

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION** Mother Mary becomes the focal point of the Gospel on this fourth Sunday of Advent. Our Lady, shortly after discovering that she will conceive the Son of God, goes in haste to assist her cousin Elizabeth. After Jesus, Mary is the perfect model and example of how to live a life of deep stewardship. Let us take some time to reflect on this episode and glean insights on how we can better imitate her. Firstly, we can learn a great lesson from how Mary “went with haste” to help Elizabeth. As stewards, we should not sit idle by and be half-hearted in our attempts to serve our neighbour. Whenever we see a need in our parish community, let us strive to utilize our gifts to readily offer our help and support. Secondly, we should try to imitate Mary in her role of bringing Jesus to others. It wasn’t so much Mary who brought help and comfort to Elizabeth, but rather, it was the presence of Jesus dwelling within her. As stewards, we need to constantly remind ourselves that it is not our own merits that bring about good and conversion in our parish. Rather, we must realize that everything is a result of the grace of God that is working through us. Let us conclude with the beautiful words of St. Teresa of Calcutta who says, “I’m a little pencil in the hand of a writing God, who is sending a love letter to the world.”

After Jesus, Mary is the perfect model and example of how to live a life of deep stewardship and we can learn a great deal by reflecting on her visitation. Firstly, we should imitate Mary’s “haste” in her visitation so that whenever we see a need in our parish community, we can readily use our gifts to help. Secondly, just as Mary brought the Child Jesus with her in her womb, we too need to constantly remind ourselves that it is not our own merits that bring about good, but Christ dwelling within us.

*Taken from excerpts from the Archdiocese of Toronto website.*

## **POINSETTIAS NEEDED!!**

As we get closer to Christmas, we are preparing the Church for our celebrations. Please help us with our preparations by donating Poinsettia plants to us.



We will be accepting these beautiful flowers during the week before Christmas, that is from Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> to Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> by 2:00 pm.. You may drop them off at the parish office during office hours.

**VOCATION REFLECTION** Are you called to follow in the footsteps of Mary as a priest, deacon or religious to carry the Good News of God’s great Love?

Contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

[vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)  
[www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)

## **CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

**We are raffling off three Nativity Scenes!**

Tickets can be purchased during the weekend Masses, or from the Parish office during office hours.

**Tickets prices: 1 for \$2.00**

**3 for \$5.00**

**7 for \$10.00**

# ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

## NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER & DANCE

Tuesday, December 31, 2024

*Doors open at 6:00 pm*

*Dinner will begin to be served at 6:45 pm*

**Come ring in the New Year with your Church Family!!**

**\*\*\* Presenting an 8-Course Meal!!\*\***

◆ Antipasto (including Seafood Salad)

◆ Stracciatella Chicken Soup

◆ Lasagna

**ENTRÉE** Roast Beef, Potatoes, Veggies  
Tossed Garden Salad

◆ Fresh Fruit

◆ Ice Cream Parfait

◆ Cannoli

◆ Tea & Coffee

**\*One bottle each Red & White wine on each table**

**\*Champagne at Midnight**

**\*Fruit Punch Fountain**

**\*Cash Bar**

**\*Door Prize & Raffle Prizes**

**\*Music by DJ & featuring Canadian singer/songwriter Pierina Cincinnato**

**Adults - \$80.00, Children (5 - 12 yrs. old) \$40.00,**

**Children under 5 yrs. - free**

**For tickets contact Freda Mifsud at 416-762-1891**

**\*\*Payments & Bookings must be made no later than Thursday, December 26th\*\***

**\*\*\* We want our New Year's Eve dinner and dance to be a fun and safe event for everyone! We kindly ask you to drink responsibly, and not drink and drive. If you plan to drink alcohol, please arrange a ride home with a sober driver, a Taxi/Uber or a ride-sharing service.**

**We will have non-alcoholic beverages available for those who prefer them. \*\*\***