

Prepare Ye  
the Way of  
the Lord



Advent is a time for waiting, preparing and hoping. Too often our waiting is spent in shopping lines and post offices; our preparing means rushing around to get cards addressed and gifts wrapped, and our major hope for the season is that we get everything done in time for the big day. Probably not exactly what those wise folks had in mind when they set aside four weeks of preparation. Each year we tell ourselves, "This year it will be different." May this time be good.



We light the first **PURPLE** Candle, which symbolizes hope. For many years the faithful looked forward to the coming of the Messiah. We look forward with the eyes of faith and hope.

**ADVENT** designates the present day coming or final coming of Christ. The English term advent comes from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "coming" and is primarily to designate a period before Christmas during which Christians prepare for the Christmas season and reflect on the meaning of the coming of Christ.

## Sacramental Prep

**Did you miss Registration for First Holy Communion or Confirmation? It's not too late. Please attend a Prep Class.**

**First Communion Prep Class #2 at 10:45 a.m.**  
Sunday December 1, 2024 at St. Gregory the Great Parish Hall (190 Simcoe St. N.)

**Confirmation Prep Class #1 at 10:45 a.m.**  
Sunday December 8, 2024 in Holy Cross Parish Hall.

### RCIA Course

Would you like to become a Catholic, or are you a Catholic who has not been confirmed? Join us on **Tuesdays at 7 pm** in St. Gregory's Hall.



### ALL LADIES OF THE C.W.L.

Meeting and Annual Christmas Dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 at 6pm at Swiss Chalet at Stevenson and Laval.

### Young Adults at St. Gregory The Great & Holy Cross Socials and Faith Formation



**Who:** ages 18-39. **Next social is Dec. 7**

**Socials:** Every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month 6:30-9:30pm

**Faith Formation: WISDOM** A nine-part faith formation program. Next meeting is **Feb 15**, 6:30pm – 9:30pm

**Where:** St. Gregory's Parish Hall 190 Simcoe St. N.

**Connect and Register:** [stgregsandholycrossya@gmail.com](mailto:stgregsandholycrossya@gmail.com)

**Instagram:** @stgregsandholycrossya

<https://linktr.ee/stgregsandholycrossya>



Holy Cross and St. Gregory's have started a group for our youth in grades 6-8. The next meeting will be on **Wednesday December 18 and will be a Christmas Social from 6:15 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in St. Gregory's Hall**. It will run every other Wednesday. Download [registration form](https://linktr.ee/vmstghc) <https://linktr.ee/vmstghc> or scan QR code. For more information or to register, please contact our youth minister Kim Carson at: [vmstghc@archtoronto.org](mailto:vmstghc@archtoronto.org)



### Jubilee of Youth 2025



Join Fr. Paul Magyar, Fr. Marijan, and the OCY team for a pilgrimage of a life time! Please fill out the form in the

link below to receive updates about our information session and registration.

### Event Details:

**Date:** July 23<sup>rd</sup> – August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025, in Rome, Italy

**Interest Form:** <https://bit.ly/YA25Jubilee>

### Information for 2025

#### Mass Intentions

We are now booking Mass Intentions and the Sanctuary Lamp for 2025. Please call or come to the Office during Office hours.

**Please note:** only one Sunday Mass will be available as the other Mass will be for the Parish.

#### Envelopes

2025 envelopes are available in the foyer of the Church and are in alphabetical order.

#### Mass Books

2025 Missals are now available and have been graciously provided by an anonymous donor, but if you would like to still make a donation, please place it in the box provided.

#### Calendars

2025 calendars will be available soon for a minimum donation of \$2.00 each.

**Please remember Holy Cross Parish in your will.**





# Holy Cross CWL Christmas Cookie Sale

Saturday, December 7 after the 4:30 p.m. Mass &  
Sunday, December 8 after the 12-noon Mass

All proceeds will be going to support the CWL's many charities.



### Renovation Collection

This weekend there will be a second collection for the Parish Renovation Fund.

## Advent Confessions

In preparation for Christmas, and especially for worthy reception of the Eucharist, two priests will hear confessions:

### December 12 - Holy Cross Parish

3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

### December 13 - St. Gregory the Great Parish

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. & 3:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

### December 19 - Holy Cross Parish

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

The Holy Catholic Church wants us to have confession minimally once a year. Thus, in *Catechism of the Catholic Church* number 2042, we read, "The second precept [of the Church] ("You shall confess your sins at least once a year.") ensures preparation for the Eucharist by the reception of the sacrament of reconciliation, which continues Baptism's work of conversion and forgiveness". Refusing to have confession at least once a year, we prevent ourselves from reception of the Eucharist.



### Angel Tree

Our "Angel Tree" is back! Please consider donating gift cards of any value redeemable at various local stores such as Walmart, Superstore, Old Navy, Giant Tiger etc. We will also accept cash which will be converted to gift cards. There is a box at the front of the Church to put them in until **NEXT SUNDAY December 8<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you for your support!



### Thank you!!!!

A great big **THANK YOU** to all parishioners who purchased Christmas cards. Thank you for your support.



The Parish Office will be closed from December 20<sup>th</sup> at 2:00p.m. We will re-open on Friday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

If there is an emergency that you need a priest right away, please call St. Gregory's Parish at: 905-723-8141.



ShareLife

Our goal this year is **\$19,500.00**. To date we have achieved **\$18,154.00**. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](https://sharelife.org/donate)

## MASS Intentions

### Saturday November 30 Holy Cross

**4:30pm** For the People of Our Parish

### Sunday December 1 Holy Cross

**12-noon** †Ermelinda Pinto

### Tuesday December 3

**St. Gregory the Great at 12:10 p.m.**

### Wednesday December 4 Holy Cross

**8:30am** †Peter Bombini, †Tom & Lucy Ashworth,  
†Margaret Murphy

### Thursday December 5 Holy Cross

**8:30am** †Luigi & Restituta Cappuccitti,  
Marilyn Johnson

### Friday December 6: Confessions & adoration -

**St. Gregory's - 6 p.m.-6:45 p.m.**

**Mass St. Gregory the Great at 7:00 p.m.**

### Saturday December 7 Holy Cross

**3:30 pm - 4:15 pm Adoration and Confessions**

**4:30pm Holy Cross** †Antonio & Emma Giarrizzo

### Sunday December 8

**St. Gregory the Great at 8:00 a.m.**

**St. Gregory the Great at 9:30 a.m.**

**12noon Holy Cross** For the People of Our Parish

Have a good day, a great week and remember to give yourself the gift of time.

Please remember Holy Cross Parish in your will.