



Christmas Message
His Eminence
Frank Cardinal Leo
Excerpts from letter



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Christmas is a wonderful time that provides us with a unique and blessed occasion of grace to contemplate the immensity and graciousness of **God's love for us** and the **hope** and **joy** which this love brings to our lives. The mystery of the Incarnation—which we celebrated nine months ago on March 25th at the Annunciation—has now culminated in the birth of the child Jesus, the Prince of Peace: God becoming man out of love for us. We remember also how that same unconditional love of the Word made flesh (cf. Jn 1:14-18), invades the world as we know it with a **peace** that transcends all understanding (cf. Phil 4:7). Jesus Christ himself, and no other, is the **light** that scatters the darkness of our lives, our relationships and communities and imbues them with newness of life if only we let him into our hearts through faith and surrender to that love which knows no end and no limitations.

We celebrate the Birth of Christ among us, in our human flesh, in our world. Though he was “born of the Father before all ages and through whom all things were made”, yet he was born in time, in Bethlehem, of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary; he was given birth in our very own wounded world; he is one of us, one like us in all ways, except sin. He comes to us from the heights and the glory of Paradise where he existed together with the Father and Holy Spirit from all eternity, adored and praised by the multitude of the heavenly hosts. He leaves the loftiness of Heaven to descend among us and become like us, born in our midst to walk among us as a friend, a brother, a companion, a teacher, a Saviour, our God in the flesh.

Now why exactly did he do that? ... [One reason is that] he did it in order to save us by reconciling us with God (Cf. CCC#457). As we know, from the time of original sin to this day, humanity finds itself—we fine ourselves—journeying amidst shadows and lights, with sin being, most regrettably, a part of our human condition. Original sin, our personal sins, social sins— all of this amounts to a dire situation requiring a Saviour to rescue us, to save us. And so, the Father of all mercies, out of his immense and unsurpassed love for each of us and because we really needed to be saved from darkness and everlasting death, gave up His very own Son, the Beloved, the Begotten from eternity, to be our personal Saviour and that of the whole world. We are saved by the Lord from sin, Satan and the evil in its many facets. He came down to us so as to reconcile us to himself. **That is why we need to ask ourselves: In my life, and at this Christmas time, am I ready to acknowledge my sins humbly and truthfully and surrender to the Lord Jesus who came precisely to save me?**

Thank you and Farewell, Bro. Kevin

Bro. Kevin recently received an unanticipated reassignment. Fr. Provincial has transferred him to Don Bosco Preparatory High School in Ramsey, New Jersey. Though we did not have the opportunity to give him a proper farewell, we thank Our Lord for his presence among us and his contribution to our Salesian mission. May we remember him in our prayers as he takes up his new assignment. And, may God bless you, Bro. Kevin.



Advent Reconciliation, Christmas Masses & Eucharistic Adoration during Christmas

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesdays 7:00 pm (before 7:30 pm Mass)
or by Appointment: 416-743-3830 XO

Tuesday December 24

Daily Mass 8:00 am

Adoration Chapel: Closes 8:00 am

Christmas Eve Masses

5:00 pm, 8:00 pm, 12 midnight

With Carol sing-along 30 minutes prior to each Mass

Wednesday 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

Sunday December 29

Feast of the Holy Family Masses

Regular Sunday Schedule

Tuesday December 31

Mary, Mother of God Eve

Daily Mass 8:00 am

Mass: 5:00 pm

Adoration Chapel: Closes 8:00 am

Eucharistic Adoration in Church: 9:00 pm - 11:00 pm

Wednesday January 1

Mary, Mother of God 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

Sunday January 5

Epiphany of our Lord

Regular Sunday Schedule

Sunday January 12

Baptism of the Lord Mass

Regular Sunday Schedule



Apple Pies

\$20 ea

On sale December 21 & 22
after all weekend masses
at church entrance





**Warming hearts
with your support
for ShareLife**

NEW: Your gift will double in value! From November 1 until year end, your contribution to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be matched by an anonymous donor up to a total of \$500,000.

As we shelter from the winter storm, we're thankful for your ShareLife support, keeping many off cold streets and igniting hope for a brighter future.

**Wishing you a warm and safe Christmas season,
and thanking you for your enduring compassion
that extends the same to others.**

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

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

Monday, December 23

8:00am Mrs. Mak Tang & family by Savio Mak
7:30pm Simbang Gabi Novena Mass

Tuesday, December 24

8:00am Pastor's Intention
5:00pm Living Intention for Pasquale Reda by Di Felice family
8:00pm Ollie Holowaty by family
12:00am Santina Persichitti by Persichitti family

Wednesday, December 25

8:00am Mae & Ken Sutton by the Sutton family
9:30am Annie & Amedeo Amato by Louisa Amato (Ital/Ch)
9:30am For the People (Eng/Hall)
11:00am Deceased members of the Fantin family by Stefania Fantin
12:45pm Ollie Holowaty by family

Thursday, December 26

8:00am Leticia Montello by family

Friday, December 27

8:00am Fr. Ryszard Cyman by Marcelli family

Saturday, December 28

8:00am Stefan Barisic by Mirjana Barisic
5:00pm Mirko Rustja by Dennis

Sunday, December 29

8:00am For the People
9:30am Mario & Ida Marrelli by Irma Marrelli (Ital/Ch)
9:30am Felix D'Sa by Allen & family (Eng/Hall)
11:00am John & Anna Shtyka by Marianne Gaglia
12:45pm Alex & Barbara Holub by Vince Ricchetti

Bundle Up

For the

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



We are collecting your donations at

St. Benedict

2194 Kipling Avenue, Rexdale
On

January 18 & 19, 2025



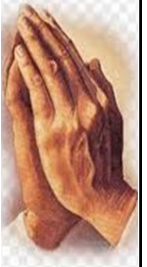
We DO NOT ACCEPT
appliances, baby or regular furniture,
books, mattresses, dishes,
construction material or video tapes
For more information visit
www.ssvptoronto.ca



Pray for the Sick

Frank Losiggio, Mary Lynne Gallagher, Lidia Scaccia,
Cathy Proietti, Vincent Sguassero, Alessio Firreira, Steve
Cawthorne, Assunta Di Felice,
Benito & Pasqualina Soscia, Leona Bradbury,
Mary LeBlanc & Bernie O'Hara

Parishioners wishing prayer from our parish family
are asked to call **Susan Peresso: 416-743-3830.**



Merry Christmas



**May God's love
surround
you this
Christmas.**

**Wishing you a
Christmas filled
with the peace
and love
of Christ.**

Fr. Sean, Fr. John, Fr. Enzo,

Fr. Kelly, Fr. Branden,

Br. Kevin, Deacon Peter,

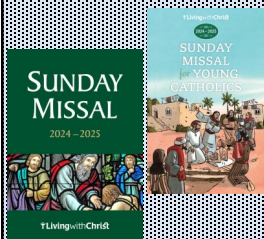
Deacon Diego, Deacon Michael,

Antoniette, Jack, Annette, Susan & Rita

SUNDAY MISSALS

ON SALE IN THE PARISH OFFICE
(limited quantity left)

\$5.50 ADULTS \$10.00 YOUTH



Users of Pink Visitors' Donation Envelopes

Please **write your name, address (including postal code) and phone number** on the envelopes you place in the collection basket. This will allow us to register you properly as the user of a particular numbered box of envelopes.

Note: if you forgot your envelope at home and are using a Pink Visitors' Envelope, kindly show your envelope number.

Last Week's Collection

Sunday Offering (envs & loose only): \$6,859

Thank you for your ongoing generous support!

