

ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH - Archdiocese of Vancouver

SECOND SUNDAY - ADVENT December 9th, 2018

Pastor: Fr. Gary Franken: gfranken@rcav.org
Asst. Pastor: Fr. Larry Lynn: llynn@rcav.org
Parish Deacon: Mr. Tony Gray: tgray@rcav.org
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LGH Deacon: Mr. Richard Podgurski: rpodgurski@rcav.org
Parish Office: Mr. Joseph Maravillas/Mrs. Isabella Raynard
OFFICE HOURS: Mon - Fri: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

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The novelist George Bernanos once asked the question, "What is the opposite of a Christian people?" I can think of a few - like a pagan people, a hypocritical people, a merciless people, *etc.* The Readings for this second Sunday in Advent give a better clue.

We hear from the prophet Baruch, "Take off your dress of sorrow and distress." We hear from the psalmist, "What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed, we were glad." We hear from St. Paul, "I pray for all of you. I pray with joy, remembering how you helped spread the Good News." We hear from the Gospel of St. Luke, "And all shall see the salvation of God".

Bernanos said that the opposite of a Christian people is a sad people. A sad people! What would be the point? Why turn God's Good News into bad news or sad news?

Next Sunday is *Gaudete* Sunday, *Rejoice* Sunday, but this year the Lectionary gives us a head start on rejoicing in Advent. That is as it should be. Our joy as Christians cannot be contained. It must not be restrained. The penitential always gives way to the salvific. That's the only point of our penance: to make our path straight for rejoicing, to liberate us from the sadness.

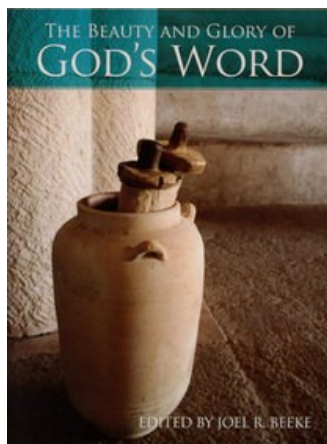
Christians cannot oppose the world's misdirected "spirit of Christmas" with some kind of sober sadness or any kind of preaching guilt-trip. They must oppose it with their joy. What is the source of our joy? Exactly the Good News being celebrated, sung, spread and proclaimed in our Readings: God has come to be with us. And God shall come again so that we may be with Him forever. And not only us, for "all shall see the salvation of God". It's not any "spirit" of Christmas, it is Christmas.

We are all touched by sadness, and the pain in human lives. We don't so much hide it away as we put all that, in its proper place. And it is not that our faith does not motivate us to make our world a better place.

We can ask, as anyone might, why, despite the best efforts of men and women of good will, there is still war, hunger, sickness, loneliness and all manner of sorrow in our world, but we cannot say, as others might, that God does not know or that God does not care.

In Christ Jesus God has manifested the depth of His care for us. God is with us and God wants us to be with Him forever.

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 9 th SECOND SUNDAY ADVENT | 9 am 11 am | FOR PARISHIONERS <i>Sp. Int. Gary Ho</i> |
|-----|---|-----------------|--|
| Mon | December 10 | 8 am | <i>Sp. Int. Gary & Margaret</i> |
| Tue | December 11 | 8 am | † Hernando & Lucy TORRES |
| Wed | December 12 OL of Guadalupe | 8 am 6:15 PM | † Alison & Peter SEELEY † Jacqueline Cummings |
| Thu | December 13 St. Lucy | 8 am | † Gabriella Micallef |
| Fri | December 14 St. John the Cross | 8 am | † Jimmy Cooper |
| Sat | December 15 | 9 am 5 pm | <i>In Honour of St. Philomena</i> † Martha Junker |
| SUN | December 16 th THIRD SUNDAY ADVENT | 9 am 11 am | <i>Sp. Int. Margaret Chung</i> FOR PARISHIONERS |

ST. ANTHONY'S SCHOOL

(604) 922-0011;

S. T. A. HIGH SCHOOL

(604) 987-4431

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



| DATE | Sat. Dec. 15 th : 5PM | Sun. Dec. 16 th : 9 AM | Sun. Dec. 16 th : 11 AM |
|--------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| HOSPITALITY | C. OBERTI GLORIA LOWE | ROCIO HAUSER HANAN HADDAD | LARRY TRACH RITA RACZ |
| LECTOR | GLORIA LOWE | IVY WEI | DANTE AGOSTI-MORO |
| EMHC | ROLANDO ISLAS | ROCIO HAUSER | GIOVANNI BITELLI |
| SOCIAL HOSTS | ◊ | A & C ADAM | MARRY VERBAARSCHOT |

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.

WELCOME TO ST. ANTHONY'S . . .

St. Anthony's Parish welcomes *Epiphany Sacred Arts Guild*, a society of artists in the Archdiocese promoting the practice and appreciation of the Sacred Arts. Religious items and Icons ON SALE after Masses.

CATHOLIC FAITH in Plain English
Monday, Dec. 10th, 11 AM in the Hall.

Topic: "The Word of God"
Catholics & non-Catholics, WELCOME!
Attend, even for just a few sessions.

The Catholic Faith
In Plain English



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE FEAST DAY & POT-LUCK DINNER

Wednesday, December 12th
Evening Mass @ 6:15 PM
followed by POT-LUCK DINNER.
Music by the Mariachi Band.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) started last Thursday December 6th, and will continue weekly thereafter. The sessions will begin at 7:15 p.m. and will conclude at 8:45 p.m. in St. Anthony's Parish Hall.

If you or a family member are considering coming into full communion with the Catholic Church or if you are a Catholic and would like to learn more about your faith come join us. Each session has a 'live' presentation and opportunity for discussion and questions. Companions are most welcome.

For more information, contact Deacon Tony.

ST PHILOMENA
Prayer Meeting and Social:
Saturday, December 15th
after the 9 AM Mass
in the Hobson Room.
ALL WELCOME!



BLESSING OF THE CHRIST CHILD FIGURE

As we begin Advent and families start to think about decorating their homes for the Christmas Season, please remember as you set up your Christmas Creche, to bring the Christ Child figure to any one of the Masses on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to have it blessed.

ALTAR FLOWERS AT CHRISTMAS

If you would like to contribute toward the flowers which will decorate our altar during the Christmas Season, and have your loved ones remembered at all the *New Year's Day Masses*, you may do so by completing the card inside the yellow envelopes which can be found in the Vestibule. Simply print the names of those to be remembered on the card, and slip it back into the envelope along with your contribution. Seal the envelope and place it in the collection basket or hand it in at the parish office.



More information? See Deacon Tony.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS:

Dec. 1st - Jan. 5th

Saturday, Dec. 1st, families, community groups, performing artists and local businesses have put their heart and soul into decorating the *Forest of Miracles* again this season.



This year, the *Forest of Miracles* has raised over \$11,000 which will be matched by the *Lookout Foundation* to provide housing for homeless North Shore seniors.

Come and enjoy the *Forest of Miracles* and don't miss the next 3 Saturdays festive celebrations of concerts, food and drinks. Details, phone Mary Markwick: (778) 847-1426.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION . . .

"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..." *Philippians 1:9-10*

Glittery holiday ads can blind us to our stewardship values and distort our needs and wants. It is important that during this season of endless buying we remember that each of us also has the need to give back to God and to those that are in need.

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ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES

Wednesday, Dec. 19th, 9:30 AM, St. Stephen's Parish;

Wednesday, Dec. 19th, 7:00 PM, St. Edmund's Parish;

Friday, Dec. 21st, 7:00 PM, Christ the Redeemer Parish.

CONCERTS . . . On the North Shore

Monday, December 10th

7:00 PM @ STA High School

Featuring S.T.A. Concert Bands and Jazz Ensembles;

Monday, December 16th

2 PM @ Memorial Library, West Vancouver;

4 PM @ St. Andrew's United Church, North Vancouver

Featuring *Laudate Singers'* concert for kids and their families.

For more information, phone: (604) 729-6814.

FR. LARRY MARCHING FOR LIFE

Friday, January 18th, in Washington, D.C.

Father Larry Lynn is going to Washington, D.C.

to march for joy, for love, for peace...to march for life.

Anyone interested to join him? Clergy? Youth ministers,

Old Guard Pro-Lifers?

Come to Washington and help Father Larry bring back some of that beautiful energy that is generated by 500,000 people, mostly young people, all celebrating the simple fact that life is precious.

URGENT NEED @ SA PARISH . . .

2nd Sundays, 9 AM After-Mass Host

to replace our former volunteer

who just delivered her baby.

Please call Lollie (604) 926-1411.



NEXT WEEK'S SPECIAL COLLECTION

Volunteers of *St. Vincent de Paul Society* help people in need wherever they live - in their homes, on the street, in shelters, in hospitals or in prison. Their ministry is always based on love of neighbor in the local community.

Your generous donation to the society helps these volunteers to continue in their ministry.