



Advent Mission

on the Infancy Narratives

For three evenings during the third week of Advent, Fr. Thomas Rosica, CSB will help us reflect on the great biblical stories of this holy season and take a deep dive into the Infancy stories of the Gospels of Matthew and Luke and the Word made flesh from John's Gospel. It is both fantastic and crazy, wonderful and subversive, that the fate of the world would hang on the 'yes' of a teenage girl, but that is exactly what the Scriptures tell us. Not for naught is the plaque on the little altar in that grotto of the massive basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth: "Verbum caro HIC factum est."

Basilian Fr. Rosica, a noted biblical scholar, lecturer, retreat director, author and friend of our parish and the Salesian Community, will share with us what is 'behind the scenes' of some of the most beautiful stories of the bible that have formed us from our childhood. He will take us inside our manger scenes and help us to appreciate the significance of each of the characters in our Christmas stories: Zechariah and Elizabeth, John the Baptist, Mary and Joseph, the angels and shepherds, the wise astrologers from the East, all those who welcomed the birth of this child in such poverty in Bethlehem, as well as those who opposed his coming among us as Lord and Savior.

The first witness to Jesus is, as Mother Teresa of Calcutta so wisely and truthfully pointed out, an unborn child. Mary and Jesus, Elizabeth, John and Zechariah – a family scene full of anxious, expectant chatter against the din of the doubters and the cheap gossip in a small town! That first Christmas reminds us of truths of which we can never hear enough. The Gospel stories of Jesus' birth invite us to become pilgrims and follow shepherds and kings, saints and sinners, and that long cortege of witnesses of all generations as they seek the light in the darkness and share their message of good news with a world steeped in darkness. Come with your family and friends. Join Fr. Rosica and our parish community reflect on the 'greatest story ever told' and prepare for a blessed Christmas.



ADVENT MISSION SCHEDULE

St. Benedict Church • 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Monday Dec 18 - Vespers with Talk 1

Tuesday Dec 19 - Mass with Talk 2

Wednesday Dec 20 - Reconciliation Service with Talk 3

A free-will offering will be collected each evening in gratitude for our speaker, Fr. Tom.

Reception to follow in parish hall on final evening.



FR. THOMAS ROSICA, CSB

Ordained a priest in 1986, Fr. Rosica is a member of the Congregation of St. Basil (Basilian Fathers), a biblical scholar, lecturer, author and retreat director. He has studied theology and Sacred Scripture in Toronto, Rome and Jerusalem. He was Pastor and Executive Director of the Newman Centre Catholic Mission at the University of Toronto (1994-2000), Lecturer at the Faculty of Theology of the University of St. Michael's College, and St. Peter's Seminary in London, Ontario (1990 – 2018), National Director and CEO of World Youth Day 2002 in Canada and the founding CEO of the Salt and Light Catholic Media Foundation in Canada 2003-2019. He worked in the Holy See Press Office as the English language attaché at five Synods of Bishops and was the assistant to the Director of the Holy See Press Office during the Papal transition of 2013 until 2018. He currently resides and ministers at Presentation Manor for Seniors in Scarborough, leads parish missions and is on the retreat team at the Manresa Jesuit Spirituality Centre in Pickering.



The Visitation

Friday December 8
7pm in Church

Join us for a prayerful evening of adoration with praise & worship led by youth. Priests available for sacrament of reconciliation.

Following adoration, we gather in the parish hall for Mamma's House: a time for fellowship, fun, and light refreshments.

Come with your whole family.

Outdoor Christmas Planters

\$75 each

LAST CALL! Place your order today:

Noreen 905-859-5490

Orders taken until December 5



See our parish Altar Servers SHINE!

On November 25, St. Benedict parish was proudly represented by Calum Persaud- Watton and Maximilian Almonte as they received the Serra Club "Altar Servers of the Year" award presented by Bishop Camilleri. They were joyfully accompanied by their families and our parish Altar Server coordinator and mentor, Elijah Pace and Sammy Paraguas. We're proud of you Callum and Max!



Then, on November 26, our younger servers shined as they were commissioned or re-commissioned as Altar Servers of St. Benedict parish. We are grateful for their eagerness to serve our community in this important ministry. Special thanks to parents of altar servers who support and guide their children in their commitment.



ANNUAL TURKEY TOSS



FUNDRAISER



Saturday December 9/2023
6:30-10pm
St. Benedict Parish Hall
Presented by the Knights of Columbus
Tickets available
\$15 -Adults
\$5-Children under 12
Entrance includes pizza, salad and 1 drink



****PROCEEDS TO THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DEPAUL****
\$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 12.

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to have a great time with your family and friends. Get your tickets today and secure your spot for an great evening!

TURKEY TOSS- \$2.00 FOR THREE TRIES TO WIN A TURKEY OR HAM.

ADDED BONUS GAME!!
\$10 FOR 2 TRIES TO WIN A PAIR OF LEAFS TICKETS.

Online purchases etransfer to : stjohnbosco14327@gmail.com
Or call Adam @ 416-428-9828



Sunday December 3, 2023 – 1st Sunday of Advent

ST. AUGUSTINE'S SPIRIT & LIFE SERIES

ADVENT RETREAT

Journeying with the Petitions of the
LORD'S PRAYER
(Our Father)

Saturday December 9, 2023 | 9:00am–4:00pm
in-person only

 **Speaker: Dr. Josephine Lombardi**

The Our Father is perhaps the most familiar of the Christian prayers, the prayer given to us by Jesus himself. As the Lord's own prayer, it holds immense riches in its seemingly simple invocations. In this retreat, Dr. Lombardi will walk us through the petitions of the Lord's Prayer, showing us how the fulfillment of the petitions helps us to prepare and wait during the Advent season. Each reflection will be followed by time for personal prayer or small group discussion. More about the speaker at josephineLombardi.com.

Location:
St. Augustine's Seminary, 2661 Kingston Rd., Scarborough, ON M1M 1M3

 ST. AUGUSTINE'S SEMINARY | STAUGUSTINES.ON.CA/EVENTS



ShareLife Speaker Series

Coping with Grief at Christmastime

Amanda Wendelgass
CFS Counselling + Wellbeing

Wednesday, December 6
7 p.m. via Zoom



REGISTER: <https://bit.ly/coping-with-grief-at-christmastime>

CONTACT: Jennifer Lazo
EMAIL: jlazo@archtoronto.org

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Sunday Offering (envelopes & loose only): **\$5,973**

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

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

Monday, December 4

8:00am Alex Jamieson by Betty & family

Tuesday, December 5

8:00am Maria Fung by Clara
7:30pm Salvatori Soda by Marisa Soda
Annmaria Bisceglia by Edvardo Bisceglia
Ethel Joyce MacKinnon by Eva Marie Dolino
Living Intention for Ebisan Oteri by Farah-Martine Dai
Holy Souls In Purgatory by Timson family
Elizabeth Babington by Lori Lustig
In Thanksgiving to St. Rita by the Camber family
Sam Penrose by Cawthorne & Penrose families
Natale & Teresa Clemente by daughter Maria

Wednesday, December 6

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

Thursday, December 7

8:00am Deceased members of Tramontozzi & Cellucci families by family

Friday, December 8

8:00am Luigi Aquino by The Di Felice family
7:30pm John Gallego by Mom

Saturday, December 9

8:00am Sigrid Plamenco by Paul Plamenco
5:00pm Domenico & Marcella Simone by Children

Sunday, December 10

8:00am Pawel Hubert by Bzoma family
9:30am Maria Assunta Mastromarco by Vito Mastromarco (Ital/Ch)
9:30am For the People
11:00am Maurice & Lillian Chicorli by Tammie
12:45pm Coleta Ty by Aranas & Gayo families

Pray for the Sick

Frank Losiggio, Mary Lynne Gallagher, Lois McDowell,
Fr. Frank Kelly, SDB, Fr. Joseph Ho, SDB, Lidia Scaccia,
Dan McKinnon, Cathy Proietti, Vincent Sguassero,
Alessio Firreira, Steve Cawthorne, Assunta Di Felice



The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

&

The Knights of Columbus

Toy Sunday

December 9 & 10

For Children up to 12 years old

Recommended Donation:

New Unworn Toy

For Teenagers 13 & 14 years old

Recommended donation:

Gift Certificate with the value clearly indicated

Please leave all gifts in front of the altar before or after mass.

To ensure gifts are collected for all age groups,
please follow this guide:

Surname starting with

I, J, K, L
M, N, O, P
Q, R, S, T, U
V, W, X, Y, Z
A, B, C, D
E, F, G, H

Age Group (Boys/Girls)

Infants – 4 Years
5 - 6 Years
7 – 8 Years
9 – 10 Years
11 – 12 Years
13 – 14 Years

All Donations are gratefully appreciated!