

PASTOR: Fr. Wilfred Gomes

ADMINISTRATOR: Fr. Vincent Hawkswell

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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

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Saint Anthony's Parish Office

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



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@stanthonyswv

ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH

WEST VANCOUVER



2nd Sunday Ordinary Time January 14, 2024

2ND SUNDAY REFLECTION

Today's first reading describes the call of the young boy Samuel to be God prophet. But today I do not want to focus on Samuel. Instead, I want to examine another character of the story, Eli. Eli was the priest under whom Samuel apprenticed while he was in the temple. We know from other parts of the bible that at this time the Eli was eighty-eight years old and blind. In today's passage he performs his most important biblical action. He enables Samuel to recognize that God was calling him. When God calls Samuel, Samuel thinks that it is Eli calling him. Three times he runs to Eli and says, "Here I am. You called me." But the third time Eli recognizes what is happening. He tells Samuel that if he hears the voice again, he should respond, "Speak LORD, for your servant is listening." So, when God calls Samuel the next time, he is ready. He responds and becomes the first great prophet of Israel.

The character of Eli reminds us that God may ask us to help someone understand their own calling. God may ask us to be an agent through whom another person recognizes God's will. This could happen in our own family, when a family member is stuck, unable to make the decisions that will allow life to move forward. It could happen with a close friend who is hurt by a person or a situation and now is unable to live because he or she cannot find the path to forgiveness. It could happen in our workplace or in our school when we see someone overwhelmed by their responsibilities, fighting to keep their head above water and wondering whether their life has a future. In any one of these circumstances and in many others, God may be asking us to give that person a little push in the right direction. God might be calling us to be an Eli and help someone else recognize God's will.

Two other insights flow from this story. The first is this: You do not need to be a perfect fit to undertake this helping function. Eli was eighty-eight years old and blind, but he had enough knowledge and insight to show Samuel what was happening. We do not need to be a perfect fit to help others. We might think, "I hardly know that person? Should not his or her family be the ones to give guidance?" We might believe that we are too old or too young to speak out, that we are not as educated, or outgoing as other people are. All of these things can be true, but God may be still calling us to help another person to find his or her way.

Secondly, we do not need to be successful on our first try. It took Eli three times before he figured out what Samuel needed to hear. Therefore, if we try to help someone else and there is no success, it does not mean we have failed. God may provide other opportunities, and one of those opportunities may prove effective.

Today's first reading is rightly named, "The Call of Samuel." But we could also see it as, "The Call of Eli." Eli's role was necessary if Samuel was to understand his mission. So even if we are not a perfect fit, even if we tried before, God may still be asking us to reach out and help others, so that they may become the people that God wants them to be.

Fr. Joseph Le

News in and around the Parish

MASS INTENTIONS

JANUARY 15th -to- 21st, 2024

Monday, January 15

9:00 am - *Sp. Int. of Tricia Andrew*

Tuesday, January 16

9:00 am - *Sp. Int. of Gloria Lowe*

Wednesday, January 17

St. Anthony, Abbot

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

Thursday, January 18

9:00 am - *Sp. Int. of Cleiser Oliveira*

Friday, January 19

9:00 am - *Sp. Int. of Michael Molnar*

Saturday, January 20

9:00 am - St. Philomena

4:30 pm - Parishioners

Sunday, January 21

8:30 am - *Sp. Int. of Martha Yao*

10:30 am - † Debra Rovinelli

CWL CORNER

A BEGINNING OF ANOTHER WONDERFUL YEAR

Annual Membership Fees are due and can be paid (cash or cheque) after each mass:

DATE: January 13 to 14

FEES: \$45 or \$60⁺⁺

***includes Domestic Abuse Services (DAS) membership.*

Meeting of CWL will be on:

DATE: Tuesday, January 23

TIME: following 6:30 pm mass

New Members Welcome



The CWL Annual Weekend Retreat is coming this March 15-17, 2024. Watch this corner for details.



For general inquiries or would like to join CWL, email us at: saintanthonyscwl@gmail.com

COUPLES WEEKEND GETAWAY

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



Thank you for celebrating God's gift of love by sharing gifts with others through the Giving Tree this past Advent.

The Sisters at The Door is Open are so thankful for your generous gifts of thirteen Walmart gift cards, two London Drugs gift cards, and one Shoppers Drug Mart gift card. The Sisters are planning on giving away some of the gift cards to people they know who are in need, and the others will be used to purchase socks and warm clothing for their guests at The Door is Open.

Thank you so much for your generosity.



Many thanks to our local IGA store for their kind support of the St. Anthony's Carolling Group at the Dundarave. Festival of Lights Bonfire 2023



GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree Committee would like to thank Everyone's generosity and participation towards the different charities you supported with the Christmas Gift Cards .



News in and around the Parish



CATHOLIC FAITH IN PLAIN ENGLISH

Catholic Faith sessions weekly

TIME: 10 am - 12 pm
DAY: every Monday

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

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, 'What are you looking for?'" - John 1:38

When we recognize who we are, it's easier to find what we are looking for. Once we see ourselves, and others, as children of God, we spend less time looking for the material comforts of the world. Instead, our hearts long for something deeper that can only be filled by God. Ask God daily how He wants you to live the life He intended for you.

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VOCATION LIVE-IN



There will be a Vocation Live-In for anyone wishing to enter the Seminary in the next couple of years on the weekend of

DATE: February 10-11, 2024

WHERE:
Seminary of Christ the King
Mission, BC.

For more information contact:

Phone (604) 826-8975

Email: rector.minors@sck.ca

PRO-LIFE MASS & PRAYER VIGIL

Pro-life Mass & Prayer Vigil

To defend and promote life, to show reverence and love for it, is a task which God entrusts to every man, calling him as his living image to share in his lordship over the world. (Evangelium Vitae #42)

February to August 2024 Mass Schedule
All Masses at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise stated

- Feb. 3 Blessed Sacrament Parish
3040 Heather Street, Vancouver
- Mar. 2 Guardian Angels Parish
1161 Broughton Street, Vancouver
- Apr. 6 Holy Trinity Parish
8:30 am 2725 Lonsdale Avenue, North Vancouver
- May 4 St. Mary's Parish (Vancouver)
5251 Joyce Street, Vancouver
- June 1 St. Bernadette's Parish
6543 132 Street, Surrey
- July 6 St. Clare of Assisi Parish
2888 Delahaye Drive, Coquitlam
- Aug. 3 St. Joseph's Parish (Mission)
32550 7th Avenue, Mission



One of the fundamental answers to abortion is prayer.

Please join your voice with ours as we pray on the first Saturday of each month at a different parish for a new culture of life.

For more information: 604-683-0281



Join us for a monthly Pro-Life Mass & Prayer Vigil to pray for respect of all human life, from conception to its natural end.

Hosted by the
Archdiocese of Vancouver

DURATION: February to August
WHEN: 1st Saturday of each month
TIME: 9:00 am (8:30 am in April)

It begins with Mass, followed by the rosary and other prayers either at a church with Adoration or at a local hospital.

All are welcome!

The first schedule of
Mass & Prayer Vigil is on

DATE: Saturday, February 3

TIME: 9:00 am

LOCATION: Blessed Sacrament Parish
in Vancouver

Learn more at
beholdvancouver.org/events

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PARISH OFFICE CORNER

SUNDAY OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you have not received it, it is available for you in the vestibule.

Unable to find your envelope or you no longer need them, please

CONTACT PARISH OFFICE

TAX RECEIPTS 2023

Parish and Project Advance donation tax receipts is in process. We will provide you with updates and details on the upcoming bulletin.

SPIRITUAL CARE TRAINING PROGRAM

ONLINE WORKSHOP

Pope Francis has challenged everyone to think about their brothers and sisters in a new way as many are experiencing profound loneliness and isolation. The Archdiocese of Vancouver is offering the Spiritual Care Training Program as one way to answer this call.

The eight-week course teaches how to make yourself more available to seniors and others who can benefit from your genuine concern and presence in their lives. Some topics covered include aging, communication, boundaries and self-care.

The training is offered online via Zoom every

WHEN: Thursdays,
DURATION: February 1 to March 21
TIME: 1:30 p.m. — 4:00 p.m.
WHERE: Zoom
PROGRAM COST: \$30

Learn more & Register
beholdvancouver.org/events

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PARISH ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

TUE	6:30 pm	CWL MASS & MEETING JANUARY 23, 2024
MON – SAT	8:15 am – 8:30 am	MORNING PRAYERS
MON	10:00 AM	CATHOLIC FAITH IN PLAIN ENGLISH
TUE	7:00 PM	CHRISTIAN MEDITATION
WED	4:00 PM	MARIAN MOVEMENT CENACLE
WED	6:00 PM	PREP
THU	1:00 PM	CRAFT GROUP
THU	7:00 PM	ALPHA (STARTS FEBRUARY 22, 2024)
THU	7:15 PM	RCIA
FRI	9:30 AM—4:00 PM	ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
FRI	3:00 PM	DIVINE MERCY

The Spiritual Exercises in Daily Life Retreat



This is an intensive nine-month retreat geared for young adults seeking God's will in their life, with a focus on experiencing God. The retreat is personalized for each individual, specific to their situation and issues; Each person gets their own retreat director.

The Spiritual Exercises Retreat was composed by St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits). It is Church-approved, originally by Pope Paul III in 1548 (as part of the Catholic Reformation).

Normally, the Spiritual Exercises Retreat takes place intensively over the course of 40 days at a retreat house in silence and isolation. The "Daily Life" format is an adaptation made by St. Ignatius to allow people to pray the retreat whilst still continuing their daily lives. The "Daily Life" Retreat is prayed over the course of 9 months. A person prays for 1 hour a day (at home) and they meet weekly with their retreat director to discuss and discern the presence and action of God in the past week's prayer. The retreat also involves attending instructional lectures about prayer methodology and content.

LOCATION: ONLINE
WHEN: Tuesday, May 7, 2024

Get an Application Form for this retreat, email: coordinator@jsav.ca
Application Deadline: Thursday, February 15

For more information, including the full schedule, please visit: jsav.ca/the-spiritual-exercises.html

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

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CLICK the QR-CODE on the right



For more information, email:
stanthonywvalpha@gmail.com

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.wvan@gmail.com