



### Fourth Sunday of Advent

Today we light again the candle of hope, love, joy and the last **PURPLE** candle, the candle of

peace. Christ is the Prince of Peace, come to reconcile us with God and others. Christ helps us to see that peace is possible.

Only with an intense desire for His coming can we begin to merit His spiritual gifts. The Catholic Liturgy reminds us during these four weeks, of the time during which the world was without Jesus. To this we implore Him to hasten His coming.



*The Sanctuary Lamp  
burns this week for:*

*Mooney, Turner, Gates & Wilkins  
Families*

## Sacramental Prep

First Communion Prep Class #5 at 10:45 a.m.

*Sunday, February 22, 2026 at St. Gregory the Great  
Parish Hall (190 Simcoe St. N.)*

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

*Sunday January 11, 2025 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.). Ask the priest for a registration form.

# Christmas Food Drive

## "HOLY CROSS FOOD DRIVE"

You can help by donating the following:

ALL CANNED GOODS, POP TABS ONLY

Canned vegetables, meats, rice, canned pasta & fruit, soups & stews, brown beans, oatmeal, cookies, gravy, ketchup, pasta & sauce, instant coffee, hot chocolate, tea, peanut butter, sugar, baby food, boxed stuffing, boxed mashed potatoes, boxed milk, tuns & Crackers, cake mix, dishwashing detergent.

**PLEASE PLACE YOUR DONATION AT THE STEPS OF THE ALTAR. THANK YOU!**

## Christmas Office Hours

The Parish Office is closed and will re-open on Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026. If there is an emergency that you need a priest right away, please call St. Gregory's Parish at: 905-723-8141 or email,

[stgregorythegreat@archtoronto.org](mailto:stgregorythegreat@archtoronto.org)

# MASS Intentions

## Saturday December 20 Holy Cross

4:30pm For the People of Our Parish

## Sunday December 21 Holy Cross

12-noon †Earl Marshall

## Tuesday December 23

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

**\*\*\*Christmas Eve\*\*\***

4:30pm For the People of Our Parish

St. Gregory the Great - 7:00 p.m. (with incense)

**\*\*\*Christmas Day\*\*\***

*(Nativity of Our Lord)*

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

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

12noon For the People of Our Parish

## Friday December 26

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

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

## Saturday December 27 Holy Cross

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

4:30pm Holy Cross For the People of Our Parish

## Sunday December 28

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

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

12noon Holy Cross †August Chiodo

## Tuesday December 30

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

**\*\*\*New Years' Eve\*\*\***

*(Nativity of the Lord)*

4:30pm For the People of Our Parish

10:30pm -Mass: Young Adults (All are welcome)

11:30pm - Adoration (Everyone is welcome)

**\*\*\*New Year's Day\*\*\***

*(Mary, the Holy Mother of God)*

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

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

12noon For the People of Our Parish

## Friday January 2

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

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

## Saturday January 3 Holy Cross

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

4:30pm For the People of Our Parish

## Sunday January 4 Holy Cross

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

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

12-noon In Thanksgiving of Jesus

Please remember Holy Cross Parish in your will.



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

During this Advent season, we celebrate and await the arrival (*advent*) of Christ in glory. We desire to and are allowing the Church to prepare us for Christ's Second Coming. The goal of our existence here on earth is to get ready to go to Heaven, to be with Christ forever. So, *are you ready?!*

If we are not ready for the Kingdom, everything else is in vain.

But if we are always prepared to go with Christ, whenever He calls us, we are truly celebrating Advent. While Jesus will come as a Judge, He is approaching us as a Child. He is a merciful God who wants us to welcome Him, embrace Him, and love Him, so that, by doing so, we may receive His love and mercy. His mercy may prepare us for His second coming. Have you been welcoming His mercy?

So, are we getting ready for the arrival of Jesus this Christmas, and whenever He calls us? Let us help each other, that is, love one another, so that many may be ready to go to the Kingdom of God. May God bless you and your family, give you a joyful Christmas and a blessed 2026. <https://bit.ly/4itWslV?r=qr>

Fr. Marijan Sisko



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, January 14**, 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](mailto:ymstghc@archtoronto.org)



**Young Adults 18-30 St. Gregory's Socials and Faith Formation**

December 31<sup>st</sup>, the Young Adults and all are invited to a special Mass at St. Gregory's Church at 10:30 pm, followed by Adoration from 11:30 pm-12:15 am; Social to follow for young adults only, at St. Gregory's Hall, 190 Simcoe St. N. You can connect at [stgregsandholycrossya@gmail.com](mailto:stgregsandholycrossya@gmail.com)  
Instagram: @stgregsandholycrossya  
<https://linktr.ee/stgregsandholycrossya>

**Pope Leo's Intentions for December For Christians in areas of conflict**

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

**Attention All Parishioners. Starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, our Renovation Fund Collection will move from the first Sunday of the month to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.**



**Closing of the Jubilee Year at St. Gregory the Great Church at 9:30am Mass**



This December 28, 2025, we will close the extraordinary Jubilee Year at St. Gregory the Great church, a Jubilee site Parish. We are immensely grateful to the Lord Jesus, our Cardinal Leo and the Jubilee Committee for organizing the Jubilee activities and allowing us to have the Jubilee Year at St. Gregory's. There were so many moments of grace, through the prayers, the Sacraments of Confession and Communion, visitations, fasts, and almsgiving. We sought reconciliation and plenary indulgences for ourselves and the faithful departed, especially our dear family members and friends. I hope that we have used this opportunity well, that we have helped many souls in Purgatory to go to Heaven, and that they - now Saints - will pray for us. But how can we have a plenary indulgence after the Jubilee ends? We may receive a partial indulgence in many ways. To obtain a plenary indulgence associated with a church or oratory, when devoutly visiting them, recite one Our Father and the Creed. It is required: sacramental confession, eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the intention of the Pope. Next, all attachment to sin, even venial sin, should be absent. These works are highly recommended: 1) adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for at least one half an hour; 2) devout reading of the Sacred Scriptures for at least one half an hour; 3) the pious exercise of the Way of the Cross; 4) the recitation of the Marian Rosary in a church or public oratory or in a family group, a religious Community or pious Association (<https://bit.ly/sacredindulg>).

So, as we conclude this Jubilee Year, let us pray for our Parish family: that the blessings we have received may inspire us to become ever more welcoming, forgiving, and generous, and that we may carry the spirit of Jubilee into the year ahead through acts of charity, prayer, and joyful service. Amen.

**Cardinal Leo's message regarding Bill C-9:**

"I encourage you to read the [CCCB Permanent Council's letter](#) in full and to stay informed about the discussions surrounding Bill C-9. I also ask that you join me in praying that our elected officials will work collaboratively with religious communities and legal experts to ensure that efforts to curb hatred do not unintentionally [or intentionally] undermine the constitutional freedoms that allow people of all faiths to flourish in our country." (<https://bit.ly/BillC9>)