



DECEMBER 2, 2018 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Pastor's Corner

It is hard to believe that we have already arrived at the beginning of the Advent Season and that Christmas will soon be upon us. The Advent Season invites us to prepare spiritually for welcoming Christ anew into our hearts at Christmas. Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, especially to the poor, are the Church's traditional tools for spiritual renewal. Within the category of prayer the practice of making a good confession, especially before Easter and Christmas, purifies our soul so that it can receive the fullness of the sanctifying graces that are communicated to us in the Eucharist.

The Church has the long-standing discipline of the "Easter Duty" stemming from the Fourth Lateran Council (1215) which stated, "Every faithful of either sex who has reached the age of discretion should at least once a year faithfully confess all his sins in secret to his own priest. He should strive as far as possible to fulfill the penance imposed on him, and with reverence receive at least during Easter time the sacrament of the Eucharist." In our own times the Church's Code of Canon Law admonishes, "After having attained the age of discretion, each of the faithful is bound by an obligation faithfully to confess serious sins at least once a year." While the strict discipline is for at least a yearly confession before Easter it is also commendable and excellent to celebrate the sacrament in preparation also for Christmas.

In the coming weeks there will be many opportunities to celebrate the sacrament. In addition to our regular confession schedule (weekday mornings 7:25AM, Saturday 8:30AM and 3:00PM) we will be having our parish penitential service on Thursday, Dec. 06 at 7:00PM. You can find below a complete schedule of the Advent penitential services in our area.

In Christ,
Fr. Alessandro

VANCOUVER EAST DEANERY

All Advent	Immaculate Heart of Mary, Vancouver	7:00PM
Wednesdays during Advent	Holy Family Parish, Vancouver	6:00PM
Sundays during Advent	Sacred Heart Parish, Vancouver	Before Mass
Wednesday, Dec. 05	St. Joseph's Parish, Vancouver	8:00PM
Thursday, Dec. 06	St. Joseph's Parish, Vancouver	8:00PM
Thursday, Dec. 06	St. Helen's Parish, Burnaby	7:00PM
Friday, Dec. 07	St. Joseph's Parish, Vancouver	8:00PM
Monday, Dec. 10	Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Vancouver	7:00PM
Tuesday, Dec. 11	St. Jude's Parish, Vancouver	6:30PM
Wednesday, Dec. 12	Holy Cross Parish, Burnaby	7:00PM
Thursday, Dec. 13	St. Francis Xavier Parish, Vancouver (Cantonese)	8:00PM
Friday, Dec. 14	St. Francis Xavier Parish, Vancouver (Cantonese)	8:00PM
Saturday, Dec. 15	St. Francis Xavier Parish, Vancouver (Cantonese)	3:00PM
Sunday, Dec. 16	St. Francis Xavier Parish, Vancouver (Mandarin)	4:30PM
Tuesday, Dec. 18	St. Theresa's Parish, Vancouver	7:00PM
Tuesday, Dec. 18	St. Casimir's Parish, Vancouver	7:00PM
Tuesday, Dec. 18	St. Mary's Parish, Vancouver	7:00PM
Wednesday, Dec. 19	Corpus Christi Parish, Vancouver	7:00PM
Thursday, Dec. 20	Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Vancouver	7:00PM
Friday, Dec. 21	St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Vancouver	7:00PM

SAUCE & MINISTRONE SALE!!! Volunteers from the Mission Society will be selling sauce and minestrone this weekend, December 1 & 2 in the church lobby. All profit will benefit the Parish Gym Kitchen Upgrade. Please support them.

THANK YOU to the Knights of Columbus on their donation of \$5,000.00 in gratitude for the privilege of being a part of this religious community. This is the profit of the Family Dinner presented on October 20th by the St. Helen's Knights of Columbus.

THE PANCAKE BREAKFAST. The 50/50 draw was won by David Jacobucci, who donated a portion back to the Knights. Please attend our next breakfast (watch for the date).

KINDERGARTEN APPLICATIONS for the 2019/2020 school year are now being accepted at the school office. Application forms may be printed from our website www.sthelensschool.ca or picked up at the school office.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS ENVELOPES. Special envelopes for offering to buy poinsettias to decorate our church are available at the entrance of the church. Your flower will be a gift to Baby Jesus. Thank you for your generosity.



ST. HELEN'S FOOD BANK invites you to help collect the gifts and food for the Christmas Hampers. Starting this Sunday, Christmas trees will be placed in the lobby with tags on them. Please pick up the tags and bring the gifts back next Sunday to the Church, or to the rectory during office hours. Please have all Christmas gifts and certificates back in the church or the rectory by Sunday, December 16th. Gift certificates can be dropped in the collection basket. If anyone wants to sponsor a family, please call the parish office. Thank you for your generosity.



HOST AND WINE. If you are interested in donating the Host and Wine memory of a dear one please contact the office, 604-298-4144. Donations are tax deductible.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 24, 2016 - Christmas Eve
4:00pm (School); 10:00pm (Italian); 12:00 Midnight
Tuesday, December 25, 2016 - Christmas Day
8:30 am; 10:00 am (Italian); 11:30 am
Monday, December 31, 2016 - New Year's Eve
4:00 pm
Tuesday, January 1, 2017 - New Year's Day
8:30 am; 10:00 am (Italian); 11:30 am
CONFESSIONS - Penitential Service
Monday, December 6 @ 7:00 pm



We Pray For

Saturday, December 1 [Weekday]

9:00 am - † G. Yong Lee, † Isidoro & Elena Bordignon
4:00 pm - † Pina Benedet, † Antonio Corea, † Jeremy Wohl
† Marino Nichele, † Dec. of Dissegna Fam.
Special Intention, Special Intention for Candido Jacobucci

Sunday, December 2 [FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT]

8:30 am - † Antonietta Borzillo, † Giuseppe Colussi
10:00 am - † Diego & Caterina Rizzuto, † Evelina & Santo Zilio, † Mike Barile
† Vincenzo Miniaci, † Eugenio Danieli, † Pina Benedet, † Angelo DaMaren
† Giuseppe Artuso & Dec. of Artuso Fam., † Angelo & Caterina Mattiello
† Vito, Giuseppina & Angelo DeFazio, † Giuseppe & Carmela Cerra
† Bruno & Anna Bosa
11:30 am - † Ivan Madunic, † Minerva Larawan
7:30 pm - † Our Parishioners

Monday, December 3 [St. Francis Xavier, Priest]

7:45 am - Special Intention for Fr. Alessandro & Fr. Konrad, † Mary Battle

Tuesday, December 4 [St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church]

7:45 am - † Vincenzo Santaguida, † Rose

Wednesday, December 5 [Advent Weekday]

7:45 am - Special Intention for Theo Hof's Recovery, † Robert Battla

Thursday, December 6 [St. Nicholas, Bishop]

7:45 am - Special Intention for Anne Easton, † Sabatino Petrucci

7:00 pm - PENITENTIAL SERVICE

Friday, December 7 [St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church]

7:45 am - In honor of Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary
Special Intention for Barbara Troczynski

Saturday, December 8 [The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary]

9:00 am - † Manuel Cordeiro
4:00 pm - Special Intention, in Honour of Immaculate Conception
† Margaret, Mary, Agnes & Joseph Wong, † Tony Funaro
† Carmela Luongo, † Frank Camazzola

Sunday, December 9 [SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT]

8:30 am - † Yuki Matsuba, † Modesto Iorio
10:00 am - † Maria & Angelo Pegoraro, † Domenico Maselli,
† Dec. of Testani & Marini Fam., † Pina Benedet, † Lucy Serena Johnston
† Antonio Petrucci, † Lena, Albino & Agnese Cocco
11:30 am - † Angelina & Domenico Fata, † Michelina & Giuseppe Reda
† Maria Sansolone, † Dec. of Lore & Monno Fam., † Minerva Larawan
† Roberto Rodriguez, Bill Gamble's Special Intention
7:30 pm - † Our Parishioners



2 DICEMBRE, 2018 I DOMENICA DI AVVENTO

MOSTRACI, SIGNORE, LA TUA MISERICORDIA. Entriamo oggi in Avvento, un tempo di attesa. Nel Vangelo Gesù ci invita a un atteggiamento preciso: «Vegliate in ogni momento!». L'attesa è connessa con la vigilanza. Vegliare significa acuire lo sguardo per riconoscere, in quelli che ai più potrebbero sembrare i segni di una fine inevitabile, i germogli di un nuovo inizio. Un mondo vecchio, segnato dal peccato, muore, ma perché in esso sta nascendo un mondo nuovo, nel quale è presente la potenza di vita del Risorto. Dobbiamo vegliare per discernere, in una storia che sembra destinata al fallimento, l'agire di Dio che compie quelle «promesse di bene» annunciate da Geremia (I Lettura). Colui che attendiamo è il germoglio di Davide: egli viene a far germogliare nel mondo la novità di Dio, che deve rinnovare la nostra esistenza. Infatti, il segno inequivocabile di un mondo diverso, è la nostra possibilità, generata dalla grazia del Veniente, di «crescere e sovrabbondare nell'amore», come Paolo scrive ai Tessalonicesi (II Lettura). Più che osservare con preoccupazione i segni di un mondo che finisce, il nostro amore deve diventare segno profetico del mondo nuovo che nasce.

Fr Luca Fallica, Comunità SS. Trinità, Dumenza

VENDITA DI RAGÙ E MINISTRONE. Questa fine settimana, 1 e 2 dicembre, i volontari del gruppo missionario venderanno ragù minestrone all'entrata della Chiesa. Il profitto sarà per la parrocchia, l'aggiornamento della cucina in gym.

GRAZIE AI CAVALIERI DI COLOMBO per la loro donazione di \$5,000.00, il profitto di cena organizzata 20 ottobre.

REGALI SOTTO L'ALBERO. E' nostra tradizione prendere un biglietto dall'albero natalizio all'entrata della chiesa per aiutare i più bisognosi. Cercate per cortesia di prenderlo oggi stesso, se potete aiutare, e di riportate il regalo la prossima domenica in Chiesa, o nella canonica durante le ore d'ufficio in settimana. L'ultimo giorno di portare i regali è domei=nica, 16 dicembre. Si prega di portare i certificati nella canonica, o depositarli nella colletta domenicale. Grazie.

BUSTE PER I FIORI DI NATALE. Abbiamo delle buste speciali con cui potete donare il denaro per comprare le poinsettias che usiamo in chiesa per le decorazioni natalizie. Il tuo fiore sarà un regalo per Gesù Bambino ... Grazie!

PROJECT ADVANCE donazioni si accettano fino 31 Dicembre. Invitiamo tutte le nostre famiglie di partecipare in questa campagna di raccolta di fondi per le opere del evangelizzazione. Grazie per il vostro sostegno.

SE VOLETE OFFRIRE IL PANE E IL VINO da usare durante tutte le Sante Messe della settimana a ricordo dei propri cari, per favore chiamate l'ufficio parrocchiale.

CWL: upcoming Christmas Dinner on Dec. 10th at 6:00 pm, cost \$35. Contact mariab.cwl@gmail.com, Maria 604-298-5617 or Flavia 604-299-4466.

CHURCH CLEANING - DECEMBER - TEAM 4 - Imma, 604-420-8072

COFFEE HOUR - December 9 - CWL - Christine, 604-436-0169

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK. Please support **KEARNEY FUNERAL SERVICES**, one of the sponsors who bring to you this weekly Parish Bulletin!

SUNDAY COLLECTION (Weekly goal \$12,000.00)			
Date	Envelopes	Loose	Total
November 25	\$ 6,105.00	\$ 584.00	\$ 6,689.00

Thank you for your generosity!