

# Saint Dunstan's Parish

3150 DANFORTH AVE., SCARBOROUGH, ON M1L 1B6

OFFICE PHONE: 416-694-2811    FAX: 416-694-2809

EMAIL: [stdunstan@rogers.com](mailto:stdunstan@rogers.com) • [www.stdunstanssc.archtoronto.org](http://www.stdunstanssc.archtoronto.org)

**Administrator:** Fr. Victor Amole

**Deacon:** Rev. Mr. Philip Allard

**Secretary:** Mrs. Jean Walsh



*prepare the way...*



### **A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM FR. VICTOR**

The season of joy and hope is here again brothers and sisters in Christ. On behalf of Fr. Jeff, Jean and myself I wish you a truly joyous and merry Christmas.

One would be right to ask, “how could one celebrate really, in the midst of all these restrictions and pandemic, even our churches are closed!” And that would be a right thought. But then one has got to progress a little bit above that thought and add, “there are several persons, some of them we know very well, who have been through so much difficulties and have survived this pandemic thus far, looking forward to light and hope in the future”. And that indeed is our cause for celebration: light and hope in Christ. Because He is born for us, we can sing; because he lives all fear is gone. Today may be dark, but there will be light at the end of the tunnel.



And we know this very well from the life of him whom we celebrate at Christmas. He would eventually die an apparently ignominious death, but no, he would rise to glory and conquer even death itself! Appearance only therefore does not count much, reality is that this

also shall pass. I pray Jesus, our new-born King, set afire the light of hope in your hearts. May he bless us and all our families and bring our world to a perfect healing.

Merry Christmas to you and yours! Keep safe and well, monitor our website for further development on schedules etc., and may the grace of the new-born King abide with you now and forever. Amen.

### **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

During Advent, the Church calls all her children to return to their Father’s house with repentant and contrite hearts by approaching the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. The Liturgy repeats the cry of John the Baptist, “Repent, for the Kingdom of God is near”. Amidst all our Christmas preparations the most important preparation takes place in our own heart to welcome Christ the Saviour. Let us heed the Church’s invitation to seek and find God’s forgiveness by making a good confession. If you missed our days of confession, please call the parish office 416-694-2811 to book an appointment for confession.



### CHRISTMAS SEASON

Christmas which is the shortest of the Church's seasons, is liturgically rich and especially meaningful and beloved to the Christian people. It celebrates the birth of the Lord Jesus our Saviour and the ways He manifested the presence of God among us. For the Church, only the Easter celebration of the Lord's death and rising is more important.

Christmas and its Octave centre on the great truth and mystery of the Incarnation ~ that God loves us and sent His only begotten Son in the flesh to redeem us that we might believe in Him and have eternal life. Epiphany celebrates Christ's manifestation to the world, represented by the wise men from afar. Jesus is announced as the Saviour of all people.

The Christmas season and cycle ends with the Feast of the Lord's Baptism which continues the theme of Christ's manifestation as John the Baptist points Him out as the Lamb of God and the Father's voice is heard and the Spirit is seen as a dove, attesting to the Son's mission and identity.

### 2021 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Offertory Envelopes for Year 2021 are available for pick-up in the vestibule of the church. You may pick-up your box if you come for private prayer or please call the parish office when you are available to pick-up your box. We encourage everyone to use Offertory envelopes as they are the fairest way of contributing to



the support of our Church. As well, you will receive an Income Tax Receipts at year end. If you would like to start using Offertory envelopes in 2021,

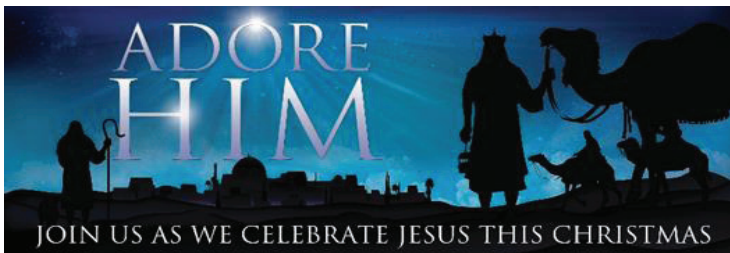
please call Jean in the parish office and she will get a box ready for you. We thank all parishioners for your continued generosity to the up-keep of our Church.

### UP-DATING PARISH DATABASE

Kindly send your email address to us at [stdunstan@rogers.com](mailto:stdunstan@rogers.com) as we are now up-dating our parish database. It does not take anytime, just send a simple email with your name and email, also at this time if you have moved and have not notified us, or have a new phone number, please also include that. You will be able to receive our electronic newsletter weekly when you send in your email.

This week's edition of our e-newsletter includes a special Christmas message from our dear Fr. Jeff.

May God bless him and his family and grant him a lovely Christmas.



**Christmas Eve ~ Thursday, Dec 24**

**7:00 p.m. ~ 12:00 Midnight**

**Christmas Day ~ Friday, Dec 25**

**10:30 a.m. ~ 12:30 p.m.**

**Dec 27 ~ Sunday Liturgy**

**9:00 a.m. ~ 10:30 a.m. ~ 12:30 p.m.**

**Mary, Mother of God**

**Thursday, Dec 31 ~ 5:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, January 1 ~ 10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.**

**Jan 2 Sunday Liturgy ~**

**Please Note:** *We are hopeful that the above Christmas and New Year Masses will take place publicly as we have done in previous years. Should the lockdown continue past December 21, we will be sure to update the schedule on our website. We continue to pray for a healthy and happy Christmas for everyone.*

### TEMPORARY SCHEDULE DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS

Following Archdiocesan mandate and keeping with civil authorities' appeal to restrict activities for now to deal with this pandemic, all public Masses are temporarily suspended. We continue to offer the sacrifice of the Mass daily for your intentions. Temporarily, weekday Masses will be **Livestreamed on Monday, and Friday at 9:00 a.m.** and on **Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.** Sunday Liturgy ~ Masses will be **Livestreamed on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at 12.30 p.m.**

The Church will be open for private prayers Mondays to Friday and on Sunday but only for 10 people at a given time. Church Open for Private Prayer:

**Monday to Friday 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.**

**Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.**



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