

Epiphany of the Lord

PASTOR: Fr. Wilfred Gomes

ADMINISTRATOR: Fr. Vincent Hawkswell
☎ (604) 671-5301 | ✉ vhawkswell@rcav.org

PARISH DEACON: Dcn. Tony Gray
ACCOUNTANT: Elizabeth Bell
ADMIN ASSISTANT: Cleiser Oliveira

MASS SCHEDULES

SUNDAY MASS:

Saturday 4:30 pm
Sunday 8:30 am, 10:30 am

WEEKDAYS:

Monday - Saturday: 9:00 am
1st Friday: 6:30 pm

CONFESSIONS:

Monday - Saturday: 8:30 - 8:50 am
Saturday: 3:30 pm - 4:15 pm

ADORATION:

Friday: 9:30 am - 4:00 pm

1st Friday of the month
9:30 am - 4:00 pm &
7:00 pm to Saturday 8:00 am

Sign-up sheets located in vestibule

BENEDICTION:

Friday: 4:00 pm
1st Friday : 4:00 pm and the following
morning at 8:00 am

ONLINE GIVING OFFERTORY

SCAN WITH MOBILE PHONE OR CLICK QR-CODE



2347 Inglewood Ave., West Vancouver, BC
Tel: (604) 926-6881

Email: parish.sawv@rcav.org

Web: www.stanthonywestvan.com

OFFICE HOURS:

Mon - Fri: 9:30 am - 4:00 pm



FOLLOW US

@stanthonyswv

ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH WEST VANCOUVER



1st Sunday in Ordinary Time January 7, 2024

Dear brothers and sisters:

At the beginning of this new year, let us raise our hearts in gratitude to the good Lord for accompanying us on our journey through time. We thank God who never abandons us and always watches over the faithful of our local Church with his merciful love. With gentle persistence he is leading us beyond the constraints of time to eternity.

As time passes, we are continually amazed by how ultimately short and ephemeral life is. So often we ask ourselves: what's the meaning of our life, and what meaning, in particular, can we give to our days of toil and sorrow? This question permeates history, running through the heart of every generation and of every individual.

But there is an answer: it is written on the face of the Child born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem two thousand years ago. In "the fullness of time," God became man and remains among us today as the Living One, forever risen from the dead. He entered our history to free us from the slavery of sin and death, and to raise us to the dignity of being children of God.

With Jesus' Incarnation and Birth, time was, so to speak, forever "touched" by the Eternal God. The time we are now living is the definitive time of salvation and grace. That's why we can truthfully proclaim that 2024 will be yet another "Year of the Lord."

While we take our leave of the year that has just come to a close and set out for the new one, we once again entrust to the Lord his little flock, his Church in Vancouver, which is ever striving to be faithful to him. And let us implore Mary, Queen of the Holy to intercede for us before the throne of mercy. With her, we are invited to keep our gaze fixed on Jesus, the Sun rising on the horizon of humanity, who is the hope and Saviour of the world.

May the new year bring you and your families many blessings.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



+ J. Michael Miller CSB

+ J. Michael Miller, CSB
Archbishop of Vancouver

News in and around the Parish

MASS INTENTIONS

JANUARY 8th - 14th, 2024

Monday, January 8

Baptism of the Lord

9:00 am - *Sp. Int. of Rocio Hauser*

Tuesday, January 9

9:00 am - *Sp. Int. of Frances Watson*

Wednesday, January 10

9:00 am - *Sp. Int. in honour of St. Anthony*

Thursday, January 11

9:00 am - † *Romano Giusti*

Friday, January 12

St. Marguerite Bourgeoys

9:00 am - *Sp. Int. of Renata Nowakowski*

Saturday, January 13

9:00 am - *Sp. Int. of Hanan Haddad*

4:30 pm - *Sp. Int. of Beatriz Reynard*

Sunday, January 14

8:30 am - *Sp. Int. of George Haddad*

10:30 am - *Parishioners*

PRO-LIFE CHRISTMAS CARDS

THANK YOU

We are happy to announce that this year, through the sale of our Christmas Cards, we raised **\$790.00** for the North Shore Pro-Life Society, the highest amount yet!

Thank you very much for your support!

SUNDAY ENVELOPES

Sunday Offering Envelopes are available for you in the vestibule. Cannot find your envelopes?

CONTACT PARISH OFFICE

COUPLES WEEKEND GETAWAY

Weekend Getaway Marriage Conference

We are excited to partner with [Family Life Canada](#) to offer weekend getaways to married couples in the Archdiocese of Vancouver!

The Weekend Getaway is a marriage conference uniquely designed to enrich your relationship. For most couples, it's a chance to reconnect, re-establish the foundation, and rekindle romance. For others, it's a fresh start. For some, it will be the weekend that saves a marriage.

Wherever you're at in your relationship, this retreat will be a weekend to remember.

The atmosphere will be relaxed, warm and fun! You'll hear from real couples doing real life together... God's way. You'll be given time to process what you're learning. And together, build a joyful marriage that lasts a lifetime.

The next getaway is on the weekend of:

DATE: February 16—18, 2024

WHERE: Fairmont Empress
Victoria, BC.

CONFERENCE PRICE: \$199

USE PROMO CODE [RCAVVIC](#)
WITHOUT CODE IS \$299

Accommodations are not included and should be booked separately.

We have a **SPECIAL** room rate for conference participants at the Fairmont Empress Victoria at a price from \$209/night before January 26th; rates may vary thereafter.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

**WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 14, 2024**

For more information contact Joyce 604-683-0281 ext. 223 or visit [beholdvancouver.org/events](#).

FIAT SNOWSHOE

Come spend quality time with the Religious Sisters of the Archdiocese and have fun outdoors.

TIME: Start with 9:00 am Mass

DATE: Saturday, January 6

MEETING PLACE:

**St. Anthony's Parish,
West Vancouver**

After Mass, drive to Cypress Mountain to snowshoe up Black Mountain. The trail is a 5.3 km snowshoe loop with a beautiful view at the top.

All women aged 18-35 are welcome! There is no cost. Please pack a lunch and bring your snowshoes. If you need help getting snowshoes or a ride, please contact Sister Mary Martha at smmhetzler@rcav.org

Learn more and register at beholdvancouver.org/events



ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH LOGO CENTENNIAL CONTEST

Do you feel inspired to create a logo for our wonderful Parish? The chosen logo will be displayed as part of our new website, letterhead, envelopes, bulletins, and social media.

All designs and ideas welcome!
Prizes for first place and runner up.

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
January 31, 2024**

For more information and to submit your design, send an email to the Centennial Committee via: saintanthony.vvan@gmail.com

News in and around the Parish

PARISH ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

FRI—JAN 6	9:00 am	Fiat Snowshoe
MON — SAT	8:15 am — 8:30 am	MORNING PRAYERS
MON	10:00 AM	CATHOLIC FAITH IN PLAIN ENGLISH (RESUMES JAN 8, 2024)
TUE	7:00 PM	CHRISTIAN MEDITATION
WED	4:00 PM	MARIAN MOVEMENT CENACLE
WED	6:00 PM	PREP (RESUMES JAN 10, 2024)
THU	1:00 PM	CRAFT GROUP (RESUMES 2024)
THU	7:00 PM	ALPHA (STARTS FEBRUARY 22, 2024)
THU	7:15 PM	RCIA (RESUMES JAN 11, 2024)
FRI	9:30 AM—4:00 PM	ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
FRI	3:00 PM	DIVINE MERCY

FUNERAL

It's with great sadness that we inform you of the funeral of:

LUDVIK RENER

FUNERAL MASS TO BE HELD AT

DATE: January 9, 2024

TIME: 10:30 AM

&

EDWINA ("PADDY") MACLEOD

FUNERAL SERVICE TO BE HELD AT

DATE: January 19, 2024

TIME: 11:30 AM

Our deepest condolences and prayers for the family.

EPIPHANY REFLECTION

The stories in the bible have been the source of many Christian traditions and customs in countries throughout the world. That certainly is true of the story of the Magi we have just heard on the Feast of the Epiphany. Epiphany is a Greek word that means to make manifest, to make visible. What we celebrate today is how our God, by taking up a human nature, made his love visible to us in our human condition.

There is an Epiphany custom in Mexico that points us to the heart of this manifestation. On the Feast of the Epiphany, Mexican Christians bake a sweet bread that they call Rosca de Reyes which means "the ring of the Kings." It is a bread that is baked in a circle to resemble the crowns that the Kings wore when they visited the Christ Child. On top of the bread they place candied fruits, cherries, and figs to represent the jewels of the crown. It is a beautiful bread that represents to us the glory of the Epiphany, the beauty of Christ becoming one of us to be our savior. But there is another part to this bread. Baked inside of it is a small figurine of the child Jesus. This figurine is consciously hidden in the bread because Jesus had to hide from the plot of Herod who sought to destroy him. So, this Ring of the Kings points both to the glory of the Epiphany and to its danger. It reminds us that our human nature is a mixture of both beauty and grace together with struggle and pain - all of which Christ took up as he became one of us.

Now, when the Rosca de Reyes is eaten, the person who receives the piece that has the figurine within it is considered blessed, because he or she has found the Christ Child that has been hidden in the bread. Therefore, this custom invites us to ask, "Where is the Christ Child hidden in our world today?" Christ is certainly hidden in refugees and immigrants who are displaced from their homeland. We should not forget that there are more people in our world today displaced by war, poverty, and persecution than at any other time in history. Listen to this amazing fact: One out of every 113 people on the earth is a displaced person. We are called to see Christ hidden within them. We should not dismiss their plight but find ways to offer them safety and hope. We can do this by contributing to refugee organizations. But we can also work politically to see that our immigration system is one that makes America a more welcoming place to those who flee persecution.

Christ is also hidden at places closer to home: in our families, among our friends. Who are those we know hiding because they cannot believe that they are loved? Who is hiding because they are devastated by grief or afraid of the future? We are called to see Christ hidden in them and to reach out to them in support and love.

The Feast of the Epiphany points to the glory of our human nature and also its dangers. So, as we enjoy the magic of the Magi, who come to Jesus in royal robes and offer gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, we should also remember the Christ Child who is still hidden in our world. He is hidden in those who are persecuted, forgotten, and in need. It is when we find them and offer them our love and support, that the true glory of Christ's light can shine in our world.

Fr. Joseph Le

News in and around the Parish



CATHOLIC FAITH IN PLAIN ENGLISH

Catholic Faith sessions weekly

**TIME: 10 am - 12 pm
MONDAY**

in the church hall. Catholics & non-Catholics are welcome to join us even for a few sessions.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"They fell down and worshipped Him. Then they opened their treasures and offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." - *(Matthew 2:11)*

Notice the order of events in the Magi's visit. First, they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking us to share!

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MEN'S SHELTER

Men's Shelter Donation Urgently Needed. For more information:

CONTACT: Nan Thomas
Email: nanthomas@shaw.ca

In addition to hot meals: cookies, squares, muffins, bananas, oranges, sandwiches. Home made baking or store bought would be a real treat.



BIOETHICS SYMPOSIUM ON MENTAL HEALTH - APPLICATIONS OPEN

Those interested in the topic of Mental Health are invited to apply to this special symposium hosted by Physicians for Life. This year's symposium will bring together 15 professionals from all across Canada to Vancouver during the weekend of

DATE: February 1 – 3, 2024

Competitively selected participants will explore assigned interdisciplinary readings in order to form participants in a broad intellectual tradition related to life-affirming mental healthcare. The aim of this humanistic study over an intentionally convivial weekend will be to enhance participants' moral impact in both their personal and professional lives. Participants will benefit from the insights of others in the cohort as well as from discussions with invited faculty members.

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, so please apply as soon as possible at physiciansforlife.ca/bioethics-symposium.

Selected participants are only required to pay a \$100 fee. Other expenses, including travel to Vancouver, accommodations, and meals will be covered thanks to the generosity of donors who believe in investing in young professionals.

LEARN MORE

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CLICK the QR-CODE



THE ALPHA COURSE

Alpha

Alpha at St. Anthony's

Come and see.

Join us for Alpha at St. Anthony's for 12 weeks commencing:

TIME: 7:00 - 8:30 pm

DATE: February 22, 2024

Registration now open. Alpha provides a space to ask all your questions about life, faith, and meaning in a friendly environment. Each Alpha session includes a short video, time to connect over a meal, and plenty of time to explore and discuss.

REGISTER ONLINE

SCAN WITH MOBILE PHONE or CLICK the QR-CODE on the right



NEW YEAR'S WORKSHOP ON BUILDING HABITS

If you are struggling to see how it might be possible to grow in your spiritual life, if you feel stuck in your walk with God, if you want to go deeper but you don't know how, you will discover much in this free workshop. Fr. John O' Brien's simple recommendations will not overwhelm you or require you to give up every spare moment in an already busy life. These habits will give you a framework on which to grow if your spiritual life has become a place of exhaustion and not rest.

Set up for long-term spiritual resiliency on

DATE: Thursday, January 11

TIME: 12 pm (via Zoom)

Learn more and register at beholdvancouver.org/events.