

Advent Parish Mission "Brushes with God's Presence"

Join us in our Advent Parish Mission
December 6 & December 13
during the 7:30 pm Mass

The preaching series on Thomas Merton shows how his "brushes with God's presence" makes him passionate to move through his restlessness and find peace.

These evenings include Mass, Eucharistic Adoration with praise and worship music, a presentation, and an opportunity for the sacrament of reconciliation.



Back by Popular Demand
HOMEMADE LASAGNA
made with Meat and Cheese
For dinner any day or for your special Christmas gatherings
\$45 each: serves 8
PRE-ORDER: by December 11
PICK UP: Wednesday December 14
Call Silvana: 647-237-4264

Christmas Assorted Homemade Speciality Cookies

All proceeds will be donated to Gospel Roads, a Salesian service retreat for youth being held again in Toronto soon.

\$15 per order:

At least two dozen of a variety of homemade speciality cookies

ORDER AFTER WEEKEND MASSES:

December 3-4

PICKUP:

December 10-11



Christmas Mass & Eucharistic Adoration Schedule

Saturday December 24

Adoration Chapel: closes 8:00 am

Daily Mass: 8:00 am

Christmas Eve Masses: 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm, 12 midnight

Sunday December 25

Christmas Day Masses:

8:00 am, 9:30 am Italian in church,

9:30 am English in hall, 11:00 am, 12:45 pm

Adoration Chapel: opens 2:00 pm

Friday December 30

Feast of the Holy Family Mass: 8:00 am

Saturday December 31

Daily Mass: 8:00 am

Mary, Mother of God Eve

Mass: 5:00 pm

Eucharistic Adoration: 9:00 pm—11:00 pm

Sunday January 1

Mary, Mother of God

8:00 am, 9:30 am Italian in church,

9:30 am English in hall, 11:00 am, 12:45 pm

Adoration Chapel: opens 2:00 pm

Sunday January 8

Epiphany

8:00 am,

9:30 am Italian in church,

9:30 am English in hall,

11:00 am, 12:45 pm

Adoration Chapel:

opens 2:00 pm

Monday January 9

Baptism of the Lord:

8:00 am



Friends, 2 Awesome Events!

Win a turkey or ham at our:

TURKEY TOSS

FOR THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2022

ST. BENEDICT CHURCH HALL

2194 KIPLING AVE. ETOBICOKE

\$10 Entry Fee

Dinner Menu: Pizza, Salad, Coffee, Tea, & Cash bar

ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!

****PLUS** Access to Turkey Toss tickets at \$2 per 3 tosses**

DINNER AT 6:30 PM - GAMES BEGIN AT 7 PM

PURCHASE TICKETS IN ADVANCE THROUGH:

TONY DI FELICE - (416) 899-1784 OR

ADAM MUSCAT - (416) 428-9828

DONATIONS ALSO ACCEPTED

PANETTONE SALE

FOR THE HOT BREAKFAST PROGRAM AT MONSIGNOR PERCY JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL



Purchase yours at St. Benedict Church in Etobicoke
after Masses on Dec. 3rd/4th and Dec. 10th/11th.

800g Chocolate Chip or Fruit for only \$10.

E-Transfers and RSVP to stjohnbosco14327@gmail.com

SPONSORED BY:



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ST. JOHN BOSCO COUNCIL 14327
ETOBICOKE, ONTARIO

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul &
The Knights of Columbus sponsor our annual

**Toy Sunday
December 10 & 11**

For Children up to 12 years old

Recommended Donation:

New Unwrapped Toy

For Teenagers 13 & 14 years old

Recommended donation:

Gift Certificate with the value clearly indicated

Please leave your gift in front of the altar before or after mass.

To ensure all age groups are gifted, please follow this guide:

<u>Surname starting with</u>	<u>Age Group (Boys/Girls)</u>
E, F, G, H	Infants – 4 Years
I, J, K, L	5 - 6 Years
M, N, O, P	7 – 8 Years
Q, R, S, T, U	9 – 10 Years
V, W, X, Y, Z	11 – 12 Years
A, B, C, D	13 – 14 Years

All Donations are gratefully appreciated!

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

To request a mass intention, contact Susan:
speresso@archtoronto.org /416-743-3830 X0

Monday, December 5

8:00am Maria Fung by Clara

Tuesday, December 6

8:00am Jennifer Vania by Lunnon family

7:30pm Anna Maria Bisceglia by Bisceglia family

In Thanksgiving by Zara Pereira

Juanito Olarte by Nelia Olarte

Salvatore Soda by Marisa

Ferdinando Massaro by Deacon Diego & Diane Maratta

Deceased members of Bianchi family by Donna Cuddemi

Michael, Maria & Romana Lopez by Christina Lopez

Joseph Badasti by Emily Jackson

Celestino Fernando Tumolo by Nancy, John & Milella Tumolo

Herminia Senoran by family

Wednesday, December 7

8:00am Felicidad & Esteban Berlal by Daughter & family

Thursday, December 8

8:00am Maurice, Gretta & Jim Fay by Mary Fay

7:30pm Antonia Stefanich by Rita Stefanich

Friday, December 9

8:00am Carlina Yosso by Maria

Saturday, December 10

8:00am Romon A. Letrondo by Rose Letrondo & family

5:00pm Peter Thuc Nguyen by Thiep Nguyen

Sunday, December 11

8:00am For the People

9:30am Susan Almonte by D'Andrea Family (Ital/Ch)

9:30am Edgardo Gargoles by family (Eng/Hall)

11:00am Luigi & Rosina Aquino by Di Felice Family

12:45pm Maria, Luigi & Tony by Clara



**Draw for 2 - Platinum Tickets to
Toronto Raptors Basketball Game**

(Section 108, Row 15) Scotiabank Arena, 40 Bay St., Toronto

Wednesday, December 14 at 7:30 pm

*Raffle tickets to be sold at the end of each Mass on
December 3/4 December 10 /11*

Price per ticket \$20

*Draw to take place on December 11 at 1:45pm.
(Licence # M824289)*

Tickets donated to St. Benedict Parish by the Newediuk Funeral

COME LET US WORSHIP

**YOU ARE INVITED
TO A**

**MULTI-CULTURAL
CHRISTMAS**

**9-DAY NOVENA MASS
AT**

**ST. BENEDICT PARISH
December 15 - 23, 2022
7:30 PM**

The Christmas Novena is adapted from the Filipino tradition called 'Simbang Gabi' introduced by the Spanish missionaries in 1600 to honor Mary, the Mother of God.

Dec 15 (Th) - Filipino Community (BLD)
Dec 16 (Fr) - St Benedict 12:45 Choir
Dec 17 (Sa) - Filipino Community (CFC)
Dec 18 (Su) - Italian Community
Dec 19 (Mo) - Indian Community
Dec 20 (Tu) - St Benedict Choir
Dec 21 (We) - Italian Community
Dec 22 (Th) - St Benedict 9:30 Choir
Dec 23 (Fr) - Filipino Community (CFC)



Our faith community welcomes
Aria Renee Bensette

Sunday Offering (envelopes & loose only): \$ 6,142

St. Benedict Debt to the Archdiocese: \$100,105

Thank you for your ongoing generous support!



**2023 SUNDAY ENVELOPES
NOW AVAILABLE & SORTED
IN NUMERICAL ORDER**

Please pick up your boxed set as soon as possible in the Church entrance. The use of these envelopes is an excellent way of supporting your parish on a regular basis and also ensures that a receipt for tax purposes is available at the end of the year.

**Do NOT use these new envelopes
until the New Year.**

Brushes with God's Presence--Part I

Autobiographies such as *The Story of a Soul* by St. Teresa of Avila or *The Confessions* of St. Augustine give us a personal understanding of how saints approached the faith life, how they experienced the presence of God along their journey, and how they developed a particular “faith sense” of their own. These presentations called, *Brushes with God's Presence*,

will focus on the autobiography of Thomas Merton, who encountered some brushes with the “divine,” at different points of his life. In his autobiography, *The Seven Storey Mountain*, Merton's gazes back over his early life and sees it as a journey to seek God amidst his own restlessness. While we often think of the faith journey as simply moving from one point to another, what Merton does is describe everything that happened along the way.

Psalm 42 may indeed be the starting point for looking at Merton's life where the psalmist says, “When will I come to the end of my pilgrimage and enter the presence of God”. This psalm identifies the struggle that Merton had in trying to follow an inner light that would carry him along so that he could meet God. While Merton's spiritual journey does not make him a mystic, nevertheless, we can say that he was “mystically driven” at different points in his life. Mysticism seen in this way shows God's compulsion to meet us in the ordinary of life with the hope that such experiences lead us to our inner life—to the very soul of our being. The life of Merton shows us how mysticism can at times be tangible to our own faith journey.

Merton wrestled with the notion of living in the world while trying to find his center where meaning and purpose grounded him. As he looked back over his life through the lens of contemplation, Merton could see with clarity that much of his early life wavered through long bouts with worldly affections such as partying, traveling abroad, and by having affairs with women. He also was ridden at times with sickness. For instance, he agonized when he had to have several teeth extracted which forced him to be bed-ridden.

Merton's high school boarding experiences and his college years were characterized by being adventuresome, but he often felt disoriented and confused on how to go about living his faith. Further, the loss of both parents before he graduated from high school blurred his vision on how to lead a healthy faith journey. As an orphan, he likely struggled with self-concept, and in his young adulthood, his restlessness grew as he realized that there was something about faith that made his soul yearn for something more in life. Moreover, throughout Merton's early life, he seems to have been blessed to be *grafted* with God's grace which led him to seek the truth of his real self.

(over)

“Brushes with the Presence of God”



Part 1

Question 1: *Have you ever experienced brushing up next to the divine-- a moment in which you knew that God was present? What was it like and how do you see it as part of your journey in faith?*

Question 2: If it is God’s compulsion to meet us in the ordinary of life, how do you seek God? How does God seek you?

Rev James Bering