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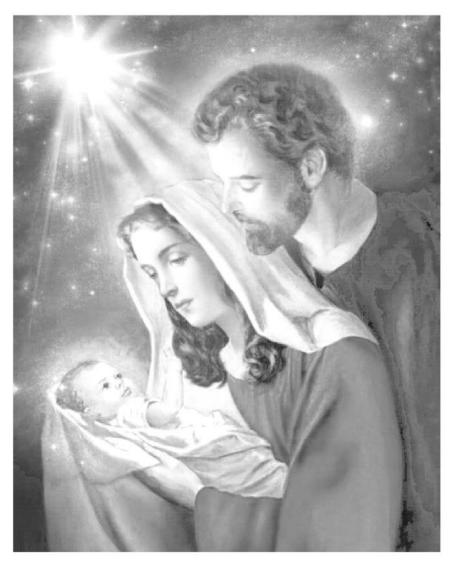
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#### **Pastoral Staff**

Rev. Damian Ali, Pastor Richard Te, Richard Noronha, Deacons Brenda Penney, Parish Bookkeeper Ella Alvares, Parish Secretary Carmen Pulis, Part-Time Office Assistant Arlene Morgan, Lay Pastoral Assistant



Feast of the Holy Family

# The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph December 28, 2025

## An Angel of the Lord Appeared to Joseph in a Dream

"Lord Jesus, make me a faithful servant of your word and guardian of your truth. Help me to obey you willingly, like Joseph and Mary, with unquestioning trust and with joyful hope." Amen.



#### MONDAY, December 29 - 7:00PM

- T Janet English
- T Kata Jakisa
- T Marie DeSouza

#### TUESDAY, December 30 - 8:30AM

- T Robert Gordon
- T Peter Kinh Tran

# <u>WEDNESDAY</u>, <u>December 31– 5:00PM – Vigil for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God</u>

S.I. Thanksgiving Mass

#### THURSDAY, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God - 10:00AM & 12:00PM

#### FRIDAY, January 2 -7:00PM

T Angela & Joseph Camilleri

#### SATURDAY, January 3 - 5:00PM

T Rita Dos Ramos

## SUNDAY, January 4 – 8:30AM, 10AM & 12 PM

Solemnity Of The Epiphany Of The Lord



- Bridge Club: Every Monday, 1pm –3:30pm –
   Resumes January 5, 2026
- The Men of St Francis: Every Saturday 8am-10:00AM, in the Parish Hall Resumes January 10, 2026.
   The Legion of Mary: Every Wednesday 5pm – 6:30pm, in the Parish Hall.
- Senior Ladies of St. Francis: Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 1pm 4pm
   Resumes January 13, 2026 in the Parish Hall.
- IN the Church:
- **Divine Mercy Chaplet:** Every Friday at 3PM
- Holy Hour: Every Friday at 6PM.
- Confession: Every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday at 6:15PM -6:45PM and every Saturday, 4PM 4:45PM.

#### **LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN** begins



again for children in **JK to Grade 3** during the 10am mass starting **Sunday**, **January 4th and every Sunday following**.

"Millions of Monicas" is a group of mothers who come together to lift up our children who are struggling to embrace their Catholic faith. Like
St. Monica, we pray for their joyful return to full unity with the Catholic Church. We will be holding this special prayer service every 1st Wednesday after the 7 pm mass. Whether you are a mother, a grandmother, aunt or a godparent, we encourage you to join us in prayer for our children's return to the Catholic Church.
See www.stirlingcross.ca for the 2026 dates or check with the Parish Office.



#### OBLIGATIONS TO ATTEND MASS DURING THE 2025 CHRISTMAS SEASON

Catholics are obliged to attend Mass for

the Feast of the Holy Family – Saturday evening, December 27, <u>OR</u> during the day on Sunday, December 28, <u>AND AGAIN for the Solemnity of Mary,</u> the Holy Mother of God –

Wednesday, evening, December 31, 5pm, (No 7pm Mass) <u>OR</u> on Thursday, January 1, 10am & 12pm (No 8:30am Mass)

**Friday, January 2 –** Regular Mass schedule resumes. 6pm, Holy Hour, 7pm Mass.



# CLOSING MASS FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR

Cardinal Leo is inviting the faithful of the Archdiocese to join him Sunday December 28 at 5pm at St. Michael's

Cathedral Basilica in Toronto for a special mass to conclude the Jubilee Year. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available with numerous priests present from 3:30 to 4:45pm. All are welcome!



# **2026 OFFERTORY ENVELOPE BOXES**

Offertory envelope boxes for 2026  $\,$ 

are available at the back of the church. Please take a box and <u>PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS on</u> the envelopes you use in the month of JANUARY <u>2026</u>. Just as a reminder we cannot issue tax receipts without this information.

If you would rather make your regular offerings through **Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG)**, kindly complete a PAG Form, which are available at the back of the Church and return to the Office.

Do NOT use your 2025 envelopes in the New Year.



#### **2025 DONATION TAX RECEIPTS**

**2025** is coming to a close. All

donations you wish to include for your 2025 Tax Receipt must be received no later than **December 31, 2025.** If your home address or telephone number have changed, please send us an email at <a href="mailto:stfrancisofassisimi@archtoronto.org">stfrancisofassisimi@archtoronto.org</a>.

Thank you for your continued support!

Dear Parishioners, Friends and Visitors,

May the peace and joy of Jesus Christ be with you and everyone special to you! As the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family, I pray that the families in our parish may more perfectly reflect the love and unity of Jesus, Mary and Joseph in their home at Nazareth. God entrusted each of us to our family to celebrate life, to be formed in faith and to receive support, guidance and inspiration as we journey toward the fulfillment of God's Kingdom.

I am truly grateful for the kindness, hospitality and generosity extended to me by my parish family here at St. Francis of Assisi during the past year, especially at Christmas, and for your willingness to forgive my flaws. I am particularly grateful for the ministry of Deacon Richard Te and Deacon Richard Noronha and for the personal support and encouragement I receive daily from them.

I am profoundly thankful for our very competent, dedicated and hard-working parish staff, all of whom consistently go above and beyond the mandate of their job descriptions. Sincere thanks to Arlene Morgan, who coordinates preparation and celebration of the sacraments and organizes activities for youth and families; Ella Alvares, our Parish Secretary; Carmen Pulis, our Office Assistant; Brenda Penney, the Parish Bookkeeper; Delia Cabioc, the rectory cook and housekeeper; Kimberly MacBride and Indee Imiyaralalage, who clean the church and parish hall.

I extend special thanks to all our ministry coordinators for all that they do and to all our parish volunteers. Our parish simply could not function without you, and, to be honest, we need more of you! Thank you to everyone for supporting the Sunday offertory collections, diocesan collections and ShareLife. I am also grateful to the members of the Parish Finance Council who have been prudently guiding the parish through what continues to be very challenging fiscal period. Our church has recently undertaken a major roof repair project. I trust I can count on our generous parishioners to continue their financial support of this endeavour.

Despite the challenges we face, adults and children continue to be initiated, and we celebrate the sacraments each year with reverence and joy. We do our best to support and strengthen active parishioners and we delight in welcoming new members. We also strive to care for the sick, the homebound, the poor and all who are in need.

Even though the Jubilee Year has come to an end, every day provides another opportunity to be renewed in faith and hope. Let us continue to proclaim the gospel in word and deed and do whatever we can to welcome back those who have been away from their faith or from parish life. It is never too late to return or to reconnect. I feel so blessed to be a part of this community of faith, love, joy and hospitality! Praised be Jesus Christ, now and forever!

Yours sincerely, Fr. Damian Ali, Pastor

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