

# Saint Dunstan's Church

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**Pastor:** Rev. Jeffrey Masterson

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

**Secretary:** Mrs. Jean Walsh



*Father, You revealed Your Son to the nations  
by the guidance of a star. Lead us to  
Your Glory in Heaven by the Light of Faith.*

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



### **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

Today we celebrate another great feast of the Christmas season, the Epiphany or manifestation of the newborn Saviour to the wise men of the East who are representative of all the Gentile nations for whom the Son of God also became incarnate. Christ is revealed as the Light for all people. Do we bring the Light of Christ to others as we should? The Person and mission of Christ were further manifested at His baptism and by His first miracle at Cana.

### **THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

Monday's feast of the Baptism of the Lord continues the Epiphany theme of manifestation. At the beginning of His public ministry, Jesus is manifested as the Son of God and Saviour by signs and wonders at the Jordan. As the heavens open, the Spirit is seen in the form of a dove descending upon Him and the Father's voice is heard "You are my Son, the beloved; with you I am well pleased" (Lk 3:22). Although Jesus who is sinless has no need of sacramental baptism, He leads the way for His people through the waters of life made holy by the One who is baptized. The immersion in water and coming up again is a sign of the Paschal Mystery of the dying and rising again of Christ by which we are saved. Baptism is, therefore, symbolic of our dying and rising in Christ. The Feast of the Lord's Baptism bring the Christmas season to a close and Ordinary Time begins on Tuesday.



### **THE DATE OF EASTER**

*In former times, when calendars were not available and most people could neither read nor write, the date of Easter was solemnly proclaimed at Mass on Epiphany. It was necessary to announce the date of Easter at the beginning of the year because many other liturgical celebrations depend on its date. Easter is the Christian Passover, celebrating our liberation from sin through the Paschal Mystery of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus. It is observed in the spring around the same time as the Jewish Passover which celebrates Israel's liberation from slavery in Egypt. Since the fourth century, the Church has celebrated the Lord's Pasch on the Sunday following the first full moon of spring. Thus the date of Easter varies from year to year falling between March 22 and April 25. Although the dates of Easter and other feasts are now calculated and accessible years in advance, the traditional Epiphany proclamation still has value as a reminder of the centrality of the resurrection of the Lord in the liturgical year and the importance of the great mysteries of faith which are commemorated each year.*

#### **The following is the Proclamation for 2024:**

Know, dear brothers and sisters that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, so by leave of God's mercy we announce to you also the joy of His Resurrection, who is our Saviour. On the fourteenth day of February will fall Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season. On the thirty-first day of March you will celebrate with joy Easter Day, the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ. On the twelfth day of May will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. On the nineteenth day of May, the feast of Pentecost. On the second day of June, the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. On the first day of December, the First Sunday of the Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom is honour and glory for ever and ever.

Amen.

**ARCHBISHOP'S PASTORAL LETTER**

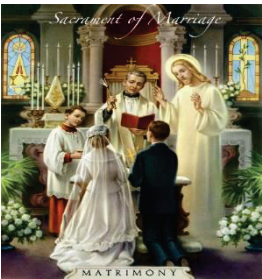
Archbishop Francis Leo has released a Pastoral Letter to the Church of God in the Archdiocese of Toronto, entitled, "Seeking The Kingdom of God Above and Beyond All Other Things". This significant reflection from our spiritual shepherd is intended to offer a theological, spiritual, and pastoral meditation as we embark upon a New Year and our collective efforts to build and strengthen the Kingdom of God throughout the Archdiocese. The Pastoral Letter can be accessed by visiting the archdiocesan website at: [www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org)

**2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES**

We still have a number of Offertory Envelopes that have not been picked up yet. Maybe you haven't had the chance, or people have moved and not informed us. ~ if you have not had the chance to pick up your 2024 Offertory Envelopes yet, please do so as soon as possible by calling the parish office to arrange a time when you are available. If you are unable to pick-up your envelopes due to mobility issues and would like for us to drop them off at your home please notify the office and we can arrange this for you.

**CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE MASS**

As part of Marriage Sunday 2024 celebrations, Archbishop Francis Leo will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, with special recognition for those celebrating 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2024. The Mass will take



place at 3:00 p.m. on **Sunday, February 11, 2024** at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica, 65 Bond St. Toronto.

All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their marriage commitment during the Mass.

All are welcome to attend.

Couples celebrating a 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> or 60 + anniversary in 2024 may register for reserved seating. Reserved seating is limited, so please register early. All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who are unable to attend at the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass. Registration and other important information can be found at [www.archtoronto.org/marriage](http://www.archtoronto.org/marriage). For questions, please email [formation@archtoronto.org](mailto:formation@archtoronto.org) or call 416-934-3400 ext. 523.



**Masses For The Week**

**Monday:** 8 January

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

9:00 a.m.

**Tuesday:** 9 January

9:00 a.m.

**Wednesday:** 10 January

7:00 p.m.

**Thursday:** 11 January

9:00 a.m.

**Friday** 12 January

*Friday is a day of penitential observance*

**Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys, virgin**

9:00 a.m.

**Saturday:** 13 January

*Our Lady's Saturday*

10:00 a.m.

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

5:00 p.m. Intentions of Emma Sy

**Sunday:** 14 January

10:00 a.m. Intentions of All Parishioners

12:00 noon Ferinand & Susan Baligod Family

Req.by Susan Baligod

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATIONS**

Children preparing for First Communion and candidates for Confirmation are reminded to see Father Jeff after Sunday Mass every week, to assure him of their presence.





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