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# **OUR LADY OF PEACE PARISH**

## A WELCOMING CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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PASTOR: Fr. Yaw Acheampong



Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

#### **Welcome To Our Lady of Peace Parish**

Our Lady of Peace Parish warmly welcomes parishioners, children and adults for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Our Lady of Peace also welcomes visitors who are joining us for the celebration. Your physical presence here is a sign of life in our community.

#### Children's Liturgy

Resumes on Sunday, February 12, 2023 at the 11:00 AM Mass. Parents are encouraged to attend Mass with their children who are preparing to celebrate 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion this year.

## THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD - JANUARY 1, 2023

Today is the first day of the new calendar year 2023. In the Church, today is celebrated as the Solemnity of the Divine Motherhood of Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Today is also World Day of Peace. Sacred Scripture tells us that by accepting to be the Mother of Jesus, Mary played a special role in God's plan for his people. As Roman Catholics, we have special devotion to the Mother of Jesus. Our devotion to the Mother of Jesus is focused on her service to the Lord. Mary in becoming the Mother of God acted simply in loving submission to the command of God, in the pure obedience of faith. The work that was done in her is purely the work of God. It is the faith and the fidelity of Mary that enabled her to be the perfect instrument of God. Mary is an embodiment of every virtue that Christians are called to develop--courage, caring, humility, gentleness and love. Mary is described as the first disciple of the Lord. As Christians we can learn from Mary's faith.

Fr. Yaw Acheampong

#### **Office Hours**

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:30 AM – 5:00 PM COVID-19 Safety Protocols in place.

#### **Office Hours**

The office will be closed on Monday, January 02, 2023.

## The Joy of Service Stewards Make Our Parish

As baptized people, we are called to use our God-given gifts to live out our baptismal promises as disciples and stewards. You may consider responding to your baptismal call by becoming one of the ministers in the various ministries in the parish. Please see the two white binders at the back of the church for the description describing all the various ministries for the description in the parish.



#### THE SOLEMNITY OF EPIPHANY - 2023

On Sunday, January 8, 2023, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Epiphany--the manifestation or the revelation of the child Jesus to the whole world. The celebration focuses on a story of some wise men or magi. The purpose of their journey was to search for the newborn baby, Jesus whom they described as the King of the Jews. Traditionally, these three people represent the non-Jewish people--the Gentiles at that time. They did not have the revelation of God. The homage of the wise men to Jesus symbolizes that all nations now adore the Lord.

The journey of the magi speaks to us about our own journey of faith. Like the magi, we keep searching for Jesus who has come to offer us life in abundance. As we celebrate Epiphany, let us turn to Jesus to lead us in his light on our path to eternal life.

Fr. Yaw Acheampong

## THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD-2023

This year we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on the Monday after the Epiphany--January 9, 2023. The celebration marks the end of the Season of Christmas. In a homily given by Pope Benedict XVI on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord in 2013, he wrote "Jesus shows His solidarity with us, with our efforts to convert and to be rid of our selfishness, to break away from our sins in order to tell us that if we accept Him in our life, He can uplift us and lead us to the heights of God and Father." As we celebrate the baptism of the Lord, we are called to remember our own baptism. As Jesus' baptism inaugurated his mission to serve, our own baptism calls us to serve. Today let us be mindful of our commitment to live out our baptismal promises to be faithful disciples and stewards.

Fr. Yaw Acheampong

#### THE SEASON OF ORDINARY TIME 2023

The Season of Ordinary Time of Year A begins on Tuesday-January 10- after the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on Monday, January 9, 2023. The Ordinary Time will continue till Tuesday February 21. The celebration of Ash Wednesday on February 22 leads us into the Seasons of Lent and Easter. Ordinary Time resumes on the Monday, May 29 after the Sunday of the Solemnity of Pentecost on May 28. During Ordinary Time, the Church "celebrates the fullness of the mystery of the Lord Jesus." The liturgical colour for Ordinary Time is green. In the Liturgical Year A. Fr. Yaw Acheampong



Dec 31	Sat	5:00 PM	No Announced Mass
Jan 01	Sun	9:00 AM	No Announced Mass
Jan 01	Sun	11:00 AM	No Announced Mass
Jan 03	Tues	9:00 AM	+ Arthur Gordanier
Jan 04	Wed	9:00 AM	+ Michael O'Shea
Jan 05	Thur	9:00 AM	In Thanksgiving
Jan 06	Fri	9:00 AM	+ Carm & Jack Langlois
Jan 06	Fri	7:00 PM	No Special Intention
Jan 07	Sat	9:00 AM	No Special Intention
Jan 07	Sat	5:00 PM	<b>OLP Parishioners</b>
Jan 08	Sun	9:00 AM	+ Norma Palma
Jan 08	Sun	11:00 AM	+ Stefan Lavor



SANCTUARY CANDLES



<u>January 01 - 07, 2023</u> Sacred Heart: + Dino Snidero

#### The Offering for the Celebration of Mass

Our Lady of Peace is still accepting 2023 Mass Offerings for parish weekday Masses (Tuesday – Saturday morning) and weekend Masses including Saturday Vigil. The suggested offering for an Announced Mass is \$20 per Mass and for an Unannounced Mass, \$10. Please note that an Unannounced Mass may be celebrated elsewhere.

#### **Sponsorship of Sanctuary Candles**

There are six candles each week available for sponsorship; a set of two candles by the tabernacle, a set of two candles by the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and a set of two candles by St. Joseph side altars. Each set of candles cost \$20.

#### Our Parish, Our Spiritual Home

Our Lady of Peace happily welcomes all God's people to come and join us as a community of believers. Our Lady of Peace church is where we come together to celebrate Mass and also other sacraments. This is the place where we come together for spiritual support and growth. As members of a believing community, we have the duty of providing for the needs of the parish, each according to his or her abilities. Just as we care for our families and homes, our parish also needs our faithful assistance in the form of sharing our time, talent and treasure. Thank you for your support to the parish. Fr. Yaw Acheampong

#### **Special Thanks**

I thank you all for coming to Mass. I would also like to thank parishioners who continue to support Our Lady of Peace. I thank our ministers who continue to serve the parish.

May God continue bless you.

Fr. Yaw

# Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service 2023

#### Sunday, January 22, 2023 – 4 PM

Join His Eminence Cardinal Thomas Collins and a wide representation of Christian leaders to pray for the restoration of full visible unity willed by Jesus Christ for the Church at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (73 Simcoe St. at King St. W. in Toronto) on Sunday, January 22, 2023 at 4:00 PM. This event is jointly organized by the Office for Promoting Christian Unity and the Greater Toronto Area Council of Christian Church.

# Archdiocese of Toronto A Celebration of Marriage

Mass with Bishop Vincent Nguyen
Sunday, February 12, 2023 – 2:30 PM Mass
St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica
65 Bond Street, Toronto
For Information and Registration:
www.archtoronto.org/marriage

## Congratulations

We congratulate the following babies who received the Sacrament of Baptism at Our Lady of Peace Church from July - December 2022

Luce Nicola Iacobazzi
Ava Angela Bostelaar
Luke Mendonca
Mason Paul Dimech
Katherine Mary Mac Eacheron
Hudson Van Nguyen

We also congratulate the following couple who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage at Our Lady of Peace Church from July - December 2022

Roman Trkulja & Giuseppina Carnovale

#### **Departed Parishioners**

Our brothers and sisters who have passed away from July - December 2022

Malcolm Houston Kimberley Ann Lawlor Norma Lopez Palma Irene Wroblewski Paula Irma Terpstra

May They Rest in the Peace of Christ



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