

ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH - Archdiocese of Vancouver

CHRISTMAS DAY December 25th, 2016

Pastor: Very Rev. Fr. Gary Franken: g.franken@rcav.org
Asst. Pastor: Rev. Fr. Larry Lynn: l.lynn@rcav.org
Youth Ministry: Sr. Angela Marie, FSE: prep.sawv@rcav.org
OFFICE HOURS: Mon - Fri: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

2347 Inglewood Avenue
 West Vancouver, B.C. V7V 1Z9
 Office: (604) 926-6881
 Fax: (604) 926-3852
 Email: parish.sawv@rcav.org
 Website: <http://stawn.rcav.org>
Archdiocesan Website:
www.rcav.org



The Vatican is not usually recognized for its innovations. But recently, things begin to change, beginning with Christmas. The Vatican has replaced its traditional manger scene in St. Peter's square with a radically new one, raising a lot of questions.

The traditional manger scene is based upon St Luke's Gospel, where Joseph and Mary travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem; Jesus is born in a stable because there was no room in the inn, and the angels appear to shepherds in the fields announcing the Savior's birth.

But in Matthew's Gospel, Joseph and Mary do not travel to Bethlehem. Joseph receives a message from an angel to take Mary as his wife. When he does so, Jesus is born in Joseph's home. Now it is Matthew's version that the Vatican has chosen to be its Christmas scene. So, you would see a baby Jesus with His mother in Joseph's home and you would see Joseph's carpentry shop. Now you might find an angel or two, but no shepherds, no manger.

When the Vatican was questioned it says: "It's time for a change." I think you would agree with me this is a totally inadequate explanation to justify a change which has altered centuries of tradition. So, the question is "Why move from Luke's Gospel to Matthew's? Why move from a stable to a carpentry shop?"

Because the whole meaning of the feast that we celebrate tonight is that Jesus must move from the manger, into our own home. As exotic and romantic as it may be to picture Jesus surrounded by shepherds and sheep, it is more important to find Jesus where we live, where we work, and yes at times where we relax with friends and a few drinks. The Gospel of Matthew challenges us to bring Jesus into our lives, to bring Him home.

Bringing Jesus home means making Jesus' priorities, our priorities. People is Jesus' life. Putting people first: forgiving our enemies, and caring for the weakest among us. And that is not easy. I suppose it is for this reason that many people at this time of the year choose to keep Jesus in the manger. They love to look fondly upon the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay, and in a manger far, faraway.

The Gospel of Matthew calls us to bring Jesus into our lives. It calls us to let Him rule our hearts and to fill our hearts with love, forgiveness, and service.

Let's open our hearts and let Jesus in. For only those who do so, will know the true joy of this season and the wonder of Christ's birth. May God come to reside in your heart, in your life, and in your family.

Fr. Joseph



SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 PM;
 Sunday: 9:00 and 11:00 AM.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday to Friday: 8:00 AM;
 Saturdays & Public Holidays, 9:00 AM.

CONFESSIONS

Mon - Fri: before 8 AM Mass;
 Sat: 9:30 AM & 4:15 - 4:45 PM.

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

SUN	December 25 th Christmas Day	9 am	FOR PARISHIONERS <i>Sp. Int. Barbara/Robert Chase</i>
		11 am	
Mon	December 26 St Stephen	9:00 AM	† Jacqueline Cummings
Tue	December 27 St John	8 am	<i>Sp. Int. Nowakowski Family</i>
Wed	December 28 Holy Innocents	8 am	<i>In Thanksgiving</i>
Thu	December 29	8 am	<i>Sp. Int. Teotor Nowakowski</i>
Fri	December 30 Holy Family	8 am	† Jacqueline Cummings
Sat	December 31 New Year's Vigil	9 am	<i>In Thanksgiving</i> † Basim Azzam
		5:00 PM	
SUN	January 1 st Holy Mother of God	9 am	† Gerd Mueller FOR PARISHIONERS
		11 am	
Mon	January 2 Sts Basil/Gregory	9:00 AM	† David Kritzwiser
Tue	January 3	8 am	† Jacqueline Cummings
Wed	January 4	8 am	† Anthony Andrade
Thu	January 5	8 am	† Jacqueline Cummings
Fri	January 6	8 am 7:00 PM	† John † Margaret MICALLEF † Harry Kerin
Sat	January 7 St André Bessette	9 am 5 pm	<i>Sp. Int. Jean Azzam</i> FOR PARISHIONERS

THE PARISH OFFICE STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS ...

Wish one and all the Christmas
that our Lord wishes for you!





Merry Christmas!
As we enter the holy season of Christmas, We pray that you and yours will be blessed with the uplifting awareness of our Lord's birth

into your lives. I hope your Christmas celebrations are filled with joy.

May the love of the Christ-child be present to you as the mercy of God who comes to be with us in all the moments of our lives.

God bless for 2017!

Fr. Gary & Fr. Larry

**Thank you everyone
for the lovely Poinsettias
and for the flower funds from
those who were away at Christmas.**



BOXING DAY SKATING PARTY

11 am - 1 pm @ the Ice Arena

Thank you to Katherine IVANCIC and Marry VERBAARSCHOT and other volunteers, for looking after the skaters' energy by making available at the premises, hot drinks and cookies.

ALL WELCOME!



**HOLY MASSES FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**

December 31st 2016

5:00 PM

January 1st, 2017

9:00 AM

11:00 AM

CARDS AND CALENDARS PLEASE . . .

Catholic Charities Justice Services (CCJS), is asking donations of Christmas Cards and Calendars for prisoners, so they can send greetings to their loved ones.

A Collection Box marked *Prison Ministry* is located in the Lobby for your donations. Contact, mcbovard@gmail.com. for details on Prison Ministry. Thank you.

Mary Clare



REQUIESCANT IN PACE . . .

†Evelyn CURRAN and †Kelly DUNCAN.

Evelyn's Funeral Mass, Thursday, 29th, 11 AM.

May their souls and the souls of all faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION . . .

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI said this about Christmas:

"Joy is the true gift of Christmas.

We can communicate this joy simply: with a smile, a kind gesture, a little help, forgiveness.

And the joy we give will certainly come back to us . . .

Let us pray that this presence of the liberating joy of God shines forth in our lives."

Let us take that joy and share it with others;

let us take that joy and change our lives and the lives of others.

When we say "Merry Christmas"

let us mean it with every fabric of our being.

Copyright © 2016, by Joseph Daniel Potvin,

Joppa Stewardship Leaders, Ottawa

**2017 Calendars & Sunday Envelopes
Ready for pick-up in Vestibule.
Can't find your set of Envelopes?
Phone Joseph (604) 926-6881.**



ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL MASS FOR LIFE

Wednesday, 28th December, 12:10 pm @ HR Cathedral

Rosary begins at 11:30 AM followed by Mass.

Reception to follow in Holy Rosary Hall.

LIFE & LEGACY OF ST TERESA OF CALCUTTA

Sunday, 15th January, 1pm @ St. Mary's Ukrainian

550 West-14th Avenue, Vancouver.

Join Bishop Ken Nowakowski, Bishop of New Westminster, and Fr. Brian, a Ukrainian Missionary of Charity priest born in Winnipeg and postulator for Mother Teresa's Cause for Canonization who will do a presentation.

For Tickets: Deacon Mykhailo, 604-524-8824.

Bishop Ken Nowakowski - Bishop of New Westminster

WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS & REFUGEES

Sunday, 15th January, 2:30 pm @ St. Matthew's, Surrey

Pope Francis urges us to give hope to all migrants and refugees especially unaccompanied children unable to make their voices heard and easily become victims of grave violations.

Archbishop Miller, will celebrate the Mass.

ALL WELCOME!

ST MARK'S BA PROGRAM FOR TEACHERS

Wednesday, 18th January, 7 pm @ St. Mark's College

Want to be a teacher? Come visit St Mark's College at UBC. Offering a faith-based Bachelor of Arts Degree in Theology and Culture. Come and meet with current students, faculty and staff.

FREE Event! Register today!

ANNUAL ORDINANDI DINNER

Wednesday, 1st Feb, 5:30 pm @ The Italian Cultural Centre

Join Archbishop Miller and others as we gather together in support of **Deacons:** Francesco VOLTAGGIO, Giovanni SCHIESARI and Juan LUCA of our Archdiocese who are soon to be ordained to the priesthood. Visit: vocationsvancouver.ca.



Are You Young? High school and older?
Hungry? For knowledge of Catholic Faith?
Have doubts? Is Jesus Christ for real?
How do we know?

Then we have Great News!

Youth Alpha Film Series is Coming! Stay tuned!

Another Flash News!

Snowshoeing Adventure!

Saturday, 28th January, from 10:30 am - 3:30 pm.