

St. Martin De Porres Parish

4179 Lawrence Avenue E. and Morningside Ave. Scarborough, ON M1E 2S3

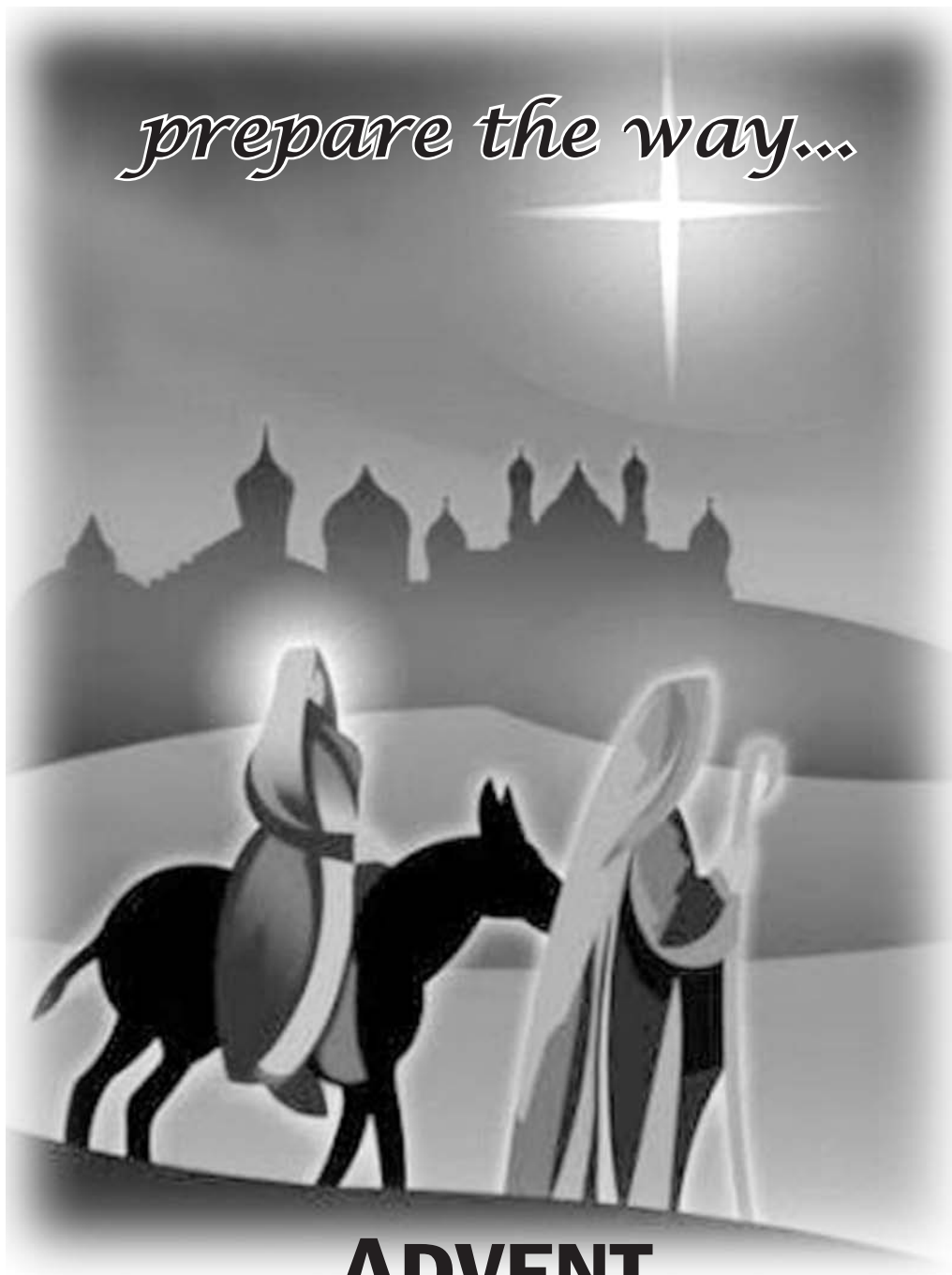
Email smartins.office@rogers.com • Parish Website smartindeporressc.archtoronto.org/

Phone 416-284-9192, 416-519-9663

Fax 416-284-0201

Parish Contacts

Pastor Rev. Anthony Gonsalves (ext 105) franthonygns@hotmail.com
Parish Office Secretary Zelena Cardoza (ext 104) zcardoza@archtoronto.org



prepare the way...

ADVENT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



1st Reading:
Micah 5.2-5a

2nd Reading:
Hebrews 10.5-10

Gospel:
Luke 1.39-45
(*The Visitation*)

4th Sunday of Advent

Lessons from our Mother

Mother Mary becomes the focal point of the Gospel on this fourth Sunday of Advent. Our Lady, shortly after discovering that she will conceive the Son of God, goes in haste to assist her cousin Elizabeth. After Jesus, Mary is the perfect model and example of how to live a life of deep stewardship. Let us take some time to reflect on this episode and glean insights on how we can better imitate her.

Firstly, we can learn a great lesson from how Mary “went with haste” to help Elizabeth. As stewards, we should not sit idle by and be half-hearted in our attempts to serve our neighbor. Whenever we see a need in our parish community, let us strive to utilize our gifts to readily offer our help and support.

Secondly, we should try to imitate Mary in her role of bringing Jesus to others. It was not so much Mary who brought help and comfort to Elizabeth, but rather, it was the presence of Jesus dwelling within her. As stewards, we need to constantly remind ourselves that it is not our own merits that bring about good and conversion in our parish. Rather, we must realize that everything is a result of the grace of God that is working through us. Let us conclude with the beautiful words of St. Teresa of Calcutta who says, “I’m a little pencil in the hand of a writing God, who is sending a love letter to the world.”

Summary

After Jesus, Mary is the perfect model and example of how to live a life of deep stewardship and we can learn a great deal by reflecting on her visitation. Firstly, we should imitate Mary’s “haste” in her visitation so that whenever we see a need in our parish community, we can readily use our gifts to help. Secondly, just as Mary brought the Child Jesus with her in her womb, we too need to constantly remind ourselves that it is not our own merits that bring about good, but Christ dwelling within us.

Regular Mass Schedule **Weekday Masses:**

Daily morning mass is celebrated Tuesday to Friday at 8:30 am

Weekend Schedule:

Saturday (Vigil) Mass **5:00 pm**

Sunday Masses **9:00 am, 10:30 am and 12:00 noon**

<https://stmartindeporssc.archtoronto.org/eg/>

Mass Intentions for the Week Dec 21 / 22, 2024

Saturday December 21st

5:00 pm +Thelma & Edwardo Alfelora
+ Maria D’Mello

Sunday December 22nd

9:00 am + May Ong

10:30 am - For All Parishioners

12:00 pm + CC & Gracy Menezes
- Thanksgiving & S.I. for Florence

Monday December 23rd

NO MORNING MASS

Tuesday December 24th (CHRISTMAS EVE)

8:30 am
6:00 pm - For the Church and the People
of our Parish

Wednesday December 25th (CHRISTMAS DAY)

8:30 am }
10:30 am } For the Church and the People
12:00 noon } of our Parish

Thursday December 26th

8:30 am

Friday December 27th

8:30 am + Ricardo Rustia (Death Anniversary)
+ Dominador & Patrocinio
Macaranas



CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

Tuesday December 24th - 6:00 pm

Christmas Day

Wednesday December 25th - 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 noon

New Year's Eve

Tuesday, December 31st - 5:00 pm

New Year Masses

Wednesday, January 1st - 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 noon

DONATIONS

TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A 2024 TAX RECEIPT

Donations must be received in the Parish office by 1:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, December 31st** to be included in your 2024 tax receipt (or post-marked by December 31, 2024, if mailed). Thank you.

Offering Envelopes

2025



Please pick up your 2025 donation envelopes from the church hall and start using them from January 1st.

DO NOT USE YOUR 2024 DONATION ENVELOPES IN THE NEW YEAR.

Thank you.

Parish Weekly Fact

What is interesting, is the origin of the word Christmas.

It means Christian Mass. It is a shortened form of Christ's Mass. Christmas is a time of spiritual reflection on the important foundations of the Christian faith. It is a celebration when Christians rejoice in God's love for the world through the birth of the Christ child, Jesus.



PARKING ON DEC 24th AND 25th

Please respect the fire routes and **DO NOT** park in front of them. Parking is on a first-come basis and additional parking is available at St. Martin de Porres Catholic School, which is adjacent to the church. Bylaw officers will issue tickets to those who do not comply especially during the holiday. Thank you for your cooperation.



Poinsettias To help decorate the church for Christmas.

The parish is asking for donations of Poinsettias. If you would like to donate poinsettias, please drop them off by Sunday, Dec. 22nd in the parish hall. We thank you for your generosity!



Let us Pray! For the sick members of our parish and for those who love and minister to them.



Christ is Born

Rejoice in the Lord this Christmas as we celebrate His glorious birth.

Let His love fill your home with peace and happiness.

Blessed Christmas greetings to you and your family.

From: Fr. Anthony Gonsalves and the Staff at St. Martin de Porres



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