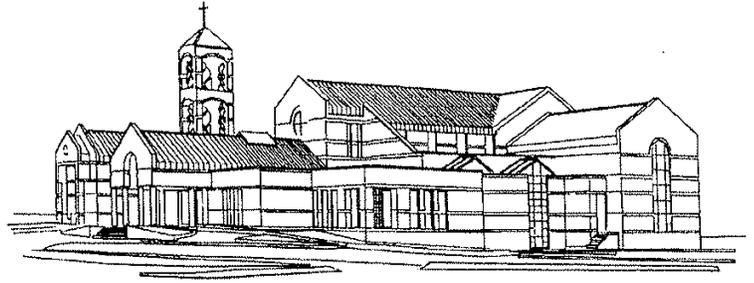


IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

300 Ansley Grove Road, Woodbridge, ON, L4L 3W4
T: 905 856-2205 F: 905 850-5589
www.iconception.org icparish@rogers.com



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 13, 2020



York Region Moving to “Lockdown” Public Masses Temporarily Cancelled – Church Capacity Reduced to 10

The Province of Ontario has moved York Region into the “Lockdown Stage.” For this reason, as of **Monday, December 14th**, we must restrict attendance inside the church to 10 people, including priests hearing confessions or a staff member/volunteer to monitor capacity restrictions. Sadly, due to these measures, **public Masses must be temporarily cancelled**. Priests will continue to celebrate private Mass daily for the intentions of parishioners and for those suffering from Covid-19. **Our church will remain open for private prayer** and for the faithful to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation wherever possible. Weddings, funerals and baptisms will now be restricted to 10 persons, including those who are involved in ministry (priest, cantor, etc.). First Holy Communions and Confirmations will need to be postponed at this time. While I recognize it is not a substitute for attending Mass in person, you are encouraged to view online/livestream/televised Masses. A full list is available at www.archtoronto.org. Additionally, you are invited to subscribe to our parish website and Youtube channel for information regarding livestreamed Masses from our parish. **Our parish office will be open by appointment only, however our secretary will be receiving calls during regular office hours.** We recognize that these measures are extremely challenging, but we appreciate your continued support in working together to curb the spread of COVID-19.

La provincia dell'Ontario posto la regione di York nella "fase di Lockdown". Per questo motivo, a partire da lunedì 14 dicembre, dobbiamo limitare il numero delle persone in chiesa a 10, incluso i sacerdoti che ascoltano le confessioni o un membro dello staff per monitorare le persone in chiesa. Purtroppo, a causa di queste misure, le messe pubbliche saranno temporaneamente sospese. I sacerdoti continueranno a celebrare quotidianamente la Messa privata per le intenzioni dei parrocchiani e per coloro che soffrono di COVID-19. La nostra chiesa rimarrà aperta per la preghiera privata e per le confessioni. Matrimoni, funerali e battesimi saranno limitati a 10 persone, comprese quelle che si occupano di ministero (sacerdote, cantore, ecc.). Le Prime Comunioni e Cresime dovranno essere posticipate in questo momento. Sebbene non è un sostituto della partecipazione alla Messa di persona, vi incoraggiamo a vedere le Messe online / in live streaming / televisive. Un elenco completo è disponibile su www.archtoronto.org. Inoltre, potete iscrivervi al sito web della parrocchia e al canale Youtube per informazioni sulle Messe trasmesse in streaming dalla nostra parrocchia. Il nostro ufficio parrocchiale sarà aperto solo su appuntamento, tuttavia la nostra segretaria riceverà le chiamate durante il normale orario di ufficio. Riconosciamo che queste misure sono difficili, ma apprezziamo il vostro continuo sostegno per frenare la diffusione del COVID-19.

Upcoming Baptism

Our parish is delighted to welcome the following child to the Christian community through the Sacrament of Baptism:



Phoenix Kai Paoellla

Congratulations to his parents and godparents.

2021 Parish Envelopes

The remaining 2021 donation envelopes which are yet to be picked up, will be distributed to the homes in the area on Sunday December 13, 2020 by the Knights of Columbus. Please remember to confirm that they are yours by verifying the number, name and address. Please contact the parish office for further information.

Le buste per le donazioni del 2021 rimanenti saranno distribuiti alle case vicino alla parrocchia domenica 13 dicembre, 2020 dai Cavalieri di Colombo. Accertatevi che siano le vostre controllando numero, nome e indirizzo. Contattate l'ufficio parrocchiale per ulteriori informazioni.

2021 Calendars

We are eternally grateful to Vescio Funeral Homes Ltd. for generously providing us with calendars for 2021.

Un sentito ringraziamento a Vescio Funeral Homes Ltd. per aver donato i calendari per l'anno 2021.

Stewardship Reflection

“Rejoice always!” These are the words that St. Paul writes in the second reading this Gaudete Sunday. He exhorts all of us to always rejoice. It is important to note that he doesn’t say to always be happy, but to rejoice always. Happiness, by definition, is utterly circumstantial. We are happy when we are experiencing something good, like eating ice cream on a hot day. However, when the ice cream melts, or it begins to rain our happiness quickly ceases because that good thing we were experiencing is fleeting. Joy on the other hand is radically different. To experience joy is to remain happy despite the circumstances. This everlasting joy springs solely from recognizing that we are beloved children of God and being aware that we are living in the smiling gaze of Christ. But how do we live in joy? St. James in his letter says, “My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy,” To experience joy is to intentionally call to mind God’s love in the midst of our trials. As stewards, let us not keep this practice of joy to ourselves. One way we can help people rejoice in suffering is by not partaking in complaining about our difficult situations. The next time we are in a tough moment and people around us begin to complain, let us strive to steer the conversation into one of gratitude for the good things the Lord is doing in our lives. This slow adjustment of choosing joy in our trials will begin to revitalize our parishes and communities, and the entire world. This Gaudete Sunday St. Paul exhorts all of us to “rejoice always.” One way we can help people rejoice in suffering is by not partaking in complaining about our difficult situations. The next time we are in a tough moment and people around us begin to complain, let us strive to steer the conversation into one of gratitude for the good things the Lord is doing in our lives.