



Advent is a time for waiting, preparing and hoping. Too often our waiting is spent in shopping lines and post offices; our preparation means rushing around to get cards addressed and gifts wrapped, and our major hope for the season is that we get everything done in time for the big day. Probably not exactly what those wise folks had in mind when they set aside four weeks of preparation. Each year we tell ourselves, "This year it will be different." May this time be good.



We light the first **PURPLE** Candle, which symbolizes hope. For many years, the faithful looked forward to the coming of the Messiah. We look forward with the eyes of faith and hope.

ADVENT designates the present-day coming or final coming of Christ. The English term advent comes from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "coming" and is primarily used to designate a period before Christmas during which Christians prepare for the Christmas season and reflect on the meaning of the 2nd coming of Christ.

ATTENTION:

ALL LADIES OF THE C.W.L.

The meeting and Annual Christmas Dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 2nd, at 6 pm at Quick Flame (Lake Vista Plaza).

CWL Membership Dues

Membership Dues of **\$40.00** are due by the end of November. You are more than welcome to place your envelope in the collection basket at Mass.

St. Michael's Choir School presents REJOICE!!!

Saturday, December 13 at 7 PM

Tickets are now available at www.masseyhall.com

Please use Promo Code: **STARLIGHT**.

For ticket information, please call the Massey Hall Box Office at 416-872-4255.

Please keep in mind that we have hungry and homeless people in our community. Please remember that we have an ongoing Food Drive throughout the year.

ATTENTION ALL LADIES OF THE PARISH

Please keep your purses with you at all times, especially when you leave your seat for Communion. Thank you!



Holy Cross and St. Gregory's are once again offering a



Program for our youth in grades 6-8. Our next meeting night will be held this **Wednesday, December 3rd**, from 6:15 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in St. Gregory's Hall. For more information or to register, please contact our youth minister, Kim Carson at: ymstghc@archtoronto.org

Sacramental Prep

First Reconciliation at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, December 6, 2025 at St. Gregory the Great Parish Hall (190 Simcoe St. N.)

Confirmation Prep Class #1 at 10:45 a.m.

Sunday, January 11, 2026 in Holy Cross Parish Hall.

RCIA Course

Would you like to become a Catholic, or are you a Catholic who has not been confirmed? Join us at the **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.)** at **St Gregory's Hall (190 Simcoe St N)**. Ask the priest for a registration form.

Friars Student Writing Contest 2026

High school students (ages 13-19 years) in the Catholic School Boards located in the Archdiocese of Toronto are invited to submit a 450–500-word essay and should consult the resources of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2026 at <https://bit.ly/WPCU2026>. Entries can be submitted by January 12, 2026, at:

<https://www.catholicregister.org/writingaward>.

For information, please contact: 416-934-3400 x. 527 or ecumenicalandinterfaith@archtoronto.org

Donating Securities

One of the most financially sound ways to support the Archdiocese of Toronto is the gift of securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds). When you donate securities to a registered charity, you pay no capital gains tax and receive a tax receipt for the full amount of the gift. It means a great tax break for you and an increased support of various archdiocesan charities such as your Parish, ShareLife, St. Augustine's Seminary and others.

For further information, contact the Development Office at: development@archtoronto.org.

Marriage Preparation Course

Holy Family Parish, 91 Ribblesdale Dr., Whitby

Friday, January 16, 2026: 7pm to 9pm

Saturday, January 17, 2026: 9am to 12pm

Friday, January 23, 2026: 7pm to 9pm

Saturday, January 24, 2026: 9am to 12pm

Please email holyfamilywh@archtoronto.org for more details or to register. Deadline to register is Dec. 10, 2025.



Knights of Columbus Christmas Cards Sale Keep Christ in Christmas



Next weekend, November 29/30, after Mass
Box of 12 for \$15.00. Single cards are \$2.00 each



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

The CWL will be holding a Christmas Cookie Sale on December 6/7, following the Masses. \$15.00 for a large plate.



Renovation Collection

Next weekend, there will be a second collection for the Parish Renovation Fund.

Advent Confessions

In preparation for Christmas, and especially for the worthy reception of the Eucharist, two priests will hear confessions:

December 17 – St. Gregory the Great Parish

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

December 18 – Holy Cross Parish

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The Holy Catholic Church wants us to have confession minimally once a year. Thus, in *Catechism of the Catholic Church* number 2042, we read, “The second precept [of the Church] (“You shall confess your sins at least once a year.”) ensures preparation for the Eucharist by the reception of the sacrament of reconciliation, which continues Baptism's work of conversion and forgiveness”. Refusing to confess at least once a year, we prevent ourselves from receiving the Eucharist.



Angel Tree

Please consider donating gift cards of any value redeemable at various local stores such as Walmart, Superstore, Old Navy, Giant Tiger etc. There is a box at the front of the Church to put them in until **NEXT SUNDAY December 7th**. Thank you for your support!

Your gift to ShareLife will double in value!

NEW: Your gift will double in value! Your contribution to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be matched by an anonymous donor up to a total of \$500,000.



Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

MASS Intentions

Saturday November 29 Holy Cross

4:30pm

†Alberto Dantas

Sunday November 30 Holy Cross

(1st Sunday of Advent)

12-noon

For the People of Our Parish

Tuesday December 2

St. Gregory the Great at 12:10 p.m.

Wednesday December 3 Holy Cross (St. Francis)

8:30am

Thursday December 4 Holy Cross

8:30am

Friday December 5

Confessions at St. Gregory's – 5:45p.m.-6:45 p.m.

Mass St. Gregory the Great at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday December 6 Holy Cross

3:30 pm – 4:15 pm Adoration and Confessions

4:30pm Holy Cross

For the People of Our Parish

Sunday December 7

St. Gregory the Great at 8:00 a.m.

St. Gregory the Great at 9:30 a.m.

12noon Holy Cross

†Ottavio Osso

Let us pray for our priest(s) and fellow Parishioners; for the Church and holy vocations: that there may be holy bishops, priests, deacons, and religious; holy marriages, families and holy single people; for repentance, salvation and peace in the world; and for all the deceased.

Information for 2026

Mass Intentions

We are now booking Mass Intentions and the Sanctuary Lamp for 2026. Please call or come to the Office during Office hours. **Please note:** only one Sunday Mass will be available as the other Sunday Mass intention will be for the people of our parish.

Envelopes

The envelopes for 2026 are now available at the back of the Church. They are in alphabetical order.

Mass Books

This Weekend is the last Sunday for the 2025 Missals. Missals are available for a cost of \$5.00.

Calendars

2026 Calendars are available at the back of the Church for a donation.

Please remember Holy Cross Parish in your will.