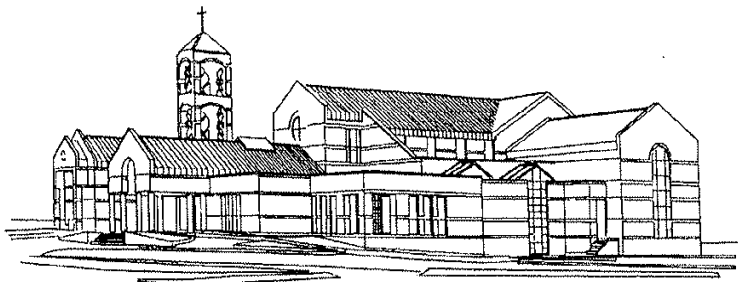


IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 22, 2024



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear parishioners,

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Today we celebrate the fourth and final Sunday of Advent and we light the candle of **LOVE**. During this final week of our advent journey, the church invites us to rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of Christ the saviour. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (Jn 3:16).

THE FRIENDS OF FATHER MONTI VISIT PINEGROVE RETIREMENT HOME: "Feliz Navidad"

Last Saturday, December 14, 2024, the *Friends of Father Monti* group of our parish visited Pinegrove Retirement Home to spend time with the residents and entertain them with soul searching Christmas carols. It was such an emotional experience to see some of the residents joyfully singing the Christmas songs while others simply danced and clapped their hands to the rhythm. The smile on their faces was priceless and their joy was abundant. I would like to thank all the Friends of Father Monti for thinking of those in nursing homes and for donating Christmas boxes to the needy families in our community. I am so proud of you for what you have accomplished in the parish and in the larger community in a very short time. This is the Christian spirit! This is the Montian Spirit and this is the Immaculate Conception Spirit!

THANK YOU! GRAZIE MILLE!

"I do not cease to give thanks for you" (Eph 1:16)

I would like to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation to you, the wonderful people of Immaculate Conception Parish for making my 15th priestly anniversary celebration a big success. I feel so blessed to be part of this fantastic parish community, which is my first and longest love. I will never forget your love, support, prayers and those kind words that melt my heart. May the Lord bless you and your families abundantly.

SAVE THE DATE:

PASTA E FAGIOLI CARNIVAL DINNER DANCE FUNDRAISER 2025



"I was hungry and you gave me food." (Mt. 25:35)
Our annual *Pasta e Fagioli Carnival Dinner Dance Fundraiser* will be held on **Saturday March 1, 2025** at the Royalton Hospitality Inc, located at 8201 Weston Road, Woodbridge. All proceeds will go to support the children's mission of the Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception in places such as India and Africa. Please mark your calendars. Tickets are available in the parish office at the cost of \$120 for adults and \$60 for children (under 12). You can offer Pasta e fagioli tickets to your loved ones as a Christmas gift.

JOIN THE PILGRIMAGE TO EUROPE WITH FR. EUGENE CHIANAIN, CFIC

I will be leading a pilgrimage to **ITALY-SWITZERLAND-FRANCE** from July 19-30, 2025. During this holy journey, we shall visit St Peter's Basilica and the Vatican museums including Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel, and the Colosseum in Rome. Then we shall drive to Assisi to visit the Basilica of St Francis of Assisi, then to Venice by boat to the resting place of St Anthony of Padua and from Padua to Milan to visit the Milan Cathedral, one of the largest Gothic cathedrals in the world. On July 25, we shall attend the Bicentenary celebration of Blessed Luigi Monti, founder of the Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception. From Milan we will drive to Mount Rigi, Switzerland and enjoy panoramic views of the Swiss Alps and surrounding lakes. Then we shall drive to France and visit the Eiffel Tower and take a Seine River Cruise to see Paris. On July 30th we will fly back to Toronto. **The cost of the pilgrimage is \$5,500.** If you are interested, call the parish office or contact Johnson Chakkalal at 647-540-7909 or canada@magiholidays.com

Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Eugene Chianain

Family Outreach Committee's Adopt-a-Family Christmas Campaign

Please help a neighbouring family by donating non-perishable foods, toiletries, or grocery store gift cards. Items can be dropped off in our church lobby, and gift cards can be dropped off at the parish office.

Aiuta una famiglia bisognosa donando cibo a lungo scadenza o buono sconti per un negozio di alimentari.

Blessing of Baby Jesus Figurines

At each Christmas Eve Vigil Mass, there will be a blessing of all Baby Jesus figurines which you will put in your Nativity Scenes on Christmas.

Durante le Messe della Vigilia di Natale, ci sarà la benedizione delle statuine di Gesù Bambino che porrete nel vostro presepe per Natale.

Second Collection

During all the Christmas Masses there will be a second collection for the needs of our church.

Durante tutte le messe di Natale ci sarà una seconda colletta per i bisogni delle nostra chiesa

Christmas Flower Donations

We are accepting donations to purchase flowers to decorate the church for Christmas using the envelopes found in the lobby.

Si accettano donazioni per acquistare i fiori per decorare la chiesa per il Natale usando le buste che si trovano nell'atrio della chiesa.

Parish Office Closure

The Parish office will be closed on **Wednesday December 25, 2024, Thursday December 26, 2024 and Wednesday January 1, 2025.**

L'ufficio parrocchiale rimarrà chiuso mercoledì 25 dicembre, 2024, giovedì 26 dicembre, 2024 e mercoledì 1 gennaio, 2025.

Weekly Mass Intentions

Monday December 23

3-6pm	Advent Confessions
7pm	
7:30pm	Advent Confessions

Tuesday December 24 Christmas Eve

5pm	English Mass
9pm	English Mass
11pm	Italian Mass

Wednesday December 25 Christmas Day

8am	Italian Mass
9:30am	English Mass
11am	Italian Mass
12:30pm	English Mass
	NB: No 7pm Mass.

Thursday December 26 St. Stephen

7pm

Friday December 27 St. John

7pm	Anna Guercio
8pm	Tina Gurrieri

Congratulations!

Heartfelt congratulations to the jubilarians of the Carmelite Missionary Sisters of St. Therese of the Child Jesus: **Sr. Giovanna Micallef – 70th jubilee, Sr. M. Sylvia Spiteri – 50th jubilee, Sr. M. Elizabeth de Guzman – 25th jubilee and Sr. M. Milagros dela Pena – 25th jubilee.** They will be celebrating with a Thanksgiving Mass on **Saturday December 28, 2024 at 2pm** at Immaculate Conception Parish.

2025 NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Thanksgiving Mass
Santa Messa di Ringraziamento
Tuesday December 31, 2024
5:00pm: English

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Solennità di Maria, Madre di Dio
Wednesday January 1, 2025
8:00am: Italian
9:30am: English
11:00am: Italian
12:30pm: English
NB. No 7:00pm Mass