church  
4:30 p.m. (+) Jose Simas & Living & Deceased members of the Simas Family, req. by Maria Korth

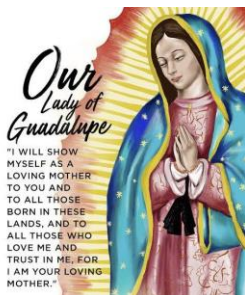
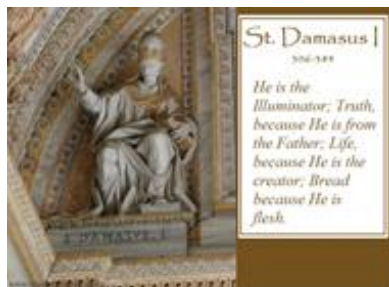


Sunday, December 15, Third Sunday of Advent  
9:00 a.m. (+) Vittorio Nito, req. by the Family  
(+) Franco & (+) Giuseppe Caronchia req. by Maria Caronchia  
(+) Josef Wuebbolt, req. by A.M. Wuebbolt  
(+) Filippo Antonio DiFranco req. by Anna & Family  
11:00 a.m. (+) Hope Banisch Venneri req. by Mama, Papa & Noah  
(+) Lucia Cacciaccaro, req. by the Family

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION/RECONCILIATION

 **& CONFIRMATION:** All dates have been set. For more info & Registration, please visit [www.stambroseparish.com](http://www.stambroseparish.com) and click on Schools tab. 


**MAKE A SHARELIFE GIFT:** *Your gift will Double in Value! From Nov 1 until year end by an anonymous donor up to a total of \$500,000. Your compassion brings love & care to our brothers & sisters in need* "Thank you to all who donate. With each donation, we can attain our goals of assisting people in their efforts in building a good life & providing a safe place for those with a developmental disability to stay so that their families/caregivers & themselves can get some needed respite."



### Short Prayers for the The Immaculate Conception

- ♥ Holy Spirit, guide me to the mantle of Mary so that She might draw me closer to Him.
- ♥ Mary, You were conceived without sin. Pray for me today as I seek all that is good, holy, and beautiful.

*from Hallow.com*

This Advent season, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB)  presents an online weekly video series titled "**JOURNEY THROUGH ADVENT.**" This year's English reflections will be led by Archbishop Leo. The reflections in French will be offered by the Most Rev. René Guay, Bishop of Chicoutimi. The series is intended to help the faithful prepare for the Nativity of Our Lord by offering meaningful reflections on the Gospel readings during each of the four Sundays of Advent. "Journey through Advent" will be released weekly and will be available on the [CCCB website](http://CCCB website) and on their [YouTube channel](http://YouTube channel). The series is also available via our own website at: [www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org). We also draw your attention to the National Catholic Broadcasting Council's Advent Retreat series, this year led by Archbishop Emeritus Cardinal Thomas Collins. These are short daily reflections that can also be accessed via [www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org) or the Daily Mass website: [www.dailytvmass.com](http://www.dailytvmass.com). May these video reflections be a source of comfort and peace during our Advent journey.

### CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASSES



December 24<sup>th</sup> - 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

December 25<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

December 31<sup>st</sup> - 4:30 p.m.

January 1<sup>st</sup> - 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

(No mass on Thursday, Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> & Thursday, Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup>)

**ADVENT CONFESSIONS** – For the season of Advent, the time of our Saturday confessions have been extended, as follows:

Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> – 3:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup> – 3:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

## PROPERTY & BUILDING UPDATE & VIDEO



On the weekend of September 27/28, a video presentation was shared at the end of the 3 weekend masses. This presentation considered the history of the area, the establishment & growth of St. Ambrose parish since 1955, and the parish to address a number of building and property issues of the church. This presentation can still be viewed at [www.stambroseparish.com/photo-gallery.html](http://www.stambroseparish.com/photo-gallery.html) Based on a Preliminary Property Assessment Report commissioned during the summer, the many issues were found, such as:

- Remove existing asphalt and regrade and repave the parking lot
- Excavate and repave the inside of the garage
- Replace many existing window wells around the building
- Address water ingress damage to the church walls
- Address the church front steps
- Brick repointing as needed
- Replace church and rectory AC units
- Replace the church sign near Browns Line
- Chimney on south-west side of church roof needs to be taken down
- Repair the flat roof over the mechanical room
- Replace carpets, install flooring for some of the rooms in the hall basement
- Repair the northwest stairs by the garage
- Update lighting in the hall
- Add a backflow preventer to the hall
- Possibly replace the main church doors
- Kneeler and pew repairs in the church

In the Property assessment report, it was estimated that the total costs of these repairs would be at least \$450,000. Currently, we have we have over \$79,000 on deposit with the Archdiocese of Toronto, and roughly \$88,000 in our Family of Faith account with the archdiocese. Over the last few months, parishioners have donated over \$55,000 through our Building Fund that is being deposited with the archdiocese; until that time that we begin these repairs. However, this still leaves us needing to raise at least another \$220,000 in the near future.

I urge you to give generously to the Parish Building Fund, both before the year end and in 2025. We have an agreement with the archdiocese that **we can keep 100% of your donations to the Building Fund until**

**the end of 2025**, unlike the 15% tax we pay to the archdiocese on our regular offertory collections.

God bless you! *Fr. Michael Machacek*



## SOCKS FOR SHELTERS

Men's and Women's shelters provide clean, washable clothing to people who need them. There is a special need for *new socks and underwear*. Parishioners are asked to purchase **sport/work socks or underwear** if they can. We are collecting them at the entrance to the church for distribution to **The Good Shepherd and Canadian Food For Children**. Thank you for your help.

## THE JESSE TREES IN OUR SANCTUARY



You will notice that in our sanctuary we have two **Jesse Trees**, which were set up for the St. Ambrose School Advent Mass this past Thursday evening. Centuries before Jesus was born, the prophet Isaiah foretold that a Savior would come who was a descendant of King David. In the book of Isaiah we read, *"A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall bloom"*. (Is. 11:1) Isaiah was referring to **Jesse, the father of King David**. A thousand years later, Jesus would be called the Son of David, the Saviour, who would save us from sin and fulfil all of God's promises. There are twelve Jesse Tree symbols on those 2 trees. Each symbol refers to various events and persons that are part of salvation history, which would culminate with the birth of the long- promise Messiah, Jesus. The 12 symbols are as follows: 1) the Apple; 2) the Ark; 3) Jacob's Ladder; 4) the Stone Tablets of the 10 Commandments; 5) the Grain of Wheat; 6) the Crown; 7) the Key; 8) the Lamb; 9) the Shell; 10) the Angel; 11) the Star of Bethlehem; and 12) the Nativity. *A big thank you goes to our school, for sharing these trees with our parish for this Advent!*

## Prayers & Best Wishes for FRANK CARDINAL LEO

The faithful of the Archdiocese of Toronto offer our prayers and best wishes for the newest members of the College of Cardinals, including **our chief shepherd, the Archbishop of Toronto, Frank Cardinal Leo**. This weekend, Cardinal Leo is in Rome as one of the 21 new cardinals from around the world gathered with Pope Francis. *Please pray for our new Cardinal* as he begins this important role of service to the Church. 🙏