## DECEMBER 24, 2023

## PASTOR'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2023

"While they were [in Bethlehem], the time came for [Mary] to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn" (Luke 2:6-7).

Jesus Christ became man in a town whose name means «House of Bread» and for a cradle He was placed in a feeding trough for the animals. Later Jesus would declare «I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty" (John 6:35). Jesus came down to us as heavenly food. The deepest desires of our hearts, as divine as that star which marked the place of Christ's birth, are not satiated by regular food, by the things that this world has to offer. When we try to satisfy these heart-felt longings with things which do not correspond we are only left frustrated. Our humble Lord descends to us as "the living bread come down from heaven" (John 6:51). When we allow our hearts and souls to be nourished by this living bread we no longer hunger or thirst and we discover the true meaning of Christmas!
May the Christ Child bestow abundant blessings upon you and all your loved ones this Christmas Season.

In Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,
Fr. Alessandro

## Wishing you and your families

## Merry Christmas \& Happy New Year!

 Fr. Alessandro, Deacon Mike and Parish Staff

ADORATION CHAPEL is open from 7:15am to 9 pm , from Monday to Friday. Please do not enter after 9 pm as the alarm will be activated. Thank you. EUCHARISTIC QUOTE
"Perpetual Adoration, Eucharistic Adoration offers to our people the opportunity to join those in religious life to pray for the salvation of the world, souls everywhere and peace on earth. We cannot underestimate the power of prayer and the difference It will make in our world."

St. Teresa of Calcutta

## HOST AND WINE donated for December $24^{\text {th }}$ Masses, <br> In Loving Memory of Gracy Abreo

 Gift of Son Lebert \& FamilyIf you are interested in donating the Host and Wine in memory of dear one, please contact the office, 604-298-4144. Donations are tax deductible.

## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

 Sunday, December 24 - Christmas Eve4:00 pm; 12:00 am - Midnight nday, December 25 - Christmas 8:30 am; 10:00 am (Italian); 11:30 am unday, December 31 - NO EVENING MASS
Monday, January 1 - New Year's Day - Mary, Mother of God 8:30 am; 10:00 am (Italian); 11:30 am

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PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED on DEC. 25, DEC. 26 \& JAN 1 OFFICE HOURS - WED. DEC. $27^{\text {TH }}$ - FRI. JAN. $5^{\text {TH }} 9: 00 A M-12: 00 \mathrm{PM}$ (NOON) For the sacrament of anointing outside of office hours, please contact 604-298-6111. BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK. Please support ANTHONY DRLJE, one of the sponsors who brings to you this weekly Parish Bulletin.

## We Pray For

Saturday, December 23 [St. John of Kanty, Priest]
9:00 am - $\dagger$ Clara Veronica Caloca, $\dagger$ Cecilio Sanchez
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4:00 pm $-\quad$ Spec. Int. for Theresa Chu, $\dagger$ Giuseppina Santorelli, $\dagger$ Franco Luongo
$\dagger$ Doriana Temolo, $\dagger$ Dec. of Ruggiero \& Farella Fam., $\dagger$ Douglas Renwick $\dagger$ Mario \& Nicolina Corrado, $\dagger$ Antonio Serena
necember 24 [FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT]
$8: 30$ am - Spec. Int. for Lloyd \& Christine, $\dagger$ All Souls in Purgatory, $\dagger$ Bruno Benedet $\dagger$ Rosa \& Salvatore Mobilio, $\dagger$ Fr. Matthew King, $\dagger$ Dam Kim, $\dagger$ Vu Thi Tan $\dagger$ Hoang Thi Chau, $\dagger$ Tran Tu Lam, $\dagger$ Dam Hoang Tai
10:00 am - $\dagger$ Albert Trylinski, $\uparrow$ Pina \& Bruno Benedet, $\dagger$ Laurie Marconato, $\dagger$ Giuseppe Bevacqua $\dagger$ Jack Cusinato, $\dagger$ Dec. of Lopez \& Veltri Fam., $\dagger$ Paolo Marinelli
11:30 am - Pro-Popolo
4:00 pm - Christmas Vigil Mass with School Children
12:00 am - Christmas Vigil Mass
Monday, December 25 [THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD, (CHRISTMAS)] 8:30 am - MASS IN ENGLISH
10:00 am - MASS IN ITALIAN
10:00 am - MASS I ITALIAN
Tuesday, December 26 [St. Stephen, The First Martyr]
$9: 00$ am $-\dagger$ Salvatore Mobilio, $\dagger$ Paul \& Lucia Sizule
9:00 am - $\dagger$ Salvatore Mobilio, $\dagger$ Paul \& Lucia Sigurnjak
Wednesday
Wednesday, December 27 [St. John, Apostle and Evangelist]
Thursday December 28 [The Hor Renner
$9: 00$ am $-\dagger$ Fr. Herb Bourne, $\dagger$ Bruno Benedet Iartyrs]
Friday, December 29 [St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr]
9:00 am - In Thanksgiving, $\dagger$ Sr. Mary Elaine
Saturday, December 30 [Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord]
$4: 00 \mathrm{pm}-\dagger$ Giuseppina Santorelli $\dagger$ Nogreen Rener
Sunday, December 31 [THE HOLY FAMILY THE JESUS , Zenaida Pura Ocol $8: 30$ am - $\dagger$ All Souls in Purgatory, $\dagger$ Teresa \& Raffaele Rea, MARY AND JOSEPH $10: 00 \mathrm{am}-\dagger$ Alessandro \& Alba Zanichelli, $\dagger$ Franco D'Attilo 11.30 am - Pro-Popolo Monday, January 1 [SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD] 8:30 am - Spec. Int. for Ruggiero \& Farella's Fam.
10:00 am - MASS IN ITALLAN
11:30 am - MASS IN ENGLISH
11:30 am - MASS IN ENGLIS
Tuesday, January 2 [St. Basil the Great \& St. Gregory Nazianzen, Bishop \& Doctors] 7:45 am - † Roger Renner
Wednesday, January 3 [The Most Holy Name of Jesus]
7:45 am - In Honour of St. Anthony
Thursday, January 4 [Christmas Weekday]
7:45 am - Special Intention
$7: 45$ am - Spec Int Flisa Bevilekday]
7:45 am - Spec. Int. Elisa Bevilacqua, $\dagger$ Dec. of the Abanto Fam
Saturday, January [Christmas Weekday]
9:00 am - Spec. Int. for Ellie Pozniak, Spec. Int. for Reid \& Gamache Fam. $4: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ - Spec. Int. for Derek Pineo, $\dagger$ Benito Manzo, $\dagger$ Rosalino Mislang, $\dagger$ Diana Ting $\dagger$ Johnny Ho, $\dagger$ Anna Chong, $\dagger$ Cesira Genovese
Sunday, January 7 [THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD]
8:30 am - $\uparrow$ Lidia Kazimierska, $\uparrow$ Lena Pastega
10:00 am - Spec. Int. for Donna Crema, $\dagger$ Caterina \& Diego Rizutto, $\dagger$ Albina Titotto $\dagger$ Guido Giardini, $\dagger$ Noe Mastroianni, $\dagger$ Ridotto Mauro, $\dagger$ Audrey Enright
11:30 am - Pro-Popolo

## 24 DICEMBRE, 2023 11I IV DOMENICA DI AVVENTO 25 DICEMBRE, 2023 <br> NATALE DEL SIGNORE <br> 31 DICEMBRE, 2023 <br> SANTA FAMIGLIA DI GESU̇, MARIA E GIUSEPPE I GENNAIO, 2024 MARIA SANTISSIMA MADRE DI DIO

DOVE ABITA DIO. È la vigilia di Natale e il vangelo dell'Annunciazione ci è dato quale portale d'accesso a questo "stupendo mistero" in cui l'amore traboccante di Dio ha scelto di abitare tra noi. Colui che non si lascia racchiudere nello spazio sacro di un tempio (I Lettura) ha voluto abbracciare il limite della condizione umana, ricevendo «da Maria la vera carne della nostra fragilità e umanità" (san Francesco d'Assisi) Gli è bastato il suo sì. La liturgia ci rivela una "gestazione" iniziata già prima dell'annuncio dell'angelo e durata ben oltre nove mesi. Sin dall'eternità il Padre, silente, portava in sé la sua Parola d'amore "mistero avvolto nel silenzio per secoli eterni" (II Lettura) ma per poterla pronunciare nel tempo, ha scelto di aver bisogno del si di una giovane donna, di un'umanità accogliente e aperta a ricevere il suo dono. Dio abita dove qualcuno gli apre la porta e aderisce al suo progetto d'amore. Non è storia passata: lui chiede oggi di essere accolto, progeto omo nel volto di ogni uomo, perché il Natale sia veramente Natale. di ogni uomo, perché il Natale sia veramente Natale.


## Auguriamo a voi e alle vostre famiglie un buon Natale e felice Anno Nuovo!

Padre Alessandro, Diacono Mike e personale parrocchiale L'UFFICIO DELLA PARROCCHIA SARÀ CHIUSO MARTEDÌ DIC. 26 E LUNEDì, GEN. 1.
ORARIO DI UFFICIO DIC. 27-GEN. 5- 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (mezzogiorno) In caso di pericolo di vita che richiede sacramento di unzione con urgenza si prega di contattare 604-298-6111.
YOU CAN DONATE by the credit card at https://sthelen.ca/giving

| Sunday Collection (Weekly goal: \$12,000.00) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Date | Envelopes | Loose | Total |
| December 17,2023 | \$ 5,632.00 | \$699.00 | \$ 6,331.00 |
| Thank you for your generosity! |  |  |  |

LAST RITES AND MEDICAL EMERGENCIES
Please call the office, 604-298-4144. Outside of office hours, please call 604-298-6111.
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The following priest chaplains are also available:
Burnaby General Hospital: Fr. Bede Kiem Minh Le, 604.298.6800, 604-434-4211
Vancouver General Hospital: 604-877-5918 (Pager) / 604-875-4111 Fr. Gilbert Nunez \& Fr. Luis Martin Brian Delgado (Mon., Tue., Fri., Sat. and Sun.); Fr. Aresene Dutunge (Wed. and Thurs.) Mount St. Joseph Hospital: Fr. Joseph Ha Vinh Tran, OP (Chaplain)604-876-7826 Rev Claude Makulu, O. Praem, 604.936. 252 Please provide this important information to the priest before he arrives: name of the sick, ward oom number, bed number and name $\&$ phone number of the person requesting the visit as th hospital will not provide any details due to privacy laws.

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