

St. Joseph's welcomes first baby of 2011

LISA RAINFORD
January 4, 2011

Little Ruby Jean Callan's birthday will always fall on a holiday.

St. Joseph Health Centre's first baby of the new year arrived at 12:23 a.m., Jan. 1. She is her parents' Christine and Michael's first child. And, Ruby's birth did not go as originally planned, confessed her mother on the phone from her hospital room, Monday, Jan. 3, the sound of her baby gurgling in the background.

"We had tried for a natural birth," said Christine.

Instead, the couple found themselves prepping for a C-section. Initially scheduled for 9:30 p.m., Christine was wheeled into the operating room at midnight. "We were all wishing each other 'Happy New Year's' in the OR," said the 33-year-old Mimico resident.

Twenty-three minutes later, Ruby made her debut - 12 days after her due date. She was a healthy 7 lbs. 3 oz. and 50 centimetres long.

Happy to have an extra day or so in the hospital, Christine said that as a new mom, she has welcomed the extra support.

"St. Joe's has been awesome, there's great staff here," she said.

The couple has seen countless family and friends over the weekend who have come to visit their new addition. Michael's parents, who live in Stratford where he grew up, are staying with family in Toronto to be close to their grandchild. Christine's family is originally from Montreal, but have been living in Toronto since she was 12.

"We're on a natural high. It's total bliss right now," said Christine about parenthood. "The tiredness will kick in for sure, but it's a very loving feeling."

And just how did the couple decide on their baby's name?

"My husband and I have loved the name for a long time.

"We've been together a long time and had the name for five years. 'Jean' is my husband's mom's middle name," said Christine.

Already feeling quite "blessed," the couple says it's pretty special their baby was the first baby of 2011 born at St. Joe's.

"Her birthday is 01 01 '11, which is pretty cool," said Christine.



St. Joseph's welcomes first baby of 2011. Ruby Jean Callan, born 23 minutes after midnight, Jan. 1, was St. Joseph's Health Centre's first baby of the new year. *Courtesy photo*

This article is for personal use only courtesy of InsideToronto.com - a division of Metroland Media Group Ltd.
