

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish

Home of the Filipino Catholic Mission

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PARISH STAFF

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The Nativity of the Lord

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD



THE PERFECT GIFT THIS CHRISTMAS....

One thing that is associated with the celebration of Christmas everywhere is giving. Christmas is the feast of giving. Christmas is the one time in the year when everyone is sure to give and receive a present, even if be only a Christmas card. People spent a lot of time and money shopping for the perfect Christmas gift. We put up Christmas trees to surprise family members with our gifts and to be surprised with theirs. Christmas is a feast of giving even from God's point of view. At Christmas we celebrate the mystery that "**God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life**" (John 3:16). God gives, and the people of God give, and that is Christmas.



If Christmas is the feast of giving, then the question of what to give and how to give becomes very important. After all what is worth doing is worth doing well. How can we improve on the quality of our giving? How can we improve on the quality of our Christmas celebration?

The beautiful story we read during the Advent season is the story of Mary visiting with Elizabeth. What gift did Mary bring to Elizabeth? We are not told that she brought foodstuff, although she might as well have brought some. We are told she brought just one thing: herself. She gave Elizabeth the **gift of her very presence**. And, dear friends, this is the **best and the hardest gift of all**. It is easy to send flowers, it is easy to send a parcel, chocolates, but to give the gift of **ourselves, to make out the time to be with somebody, that is the gift that many people** long for but do not receive at Christmas. Following Mary's example, we must, in addition to the flowers and parcels, give of ourselves, our presence, our time. We must find the time to visit and be with people. This is the greatest gift because its value cannot be calculated in terms of money.

Another point we can make out of Mary's gift to Elizabeth is that one should give not according to one's convenience but according to the needs of the receiver. It was not convenient for Mary to travel the lonely, dangerous road from Galilee to the hills of Judea. So Mary, as soon as she learned that Elizabeth was six months pregnant went with haste and stayed with her for about three months, meaning, until she gave birth. Mary gave to Elizabeth what she needed when she needed it. That is the perfect gift.

Do you know one thing everybody needs today? Everybody needs encouragement. Everybody needs the interior peace and joy that comes from the Holy Spirit. This is what Mary's visit did for Elizabeth. Mary's visit was an inspiration to Elizabeth. When we visit people this Christmas, let us try to bring some inspiration into their lives, let us seek to bring them closer to God, and let us try to share with them the Spirit of God in us, the Spirit of consolation, of courage, of peace and joy, just as Mary did.

***MERRY CHRISTMAS AND BLESSED NEW YEAR
TO ALL OF YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES!!!***

FROM: Fr. Lorenzo and Parish Staff



The devotees of Black Nazarene are inviting everyone to join us as we celebrate the

FEAST OF BLACK NAZARENE

On January 8, 2023 Sunday
Procession will start at 4:30 pm inside the church followed by Tagalog mass at 5pm.
Food will be served after the mass



DECEMBER 25th, 2022



December 26th-January 1st

Monday, December 26th

No Mass

Tuesday, December 27th

7:00pm—Divina Nones

Geronimo Fulgencio

Wednesday, December 28th

(Multiple Intentions)

7:00pm—Maria Lourdes Aitchison

Ynocencio Maria Delgado

Thursday, December 29th

7:00pm—Pro Populo

Friday, December 30th

7:00pm—Pedro George Enriquez

Cora Nastor

Bibina Espique

Saturday, December 31st

5:00pm— (Tagalog) - For OLA Community

8:00pm—For OLA Community

12:00 Midnight—For OLA Community

Sunday, January 1st

9:00am— For OLA Community

10:30Noon—For OLA Community

12:00Noon—For OLA Community

—No Evening Masses —



NEW YEAR'S EVE

Saturday, December 31st, 2022

5:00pm— Filipino Mass
(Tagalog)

8:00pm— Family Mass
(English)

12:00am— Midnight Mass
(English)

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Sunday, January 1st, 2023

9:00am— Mass (English)

10:30 am— Mass (English)
(Livestreaming)

12:00Noon— Mass (English)

(No Evening Masses)



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For Information, please call Fr. Lorenzo as 416-787-4547

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Our Coordinator: Patricia Martyn 416-629-0350

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**Marriage Sunday:
Celebration of Marriage Mass**



As part of Marriage Sunday 2023 celebrations, Bishop Nguyen will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, especially those celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+) in 2023. The Mass will take place at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 12, 2023 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto). All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their vows and milestone anniversary celebrants will be honoured with a special blessing.

The Mass is open to all, but due to space restrictions those wishing to attend are asked to register online. Milestone anniversary celebrants will be assured of reserved seating. All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who are unable to attend the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass here: <https://youtu.be/EBvFgH4a1n4>. The broadcast will begin at 2:15 p.m.



**Thank You for Your
Financial Support**

If you are unable to join us for mass at this time please consider the options of either through our [Pre-Authorized Giving Program](#), or an electronic donation by credit card through the "Donate Now" button at the top right corner of the Archdiocese of Toronto [website](#). For information, Please call the parish office at 416-787-4547.

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