

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

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FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT February 18, 2024

Income Tax Receipts

Income tax receipts for the 2022 taxation year may be picked up from the parish office.

Le ricevute delle tasse per l'anno 2023 sono pronte e possono essere ritirate in ufficio parrocchiale.

Parish Office Closure

The Parish office will be closed on **Monday February 19, 2024** for the Family Day Holiday.

*L'ufficio parrocchiale rimarrà chiuso **lunedì 19 febbraio, 2024** per la Giornata della Famiglia.*

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent at 7:30 pm in English and at 8:15 pm in Italian.

Tutti i Venerdì di Quaresima alle ore 19,30 di sera in inglese e alle 20,15 in italiano.

Missione Parrocchiale di Quaresima in Italiano

*La Missione parrocchiale Quaresimale sarà predicata da **Don Francesco Armenti** nei giorni **26, 27 & 28 febbraio 2024 alle ore 19**. Il tema della missione sarà "La preghiera semina la gioia di Gesù" (Madre Teresa di Calcutta).*

New to the Parish or never registered?

We heartily welcome all who have recently joined the parish. We encourage you to register with the parish because it gives you a sense of belonging to a family of faith and allows the priest to get to know you more. You will also receive the donation envelopes and your donations are registered for tax receipt purposes. If you would like to register, please contact the parish office.

Diamo un cordiale benvenuto a tutti coloro che hanno recentemente fatto parte della parrocchia. Vi incoraggiamo ad iscrivervi alla parrocchia perché vi dà il senso di appartenenza a una famiglia di fede e permette al sacerdote di conoscervi di più. Riceverete anche le buste per le donazioni e le vostre donazioni saranno registrate ai fini della ricevuta fiscale. Se volete iscrivervi, contattate l'ufficio parrocchiale.

Parent/Child Workshop for First Holy Communion Candidates

All First Holy Communion candidates **must** attend the Parent/Child Workshop. Please bring the *We Share in the Eucharist* Book. Only parents and First Communion candidates should attend.

- Saturday February 24, 2024 from 1:45pm-4pm
St. Gabriel
- Sunday February 25, 2024 from 1:45pm-4pm
St. Catherine & Other Schools

Pre-Authorized Giving

The Archdiocese of Toronto has established a Pre-Authorized Giving Plan (PAG) to assist you in your support of the work of the parish through your regular parish offerings. Pre-authorized giving allows you to give to your parish through scheduled monthly transfers from your bank account or credit card. These funds are then deposited directly to the parish account. There are various benefits of participating in pre-authorized giving, both for you and for your parish.

Advantages for you:

- The convenience of having your offering automatically contributed to the parish.
- Knowing you continue to support the parish even when you are away.
- Continual support of ministries and programs funded through the parish

Advantages for the Parish:

- Regular, dependable contributions to the parish.
- Reduction of cash on hand.
- Reduction of paperwork.

Confirmation Retreat

All Confirmation candidates **must** attend a retreat at Immaculate Conception Parish on the following dates and times:

- Saturday March 2, 2024 from 10am – 12pm – *St. Catherine, St. Gabriel & Other Schools*
- Saturday March 2, 2024 from 1pm – 3pm – *St. John Bosco & Immaculate Conception*

Vocation Seeds

Lent: the springtime of the soul...is a time to make a new covenant with God, develop new signs of our relationship with our Creator. Go into your own desert and discover what God is asking of you. If you think God could be calling you, contact Fr. Eugene.

Weekly Mass Intentions

Monday February 19

7pm

8pm

Annunziata Serpa

Tuesday February 20

7pm

8pm

Maria Raponi

Carmela Bambaci

Wednesday February 21

7pm

8pm

Lori Condarcuri

Lidia Mastrantoni

Thursday February 22

The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

7pm

8pm

Giovanni Pincenti

Friday February 23

7pm

8:15pm

English Mass & Stations of the Cross

Via Crucis

Stewardship Reflection

During this First Sunday of Lent we hear the account of Jesus's temptation in the wilderness. Facing temptations is a part of life. When temptations come our way we must intentionally distance ourselves from the source of temptation and pray for strength. Perhaps one practice we can start is praying a Hail Mary as we physically walk away from any potential occasions of sin. Let us also realize that every sin is tempting us with a twisted version of something good. So instead of just running away from evil, let us run towards what is true, good and beautiful. For example, we won't fall into the temptation to gossip if we form the habit of building people up with our words. We will be less likely to get angry if we practice kind acts towards our neighbour. This Lent, let us begin to run away from sinful temptations and fill ourselves with good things from God instead. This will allow us to become holier stewards, which will lead to the revitalization of our parishes as our holiness and charity will point others to the love of Christ.