

ST. BRIGID'S PARISH

MOVING TOWARDS OUR CENTENNIAL / VERSO IL NOSTRO CENTENARIO
2017 ~ CELEBRATING THE PAST / 2017 ~ CELEBRANDO IL PASSATO



SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND PRAYERS

WEEKDAY CHAPEL MASSES ARE SEASONAL

From the beginning of November to the end of April, all daily Chapel Masses are celebrated at 12:00 Noon.

From the beginning of May to the end of October, daily Chapel Masses are celebrated as follows:

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

7:15 a.m. - Liturgy of the Hours
7:30 a.m. - Holy Mass

Tuesday and Thursday

12:00 Noon

Wednesday Evening (Church)

7:00 p.m. - Holy Mass and Novena
Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Thursday

10:00 a.m. - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
11:50 a.m. - Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday

9:00 a.m. - Holy Mass
9:30 a.m. - Confessions
5:00 p.m. - Holy Mass (English)

Sunday

8:30 a.m. - Holy Mass (English)
9:30 a.m. - Holy Mass (Italian)
11:00 a.m. - Holy Mass (English)
with Children's Liturgy

On weekday statutory holidays,
Holy Mass is celebrated at 9:00 a.m.

PARISH OFFICE INFORMATION:

300 WOLVERLEIGH BLVD.
TORONTO, ON M4C 1S6

PASTOR: Fr. Carlos A. Sierra T.

LAY PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Kevin Pettit

ADMINISTRATOR: Maria Frassica

Office Open Daily: Monday to Friday

9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon

1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tel: (416) 696-8660 / Fax: (416) 425-7602

Email: stbrigid@rogers.com

Website: stbrigid.archtoronto.org

Facebook: St. Brigid's Catholic Church

Twitter: @StBrigidsTO

The Sacrament of Baptism

Couples interested in having their children baptised should contact the office for an appointment with a priest.

The Sacrament of Matrimony

Couples interested in entering marriage should contact the office one year in advance for an appointment with a priest.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays: after 9:00 a.m. Mass and upon request.

St. Vincent de Paul Society 416-825-3833

Out of the Cold Program Bill Slattery: 416-580-8450

ST. BRIGID'S CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: David Hogan

Vice Principal: Cheryliane Gomes

Telephone: 416-393-5235

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Principal: Sandra Mudryj

Vice Principal: Robert Noble

Telephone: 416-393-5546

Catholic Cemeteries 416-733-8544

Toronto Catholic School Board

416-222-8282 website: www.TCDSB.org

Archdiocese of Toronto

416-934-0606 website: www.archtoronto.org

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / B

It is a time for rejoicing: "The Lord is near! The earth rejoices in hope of the Saviour's coming and looks forward with longing to His return at the end of time." We again encounter John the Baptist echoing Isaiah's oracle: "Make straight the way of the Lord!" This time it appears alongside Paul's ringing exhortation: "Rejoice always, never cease praying, render constant thanks." It also appears—quite significantly—alongside two passages that speak of salvation for the lowly. The first reading has Isaiah tell of being sent "to bring glad tidings to the lowly, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners."

FROM FATHER CARLOS SIERRA

I offer my sincere gratitude to all our Parishioners for their ongoing financial contributions to the Archdiocesan Special Collections. Every year we strive to do better so that our offerings can better serve those in need. **"Blessed are you because I was in need and you assisted me."**

* * *

As the year of 2017 – **Celebrating the Past** – in our Triduum for the Centennial draws to a close, I will use this wonderful opportunity to express my gratitude to all who have journeyed with me these past eight years and continue to do so. No doubt St. Brigid's has grown and improved thanks to your commitment and assistance. In 2018, the Parish's theme will be **Celebrating the Present**. Please stay tuned to learn of ways you will be able to help our Parish and have your family name engraved in our Church for another 100 years. I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank Father Carlos Sierra and the St. Brigid's Parish community for the very generous donations made towards the 2017 Christmas Collection and the Bundle-up Drive. Through your generosity, we were able to raise \$1,305. Any donations made throughout the year towards the Society of St. Vincent de Paul are always welcome as they will go a long way in helping families in need.

"SYMBOLON: KNOWING YOUR FAITH"

Thursday, December 21st – 7:00pm-8:00pm
Rectory Hall

Please join us for the last session of *Symbolon* before the Christmas break. No registration required. All are welcome to attend. Part 1 of this 10-week series, which explores the essentials of our Catholic faith in stunning cinematography, will resume on January 11th, 2018 at 7:00pm.

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

If you are in grade 4 or higher, have already received your First Communion and would like to altar serve at St. Brigid's Church, please pick up a registration form at either entrance to the Church.

FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

Your 2018 donation envelopes are ready for pick up at the back of the Church in alphabetical order. If you have moved or have updated your contact information, please contact the Parish office with your new details. All information is kept private and confidential.

Holiday Office Hours: The Parish office will be closed on December 25th & 26th, 2017 and on January 1st, 2018.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED: FOOD FOR A MONTH PROGRAM

We are in need of able bodied volunteers on **Thursday, December 21st** and / or **Friday, December 22nd** from **7:00 am to 7:00 pm** at **Ellesmere Community Centre** to help pack and deliver food hampers to families in our community for our annual "Food for a Month Program". All interested volunteers are asked to contact the Parish office.

CHRISTMAS SEASON MASS SCHEDULE

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT / DECEMBER 24th

8:30 am ~ 9:30 am ~ 11:00 am

CHRISTMAS EVE - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24th

5:00 pm: Christmas Eve Family Mass (English)

11:30 pm: Christmas Carols

12:00 am: Christmas Eve Midnight Mass (Bilingual)

CHRISTMAS DAY - MONDAY, DECEMBER 25th

8:30 am ~ 9:30 am ~ 11:00 am

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31st

8:30 am ~ 9:30 am ~ 11:00 am

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
MONDAY, JANUARY 1st

8:30 am ~ 9:30 am ~ 11:00 am

WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

The 104th World Day of Migrants and Refugees will be celebrated on **Sunday, January 14, 2018**. The theme chosen by Pope Francis is **"Welcoming, protecting, promoting and integrating migrants and refugees"** As Christians, we are called to reach out to and pray for all migrants to emphasize the unity of the human family and the values of acceptance, hospitality and love of neighbour.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2018

January 18th to the 25th is the annual observance of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The theme chosen for 2018 is **"Your Right Hand, O Lord, Glorious in Power"** (Exodus 15:6). Throughout 2018, join Christians everywhere in praying **"that they may all be one"** joining our prayer with that of the Lord Jesus Christ. For more information please visit: www.geii.org.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / III DOMENICA DI AVVENTO DECEMBER 17, 2017

PRAYER & LIFE WORKSHOP: JANUARY 24, 2018

The *Prayer & Life Workshop* is a weekly program that helps you to learn and deepen the art of prayer. Sessions include methods of prayerful reading, integral reconciliation, and contemplative prayer. The workshop will be held in the Rectory Hall and starts on **Wednesday, January 24th**. Sessions are two hours long. The instruction is free; however, materials are \$15. Please contact the Parish office to register for this workshop.

ST. BRIGID'S FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS TRIDUUM MASSES 2018

Our annual Feast of St. Brigid ~ our Patron Saint will be taking place this year. Please join us for our **Triduum Masses** on **Wednesday, January 31st, Thursday, February 1st, and February 2nd** at 7:00 pm in the Parish. We look forward to seeing you there!

SAINTS BRIGID & CATHERINE OF SIENA ANNUAL FEAST DAY DINNER DANCE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd, 2018

Please join us for our **St. Brigid's and St. Catherine of Siena Annual Feast Day Dinner Dance** on **Saturday, February 3rd, 2018**. The festivities will take place in the Church Hall. More details to follow soon.

MARRIAGE SUNDAY 2018

Marriage Sunday in the Archdiocese of Toronto will take place on the weekend of February 10th and 11th, 2018. An Archdiocesan Celebration of Marriage Mass will be held on Sunday, February 11th, 2018 at 3:00 pm at Blessed Trinity Parish in North York. Additional information and resources will be made available soon.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

The regular collection for the week ending on December 10th, 2017 was **\$3,911.50**. Thank you for your ongoing generosity and contributions to all of our collections. **Please remember St. Brigid's Parish in your last will and testament. Don't forget to ask us about Pre-Authorized Giving (P.A.G.)!**

III DOMENICA DI AVVENTO: ANNO B

Il Dio che viene vuole essere «povero»: contesta le immagini che spontaneamente ci facciamo di lui, e ci incontra in una dimensione inconsueta per una religione. Ma questo Dio «diverso» diventa molto più credibile per ogni persona che cerchi una religione autentica. Tutta una linea profetica aveva presentato agli Ebrei il Messia secondo le categorie della potenza, della vittoria, del dominio universale: ciò dei resto corrispondeva all'esperienza dell'Esodo, che rimane il punto di riferimento necessario per il Dio dell'alleanza. Ma soprattutto con l'esilio, che favorisce la riflessione sull'alleanza e la sua interiorizzazione, il Dio d'Israele e Colui che egli consacra per la missione di salvatore del popolo vengono guardati sotto una luce nuova, più spirituale.

DA PAPA FRANCESCO SUL NATALE

Il Natale è gioia, gioia religiosa, una gioia interna di pace e luce. Dio non ci dà mai un dono che non siamo capaci di ricevere. Se lui ci dà un regalo di Natale, è perché abbiamo la capacità di capire e di riceverlo. Il Natale spesso è una festa rumorosa: ci farà bene stare un po' in silenzio, per sentire la voce dell'Amore. Come Maria, custodiamo in noi la luce accesa a Natale, portiamola dappertutto, nella vita di ogni giorno. Fermiamoci davanti al Bambino di Betlemme. Lasciamo che la tenerezza di Dio riscaldi il nostro cuore.

Il natale riunisce famiglia e amici insieme; ci aiuta ad apprezzare l'amore che spesso diamo per scontato nelle nostre vite. Possa il vero significato delle vacanze riempire i nostri cuori e case con molte benedizioni.

COLLETTA SETTIMANALE

La colletta regolare della settimana 10 Dicembre 2017 e' stata **\$3,911.50**. Grazie per la vostra contribuzione per aiutare alle spese della chiesa. Dio vi recompense. **Per favore, ricordate la nostra parrocchia nel vostro testamento. Avete mai pensato che la vostra parrocchia puo' essere "il terzo figlio della carità" nel vostro testamento?**

Mass Intentions

Saturday, Dec. 16th

- 9:00 a.m. In honour of all the Saints, req. by Gilda Cornacchia
San Pio di Pietralcina, req. by Gruppo di Preghiera S. Brigida
5:00 p.m. +Lawrence Grech, req. by the St. Brigid's Parish Community

Sunday, Dec. 17th ~ Third Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 a.m. **Mass Pro Populo ~ Mass For All Parishioners**
9:30 a.m. Per Tutti I Defunti Della Famiglia Filardi & Gesualdo,
req. by Donato, Giovanna & Rosa Filardi
+Carlo & Michelo Doto, req. by the Doto Family
+Carmelo Grosso, req. by Nicolina Grosso
+Giovanni Toso, req. by Agata Toso
+Salvatore & Benedetta Amato, req. by the Sister
+Francesco & Maria Luisa Basile, req. by the Family
+Corrado Russo, req. by Spatola Family
+Giuseppe Loreface, req. by Concetta
11:00 a.m. +Richard FitzGerald, req. by the Family
+Silvano Maiorano, req. by the Villacci Family
+Florinda Hernandez, req. by the Family
+Apolinaria & Vicente Brocales, req. by the Family

Monday, Dec. 18th

- 12:00 p.m. For all the deceased members of St. Brigid's Church

Tuesday, Dec. 19th

- 12:00 p.m. For all the deceased members of St. Catherine of Siena

Wednesday, Dec. 20th

- 12:00 p.m. +Giuseppe & Maria Naccarato, req. by Joe Naccarato
7:00 p.m. **Novena Mass:** Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Thursday, Dec. 21st ~ St. Peter Canisius

- 12:00 p.m. +Rosalbino & Giuseppina Iannitelli, req. by Joe Naccarato

Friday, Dec. 22nd

- 12:00 p.m. +Giovanni & Maria Naccarato, req. by Joe Naccarato

Saturday, Dec. 23rd ~ St. John of Kanty

- 9:00 a.m. +Don Marren, req. by the Parish
5:00 p.m. +Mary & Bill Fenn, req. by the Family

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