



ST. BENEDICT PARISH 2017 ADVENT & CHRISTMAS CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Christmas Novena of Masses</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>One of the best things about celebrating Christmas is the final days leading up to Christmas Eve. There are several long-standing Catholic cultural traditions that take us through these final days of Advent – heightened with anticipation in so soon welcoming the birth of the King of Kings. The Las Posadas (“The Inns”) celebrated in Latin American countries and Simbáng Gabi (“Night Mass”) in the Philippines are just two examples of nine-day celebrations beginning on December 15. As the Christmas Novena of Masses aims to prepare our hearts for the coming of our savior, Jesus Christ, plan with your family and friends to save these evenings, December 15-23, to make this year’s Christmas preparation meaningful.</i></p> 						
December 3 1st Sunday of Advent Masses 8:00 am 9:30 am Italian 9:30 am English 11:00 am 12:45 pm	4 Mass 8:00 am	5 Reconciliation 7:00 pm-7:30 pm Rosary 7:00 pm Mass 7:30 pm	6 Mass Virtue~Charity 8:00 am	7 Mass 8:00 am	8 Immaculate Conception Mass 8:00 am Mass & The Visitation 7:00 pm Feast day Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Praise & Worship Music with Fellowship to follow	9 Mass 8:00 am Reconciliation 4:30 pm – 5:00 pm Mass 5:00 pm Knights of Columbus Turkey Roll 6:00 pm
10 2nd Sunday of Advent Masses 8:00 am 9:30 am Italian 9:30 am English 11:00 am* 12:45 pm *New Salesian Cooperators make their Promise to live their lives in the charism of Don Bosco.	11 Mass 8:00 am	12 Reconciliation 7:00 pm-7:30 pm Rosary 7:00 pm Mass 7:30 pm	13 Mass 8:00 am DAY OF CONFESSIONS <small>ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO</small> St. Andrews 9–10 am Trans 10am – 2 pm St. Andrews 4–7 pm St. Benedict 6–9 pm	14 Mass 8:00 am	15 Mass 8:00 am Christmas Novena Mass: Day 1 7:30 pm	16 Mass 8:00 am Delivery~SVDP Baskets Reconciliation 4:30 pm – 5:00 pm Mass 5:00 pm Christmas Novena Mass: Day 2 7:30 pm
17 3rd Sunday of Advent Masses 8:00 am 9:30 am Italian 9:30 am English 11:00 am 12:45 pm Christmas Novena Mass: Day 3 7:30 pm	18 Mass 8:00 am Christmas Novena Mass: Day 4 7:30 pm	19 Reconciliation 7:00 pm-7:30 pm Rosary 7:00 pm Mass 7:30 pm Christmas Novena Mass: Day 5 7:30 pm	20 Mass 8:00 am Christmas Novena Mass: Day 6 7:30 pm	21 Mass 8:00 am Christmas Novena Mass: Day 7 7:30 pm	22 Mass 8:00 am Christmas Novena Mass: Day 8 7:30 pm	23 Mass 8:00 am Reconciliation 4:30 pm – 5:00 pm Mass 5:00 pm Christmas Novena Mass: Day 9 7:30 pm

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
24 4 th Sunday of Advent Sunday Masses 8:00 am 9:30 am Italian 9:30 am English 11:00 am 12:45 pm Christmas Eve Masses 5:00 pm Youth Mass 8:00 pm Cantor 11:30 pm Carols 12:00 am Adult Choir	25 Christmas Day 8:00 am 9:30 am Italian 9:30 am English 11:00 am 12:45 pm Eucharistic Adoration Chapel Opens 2:00 pm	26 Feast of St. Stephen Reconciliation 7:00 pm-7:30 pm Mass 7:30 pm	27 Mass 8:00 am	28 Mass 8:00 am	29 Mass 8:00 am	30 Mass 8:00 am Reconciliation 4:30 pm – 5:00 pm Mass 5:00 pm
31 Feast of Holy Family with blessing of families Sunday Masses 8:00 am 9:30 am Italian 9:30 am English 11:00 am 12:45 pm Chapel Remains Closed Solemn Vigil Masses Mary, Mother of God 5:00 pm 9:00 pm	January 1 Mary, Mother of God Masses 8:00 am 9:30 am Italian 9:30 am English 11:00 am 12:45 pm Eucharistic Adoration Chapel Opens 2:00 pm	2 Reconciliation 7:00 pm-7:30 pm Rosary 7:00 pm Mass 7:30 pm	3 Mass 8:00 am	4 Mass 8:00 am	5 Mass 8:00 am 1 st Friday Mass 7:30 pm	6 Mass 8:00 am Reconciliation 4:30 pm – 5:00 pm Mass 5:00 pm
7 Epiphany Masses 8:00 am 9:30 am Italian 9:30 am English 11:00 am 12:45 pm	8 Baptism of our Lord Mass 8:00 am	9 Reconciliation 7:00 pm-7:30 pm Rosary 7:00 pm Mass 7:30 pm	<h2><i>Keep Hope Alive</i></h2> <p>This Advent season, as we prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas, let's reflect on hope. Recall the passage from Isaiah, in which God tells the prophet, first, to console his people, and then to "make straight the path of the Lord." This prophetic message was addressed to the people of Israel when they were living the tragedy of the exile in Babylon, when they had been taken out of their own land and deprived of their freedom and dignity, and even their trust in God. But the call of the prophet opens their hearts anew to faith. It is precisely in the desert that they hear his call, it is precisely there that a new journey can be made in order to return not only to their homeland, but to God.</p>			

In Jesus' time, the Israelites were once again living a kind of exile, living as strangers in their own land because of the oppression of the Romans. But it was not the powerful who made history; rather, history is what God made together with his little ones, like Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, and the shepherds, the simple, humble people who gathered around Jesus at his birth. These are the little ones, made great by their faith, the little ones who know that they must keep hope alive. Let us allow ourselves, then, to teach hope, to faithfully await the coming of the Lord, and whatever desert we might have in our life will become a flowering garden.

Pope Francis, Excerpts from: In Advent, it is important to reflect on hope