

St. John Chrysostom Parish

432 Ontario St., Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 2K4

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Pastor: **Rev. Efren Alvarez-Pelayo**

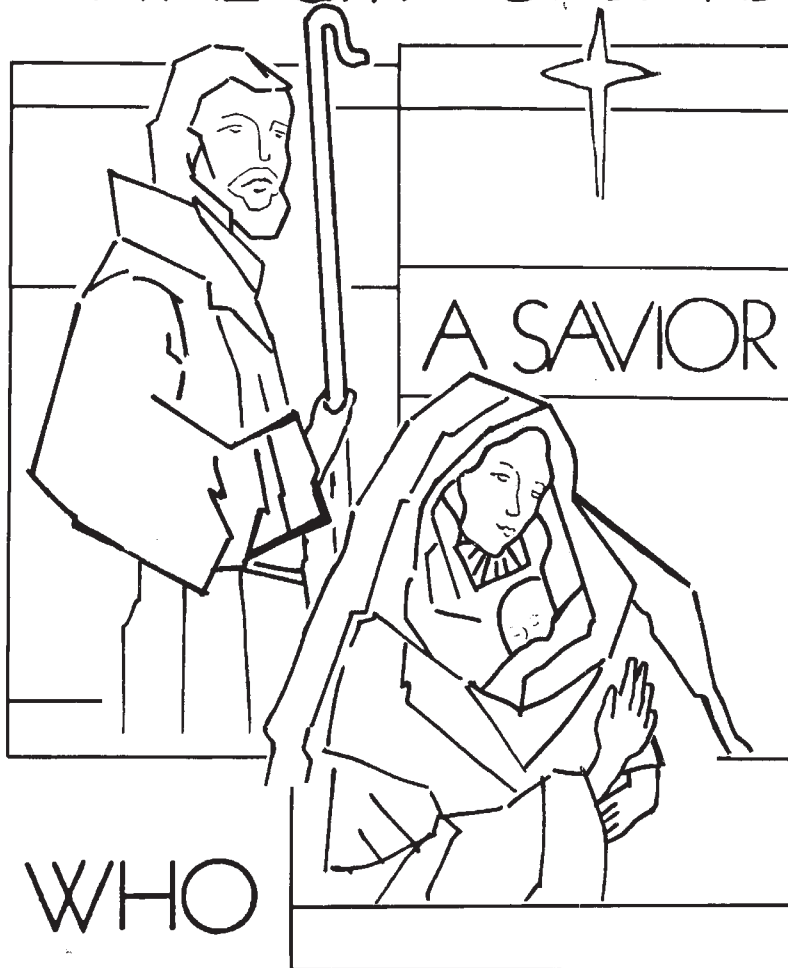
Associate Pastor: **Rev. Norbert Eyule**

Deacons: **Deacon Michael Miranda, Deacon Gary Johnson**

Catechist: **Christine Way Skinner** Parish Secretary: **Christine Allen**

BORN THIS DAY

IN THE CITY OF DAVID



WHO

IS CHRIST THE LORD

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions

Saturday December 23rd

5:00 pm Vigil Mass

◆ Pro-Populo

Sunday December 24th

8:30 am Mass

10:00 am Mass } ◆ Pro-Populo

Christmas Eve

4:00 pm Mass

6:00 pm Mass

8:00 pm Mass

10:00 pm Mass

} ◆ Pro-Populo

Christmas Day

8:30 am Mass

10:00 am Mass

12:00 pm Mass

} ◆ Pro-Populo

Tuesday, December 26th

7:00 pm Mass

† All Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, December 27th

12:10 pm Mass

† Alice Reynolds

Thursday, December 28th

8:00 am Mass

Friday, December 29th

8:00 am

† All Souls in Purgatory

7:30 pm Memorial Mass

† Adrianna Zonni

Saturday, December 30th

9:00 am Mass

† Peter & Mary Ennamorato

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp burns for the repose of the souls of:

† Tony and Mary Kielbiski



We ask for your prayers

Please pray for the sick:

Madeline Anta, Julie Anne McDonald, Elizabeth Skinner

Please pray for the deceased:

Marietta Abrasosa, Ron Steer

Attention:
There will be
no 12:00 PM
mass on
December 24th



An angel appears with a startling announcement to an otherwise insignificant housewife. Mary responds, "Let it be done unto me according to your word." Is there a way to understand her heart as she utters these words, so dramatically significant to the human race? Let us ask humbly on this last day of Advent for the grace to listen and to hear. The one who promised will not fail.

Christmas Flowers In Memoriam



Our parish places a great deal of thought into how we prepare the environment for worship. We welcome your help by making donations toward the cost of flowers this Christmas. These donations may be made "In Memory of Loved Ones" or "In Thanksgiving". You can do this by placing their name and your name on the envelope provided and submitted to the office or place them in the collection basket during mass. Envelopes are also available at the entrance of the church.

Thank you!!!

Dear parishioners: Through your loving and amazing generosity you have helped needy families and individuals throughout the year and during this joyous Christmas season. Thank you for your prayers and continued financial support. Thank you for seeing Jesus in those who are hungry and thirsty and in those who need comfort. We wish you all a blessed Christmas.



Christmas Play

Children who are still interested in joining the Christmas play are invited to participate in the following roles: Shepherds, Sheep and Choir. The rest of the roles are not longer available. The play takes place 15 minutes before the 4:00 PM mass on Christmas Eve.



Marriage Preparation Course



Couples who are planning to marry and have already set a date with a priest are invited to register for our marriage preparation course. This course is **suited for the engaged only**. Those who are in a civil marriage or have lived common law need to take a specialized marriage course upon consultation with the priest. At St. John Chrysostom Parish will be offering this course in the Parish Centre on **Tuesday, February 20** from 7 pm - 10 pm, **Thursday, February 22** from 7 pm - 10 pm and **Saturday, February 24** from 9am - 3 pm. Please call the office to register or for more information.

A happy and peaceful Christmas to all our Parishioners and to all who are visiting our parish at this time. Serving in the parish we are continually encouraged and edified by those who worship with us. At Christmas we remember that God has come near to us in Jesus Christ, our 'Emmanuel'. It is a time when we are reminded of the hope that we experience through the coming of our Saviour. The heart of the Christmas story is that, in Jesus, 'God has visited his people'. Let us make him welcome. I pray for all that the grace of the Christmas message will brighten our lives, renew our faith and strengthen our bonds of friendship. We know that some hearts in this town will be broken again on Christmas morning when that one special person is not there to open their gifts. For those whose children and spouses are with them, perhaps a prayer should come first before you open the gifts. Prayers for those for whom this day will never be the same again and hugs for those surrounding you whose life you hold as precious. We need to know that even in these darkest hours, there is still light, which will take us to the place where we need to be...it will take us to the heart of Christ who will heal our brokenness, remove our anger and hurt and fill us with the peace and strength we need to not just move forward but to reclaim the life that is ours as a community in Christ Jesus. Thank you for the incredible strength that you have been for us in these days and for lifting us up in your thoughts and your prayers. I pray a special Christmas for all of us this year and for all that this holy season can hold for us as believers. (Fr. Efrén Alvarez Pelayo)



May the Peace of Christ dwell in our hearts throughout 2018

Altar Servers

Children who have made their First Communion are welcome to join the Altar Servers ministry. All you need to do is sign up in the office and begin to serve right away. Altar Servers are trained as they serve. We ask that your child arrives 20 minutes before mass and begin the training under the guidance of experienced Altar Servers.



Sing Praises to the Lord!

It has been nearly twenty years since the parish last purchased hymnals. In consultation with the choir and the community, we have decided to purchase 300 copies of the 3rd Edition of the Glory and Praise Hymnal. This will supplement the Catholic Book of Worship which we are currently using and provide us with a wider variety of music to use in our praise and worship of God. If you would like to help contribute to the cost of the hymnals we will be offering you the opportunity to dedicate a book in memory of someone who has died or in thanksgiving for those who are still living. For a donation of \$30, we will provide you with a bookplate that will be placed in one of the new hymnals. Please watch for people at the back of the church to accept your donation and information.



I am interested in donating towards the new hymnals

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Number of Hymnals: _____

(Submit to the office or email info to the parish office email: see front of bulletin)



Offertory Envelopes

This weekend we are distributing the donation envelopes for 2018. At this time, we would like to give everyone an opportunity to consider donating by Pre-Authorized Giving or credit card. Please call the office for more information on

these methods of making your donations. If you are already donating by either one of those methods and no longer want to use a full box of envelopes, please call the office so that we may give you a box of envelopes containing only the special collection envelopes.

Sunday Missal

The Sunday missals are now available in the pews for use by parishioners. We ask that these missals **not be taken from the Church**. If you would like your own copy, please contact the parish office to have your name added to the list so that we can order more copies.

2016 Parish Finance Report

*"it's not how big your share is;
It's how much you can Share"*

I invite all the parishioners to make a special effort to take and review the **2016 Parish Finance Report** which will be distributed after mass as you leave the church. This is an important duty all pastors have in order to be accountable and transparent with the temporal goods of the parish. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Finance Council of the parish who has given much of their time and knowledge so that, together with me, the sacrificial giving of St. John's parishioners is treated with responsibility and respect. But most importantly, my gratitude goes to all those who, week after week, give generously and responsibly to our Sunday offertory making sure that we have the necessary funds to run the parish that provides the services our parish needs and values. I also invite those members of our parish who perhaps have not taken part in our common responsibility to care for our parish in all aspects. We all have different gifts, and we all are called to give sacrificially according to our gifts. Join us and share in our efforts to make St. John's Parish a community that shares in this responsibility.

Fr. Efren Alvarez Pelayo



Christmas and New Year Mass Schedule

Sunday, December 24

8:30am, 10am

12pm mass –cancelled

Christmas Eve

4, 6, 8, (9:30 pm carols)

& 10 pm mass

Christmas Day

8:30, 10 & 12 pm mass

Tue-Wed-Thurs-Fri

Regular Mass Schedule

December 30

5pm

Sunday, December 31

8:30am, 10am & 12pm

New Year's Eve

5pm

New Year's Day

10am

Tue-Wed-Thurs-Fri

Regular Mass Schedule

OFFICE HOURS

December 25 & 26

Office closed

December 27, 28, 29

9am-4pm

January 1 & 2

Office closed

January 3, 4, & 5

9am-4pm

January 7

Regular office hours resume

Pray for Vocations



We celebrate the birth of our Lord into our world; however, many have not received the birth of our Lord into their hearts. If Christ lives in your heart and you would like to help others discover the Lord, you may be called to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call **Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director at 416-968-0997** or **Email: vocations@archtoronto.org** www.vocationstoronto.ca

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