

ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH - Archdiocese of Vancouver



3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 11, 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://stawv.rcav.org>
Archdiocesan Website:
www.rcav.org

My friend John is always late in everything. One day, I said: "*Johnny, you are always late. Don't you own a watch?*" His answer was: "*You have watches; I have time*".

Christmas is both a cultural phenomenon and a religious event.

Cultural Christmas has a tremendous economic impact on all of us. Without increased Christmas sales most retailers would not be able to survive. Yet the influence of cultural Christmas is not limited to money, for it also conveys to society a set of spiritual beliefs. Even people who do not believe in Jesus, nevertheless, at Christmas feel the increased importance of family, tend to be more generous, and feel generally hopeful. Listening to Christmas songs or watching a TV specials, the spiritual values of caring for one another, working for peace, making the world a better place, are very clear. However, our cultural Christmas can somehow hijack its true meaning by taking out Christ and leaving Christmas become just a cultural phenomenon, a good cultural event.

As believers, we espouse more about Christmas than what cultural Christmas proposes. Christmas is more than just us loving one another. It is God loving us. It is not about what we do or should do, but about what God has done and continues to do. In other words, we believe in the Incarnation: that God took up a human nature; that God became one of us; that God became Savior for the world. That primacy of what God did and continues to do in our lives is at the heart of religious Christmas. It certainly is reflected in all the Scriptures.

Today, Isaiah says, "God is coming to save us." The letter of James says, "The Lord is near." And in Matthew's Gospel we see John the Baptist "preparing the way of the Lord." The Scriptures see the action of God as primary, and that action is certainly at the heart of religious Christmas.

So the relationship between cultural Christmas and religious Christmas is complex. Both are promoting peace, forgiveness, and love among people. Yet, religious Christmas believes in the centrality of God's action, which cultural Christmas sadly does not necessarily include.

So embrace the values of cultural Christmas but be thankful that you believe in God who became flesh - God Emmanuel. God continues to act in our world and in our life. Despite all of our shortcomings we can rejoice and not only sing about a Christmas of magic, of warmth, and of love, but with God's help we can find it and live it.



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 11 th 3 rd Sunday ADVENT	9 am 11 am	† Hernando † Lucy TORRES FOR PARISHIONERS
Mon	December 12 D L Guadalupe	8 am 6:00 PM	† Barbara Markwick † Jacqueline Cummings
Tue	December 13 St Lucy	8 am	† Gabriella Micallef
Wed	December 14 St John of the Cross	8 am	† Jacqueline Cummings
Thu	December 15	8 am	† Marlene Andrade
Fri	December 16	8 am	† Wilfred Ellerbeck
Sat	December 17	9 am 5 pm	In Honour of St Philomena FOR PARISHIONERS
SUN	December 18 th 4 th Sunday ADVENT	9 am 11 am	† Jacqueline Cummings † Wegner † Kiefer Families

ST. ANTHONY'S SCHOOL

(604) 922-0011;
principal@saswv.ca

S. T. A. HIGH SCHOOL

(604) 987-4431
bdougan@aquinas.org

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



DATE	Dec. 17 th : 5 PM	Dec. 18 th : 9 AM	Dec. 18 th : 11 AM
HOSPITALITY	PAT BATTENSBY LORETTA v UNEN	KATHY NG ROCIO HAUSER	JOAN FORRESTER LORNA DALINGHAUS
LECTOR	WALTONS	IVY WEI	DELIA HUGHES
EMHC	ROLANDO ISLAS	ROSE ZALWANGO	MONIQUE CATTERMOLLE
SOCIAL HOSTS	*	A & C ADAM	MARRY VERBAARSCHOT

St. Anthony's Parish Religious Education Program (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.



FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Monday, 12th December

Mass at 6:00 PM followed by
Pot-luck Dinner in the Hall.

For details on what to contribute, phone
Sole Barraza (925-4360),
Beatriz Raynard (921-6011), or
Irma Schiele (778) 280-3412,
event coordinators.

SSVDP CHRISTMAS HAMPER

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you ALL for supporting our St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper Drive. We are done now and any extra bags that come in will go to the CWL *Our Lady of Good Counsel Domestic Abuse Services* for the families and children who are also in need.

Thank you to ALL who volunteered in sorting, filling the boxes and delivering, especially the STUDENTS. It made a huge difference! Wishing EVERYONE a Blessed Christmas!

JoAnn

CARDS AND 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.
for details on Prison Ministry. Thank you.

Mary Clare Bovard

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Wednesday, December 21st, at *St. Edmund's Parish*, 7:00 PM;
Friday, 23rd, at *Christ the Redeemer Parish*, 7:00 PM;
(usually a dozen priests available to hear confessions!);
and Saturday, December 24th, 9:30 AM,
at *St. Anthony's Parish*.

**Poinsettias for Christmas Celebrations
are most welcome starting 19th Dec.
Yellow Envelopes are also available in
Vestibule for donations if you'll be away
at Christmas. God bless!**



ST ANTHONY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL . . .

Information Evening,
Monday, 12th December, 6 PM
in the *Multi-Purpose Room*
for families who have a child ready to enter
Kindergarten in September, 2017.
Application packages will be available.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION . . .

This 3rd Sunday of Advent is known as *Gaudete Sunday*.
Gaudete means to rejoice. We light the pink-coloured candle in
the Advent wreath because its colour is a symbol of joy!
A life of discipleship and stewardship is itself infused with
intense joy. We discover that a Christ-centred life,
not a self-centred life, is both joyful and rewarding.
Stewardship is to walk the road of joy. The joy radiates from
giving, and thus, joy shared is joy multiplied.

At the heart of stewardship is an attitude of gratitude.

When gratitude to God is behind our giving
then joy naturally accompanies each gift we give.

Stewardship is joyful and grateful giving.

It's more than giving to a need...its needing to give!

Copyright © 2016, by Joseph Daniel Potvin, Joppa Stewardship Leaders, Ottawa

OPERATION GOOD GRINCH! Socks, Underwear, Toiletries, PLS for the North Shore Homeless.

Supporting us, **Simons & Hollyburn Pharmacy.**
Drop-off, **Dundarave Festival Longhouse,**
4-6 pm Sat. 17 Dec.

DAY OF PRAYER WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Monday, 12th December

The *Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops* and the
Aboriginal Council have promoted the annual *National Day
of Prayer* since 2002. It is celebrated on 12th December,
the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, who Pope Pius XII
proclaimed patroness of the Americas in 1946.

THINK OF THE SEAFARERS AT CHRISTMAS

Tired of shopping? We will do the shopping for you!
Write a cheque to "*Archdiocese of Vancouver*," with "*Seafarers
Gifts*" on the memo line. A charitable receipt will be issued for
donations of \$20 or more. Last year we gave out 3,000 presents.

Donations can also be made online at rcav.org/seafarers.

BISHOP KEN NOWAKOWSKI WRITES . . .

Dear Friends,

Many of you know that the Eparchy of New Westminster is hosting
Fr. Brian Kolodiejchuk, *MC* who will be giving three talks in our Eparchy about
the *Life and Legacy of St. Teresa of Calcutta*.

Fr. Brian was born in Winnipeg and is a Ukrainian Catholic priest. He knew
St. Teresa very well and was the postulator for her Cause for Canonization.

Fr. Brian will be sharing interesting insights into the process to have this
amazing Catholic nun declared a Saint by Pope Francis. He will share Mother
Teresa's message of "love in living action" - especially to the poor - beginning in
one's own family, parish community, work, that is, where we are.

Fr. Brian will also share his experiences as an MC priest.

Please plan on joining me and Fr. Brian on:

Sunday, 15th January, 1pm

St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Parish,

550 West-14th Avenue, Vancouver.

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

Bishop Ken Nowakowski - Bishop of New Westminster

STA CORNER . . . (604) 987-4431

Fine Arts Evening, Monday, 12th December,
7 PM in the school gym.

"Lose Locks for Cancer": 15 students shaved
their heads bare to raise funds for cancer.

Last day of school 16th December.

