

# ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH - Archdiocese of Vancouver



## 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 18, 2016

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

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[www.rcav.org](http://www.rcav.org)

**E**very year, Johnny's grandma always has to ask if he received the gift she sent him. Getting tired of it, she decided to stop asking.

The very next Christmas, Johnny stopped by in person to thank his grandmother for the check. When asked by a friend what caused this change in Johnny's behavior, the grandmother replied, **"Simple. This year I didn't sign the check."**

In the New Testament, both Gospels of St Matthew and St Luke describe the birth of Jesus.

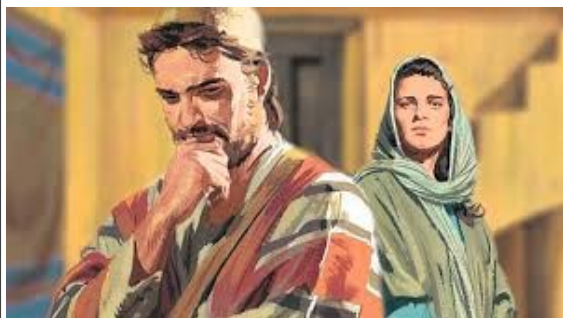
Luke's version is the one we will hear on Christmas day. He is quite a storyteller. He describes the journey to Bethlehem, the birth in a manger, the appearance to the shepherds, and the angel's song of **"Glory to God in the Highest"**.

In today's Gospel, Matthew's description of Jesus' birth is different. He describes Mary's unusual pregnancy and Joseph's doubt about whether he should take Mary into his home. This doubt is resolved with the help of the angel in Joseph's dream. In the very next phrase Matthew gives us his description of Jesus' birth: **"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus."** That's it! That's Matthew's description of Jesus' birth. Matthew tells us almost nothing about how Jesus was born.

Now why would Matthew describe Jesus' birth in this way? Why does he tell us so much about Joseph's doubts, Joseph's questions, and only mention the birth of Jesus in passing? Perhaps, Matthew wants to emphasize the importance of family issues in our own celebration of Christmas.

Jesus came into our world to minister to the poor, to the wounded, to the broken hearted. Therefore, the better way to celebrate His birth is for us to be attentive to our family and friends who struggle at this time of year. **BUT, there is shopping, baking, wrapping, sending Christmas cards, and preparing special foods that need being done!**

The Gospel of Matthew reminds us that we should be attentive to those like Joseph who struggled and doubted. Make sure that we have time for those who are struggling among our family members. We need to remember that the most important gift is the gift of self. Just like Jesus who has given us Himself



as gift for salvation and eternal life.  
**He is to be called Emmanuel: God with us.**

*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 18 <sup>th</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday ADVENT	9 am 11 am	† Jacqueline Cummings † Wegner † Kiefer Families
Mon	December 19	8 am	† Hernando † Lucy TORRES
Tue	December 20	8 am	<i>Sp. Int. Jeffrey Seymour</i>
Wed	December 21	8 am	† Trevor Scrase
Thu	December 22	8 am	† Hernando † Lucy TORRES
Fri	December 23	8 am	† Jacqueline Cummings
Sat	December 24  Christmas Vigil	9 am 5 pm Midnight	† Cheung Family <i>Sp. Int. Obiwmma Family</i> † Emanuele Fumagalli
SUN	December 25 <sup>th</sup> CHRISTMAS DAY	9 am 11 am	<b>FOR PARISHIONERS</b> <i>Sp. Int. Barbara/Robert CHASE</i>

### ST. ANTHONY'S SCHOOL

(604) 922-0011;  
[principal@saswv.ca](mailto:principal@saswv.ca)

### S. T. A. HIGH SCHOOL

(604) 987-4431  
[bdougan@aquinas.org](mailto:bdougan@aquinas.org)

Catholic Cemeteries: are a link between the living & the departed.



DATE	Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup> : 5 PM	Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup> : 9 AM	Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup> : 11 AM
HOSPITALITY	PAT BATTENSBY LORETTA v UNEN	HANAN HADDAD	RITA RACZ ELIZABETH HOLMAN
LECTOR	GLORIA LOWE	MARTINE BORE	DANTE AGOSTI-MORO
EMHC	ANNE FIELD	ROCIO HAUSER	BEATRIZ RAYNARD
SOCIAL HOSTS	*	ROCIO HAUSER	JOAQUIN CUE-GONZALEZ

St. Anthony's **P**arish **R**eligious **E**ducation **P**rogram (**PREP**): Every Wednesday for students in Grades 1 - 7 not attending Catholic Schools. For other Sacramental Information, phone the Parish Office or email: [parish.sawv@rcav.org](mailto:parish.sawv@rcav.org).



### POINSETTIA DONATIONS

Cecilia Son and the other *Flower Ministry* Volunteers are now on stand-by to receive your Poinsettia donations to adorn our Sanctuary. Please feel free to drop them off starting **Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> December.**

Should there be difficulties in personally delivering these Poinsettias, please don't hesitate to phone Joseph at the Office (604) 926-6881 and we will find a way to help you get these plants to St. Anthony's parish.

*Thank you. God bless.*

### SCHEDULE OF HOLY MASSES

#### CHRISTMAS

Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Eve)  
5:00 PM, and 12 Midnight  
Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Day)  
9:00 and 11 AM



#### NEW YEAR'S DAY

Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> (New Year's Eve)  
5:00 PM  
Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> (New Year's Day)  
9:00 and 11:00 AM

### POT-LUCK LUNCH

**with The Aswad's,  
our adopted Refugee Family.  
Tuesday, 20th December,  
Parish Hall. ALL WELCOME!  
Phone Gloria, (604) 922-6740.**



### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, at *St. Edmund's Parish*, 7:00 PM;  
Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup>, at *Christ the Redeemer Parish*, 7:00 PM;  
(usually a dozen priests available to hear confessions!);  
and Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 AM, at *St. Anthony's*.  
For Penitential Services elsewhere, go to: [rcav.org/advent-penitential-services](http://rcav.org/advent-penitential-services).

### CARDS & CALENDARS PLEASE . . .

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



A Collection Box marked *Prison Ministry* is located in the Lobby for your donations.

Contact Mary Clare at [mcbovard@gmail.com](mailto:mcbovard@gmail.com). for details on Prison Ministry. Thanks! *Mary Clare*

### PROJECT ADVANCE 2016

If you missed the Project Advance Volunteers' help this weekend, you still can contribute by phoning the Parish Office or online. Visit: [rcav.org](http://rcav.org) and click *Project Advance*.

To all who had already given, Thank you! God bless!

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



### BOXING DAY SKATING PARTY

11 am - 1 pm @ the Ice Arena.

Thank you to Katherine IVANCIC and Volunteers, for supplying the skaters' energy with hot drinks & cookies.

**ALL WELCOME!**

### REQUIESCAT IN PACE . . .

†Walter Bruce LEE

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



### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION . . .

In today's Gospel, Joseph was awoken by an Angel and immediately "did as the angel of the Lord commanded him". Joseph could not have possibly seen the entire picture of what was ahead, still, he trusted God and believed that he was doing the right thing.

Committing to making stewardship a way of life is the right thing to do. Even though you can't see the big picture when you first take that step in faith, you realize you've done the right thing because of the rewards that follow. The rewards come predominantly as a result of the day-to-day choices we make as stewards. Still, there are those occasional, 'out of nowhere' rewards that can only be attributed to God's grace.

"Stewardship is the right thing to do...its rewards can't be kept out!"

*Bishop Emeritus Eugene Gerber*

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**As a Parish community, we welcome  
Viktor Wesson TAUBENFLIGEL  
to God's Family as he receives the  
Sacrament of Baptism.**



### ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL MASS FOR LIFE

Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> December, 12:10 pm @ HR Cathedral  
Rosary begins at 11:30 AM followed by Mass.

Reception to follow in Holy Rosary Hall.

*"Defend and promote life from conception to its natural end".*

### LIFE & LEGACY OF ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

Sun. 15<sup>th</sup> January, 1pm @ St. Mary's Ukrainian Church  
550 West-14<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver.

*"Please plan on joining me and Fr. Brian, a Ukrainian Missionary of Charity priest born in Winnipeg and postulator for Mother Teresa's Cause for Canonization".*

*Bishop Ken Nowakowski* - Bishop of New Westminster

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

### WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS & REFUGEES

Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> 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 own voices heard and easily become victims of grave violations.

**Archbishop Miller, will celebrate the Mass.**

**ALL WELCOME!**

### ANNUAL ORDINANDI DINNER

Wed. 1<sup>st</sup> February, 5:30 pm @ *The Italian Cultural Centre*  
Join Archbishop Miller and members of the Catholic faithful as we gather together in support of the men in our Archdiocese who are soon "to be ordained" ("ordinandi") to the priesthood.

**Meet your future priests:** Deacon Francesco Voltaggio,  
Deacon Giovanni Schiesari, and Deacon Juan Lucca.

To sponsor a seminarian, visit: [vocationsvancouver.ca](http://vocationsvancouver.ca).

### STA SCHOOL

Boys' Basketball won 3 out of 4 tournaments entered.  
Christmas Holidays, the Senior boys are in Phoenix competing.

*A Blessed Christmas, Happy New Year!*