

Saint Dunstan's Parish

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Feast of the Holy Family

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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On the Sunday after Christmas the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, and we pray that God will bless all families with His peace and love. Everyone knows that family life is a combination of happiness and sadness, with a lot of the ordinary in between. But what about the Holy Family? Surely there was nothing but peace and happiness? Not really. Life wasn't always a bed of roses for them. Mary having to give birth in a stable. (Luke 2:1-7), but whatever Mary and Joseph thought about their struggles, one thing is clear. They never gave up. In their faithfulness and trust, and even more so, in their commitment to love one another, they show us how to weather the storms of life. Love, that's what makes a holy family. Not the sentimental love of songs and movies but strong relentless love of God. The divine love that the Spirit pours into our hearts. No family has a perfect life. Every family faces hardships of one sort or another. But every family also has a heavenly Father who loves them. So on this Feast of the Holy Family, let's pray for our family, and all members of our parish family, that our heavenly Father will pour His merciful healing love on every family today.



CHRISTMAS APPRECIATION

At Christmas time Fr. Victor wishes to acknowledge the generous support and edifying example of parishioners who helped our parish prepare for and celebrate the feast of our Saviour's birth. Our thanks to Enrico Alphonso for working tirelessly in manning the camera for our Virtual Masses, Christmas Retreat and Caroling singing, good work Enrico, you are much appreciated. Thanks to Ellen King too for assisting him. Also to Trac Ba Luu, Owen Vaz and Francis Fernandes for helping Jean with the Christmas decorations. We must also thank Trac Ba Luu for his many hours of sanitizing and cleaning of our church, keeping us all safe. Not forgetting all those who made our church liturgy so beautiful this Christmas. Fr. Victor and our secretary Jean wish to thank those who brought or sent cards, gifts or Christmas greetings, and to all parishioners and friends who expressed in many different ways their warm support and best wishes. May the celebration of the birth of our Saviour this Christmas fill your hearts with joy. In the New Year 2021 may God continue to bless our parish and form all of us into His family of love and faith. Like Mary, let us open our lives to Jesus and carry Him in our hearts to all we meet.



PEACE



Since the pontificate of St. Pope Paul VI, the Catholic Church has observed 1 January as the World Day of Peace. We know that peace is a great blessing and one of the deepest longings of the human heart. We also know that real and lasting peace cannot co-exist where there is injustice, oppression and poverty. Building peace is everyone's responsibility. Each person must be committed to creating conditions that will foster peace, beginning with one's own self and one's own family. The "seeds" needed to build up peace in the family and in the world are respect, humility, self-control, patience and tolerance, inner strength, generosity, goodness and kindness, joy,

justice and prayer. In this Christmas season we rejoice that Jesus has given us the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist so that we could live in peace and communion with God and with one another. As we commemorate Mary, the Mother of God on New Year's Day and after a year marred by so much violence, terrorism and bloodshed, let us resolve to pray often the rosary for peace in the world.

JANUARY 1, SOLEMNITY OF MARY
THE MOTHER OF GOD

On 1 January, the Octave (eighth) Day of Christmas, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. After celebrating the birth of Christ on December 25th, it is only fitting to celebrate the Blessed Virgin who consented to God's plan of salvation and became the Mother of the Redeemer, the Word made flesh in her womb by the power of the Holy Spirit.



“Mother of God” is Mary’s greatest privilege and title. On this great feast day, may Our Lady inspire us to say our own “yes” to God and welcome the Saviour into our lives and hearts. Also, on the first day of the civil calendar, the Church observes the World Day of Peace, praying for peace among nations and an end to war and violence. Our livestreamed Mass for the day shall be at 10am.

2021 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

We still have a number of 2021 Offertory Envelopes 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. Please note: we close off the parish accounting books for 2020 on December 31, so if you would like to make a donation and receive an Income Tax Receipt for this year, please make your donation before this time. We thank all parishioners for your continued generosity to the up-keep of our Church.



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:

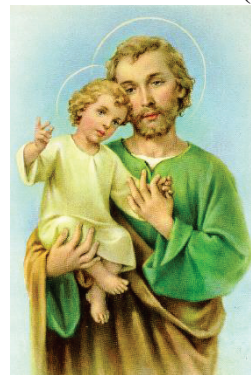
Monday to Friday 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.
Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

UP-DATING PARISH DATABASE

Kindly send your email address to us at 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.

POPE FRANCIS PROCLAIMS
“YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH”

From Vatican News: With the Apostolic Letter “*Patris Corde*” (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope



Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows. To mark the occasion,

the Holy Father has proclaimed a “Year of Saint Joseph” which started on December 8th, 2020 and will end on December 8th, 2021.

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