



St. Anthony's Parish

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - NOVEMBER 29, 2020

Sunday reflection

Little Johnny said to his uncle, "Thanks for the electric guitar you gave me for Christmas. It's the best present I ever got." The uncle said, "You're welcome. Do you know how to play it?" Coyly Johnny responded, "Oh, I don't play it. Mom gives me a dollar a day not to play it during the day and Dad gives me five dollars a week not to play it at night".

As beautiful as the Christmas season is, there is no doubt that it places increasing demands upon us. Planning, shopping, and preparations for family gatherings, absorb our time and our energy making it very possible to miss what is truly important.

Today's Gospel tells us to stay awake, to stay awake to what really matters. There is no guarantee that simply because we are in a flurry of activities, we are awake to what is of true value. The ultimate success of the coming hectic weeks will be in our ability to recognize the spiritual and personal dimensions of all that we do. After all, what is the value of gathering together when we are too tired to enjoy each other's company? What advantage is it to find the perfect gift if the search makes us irritable and impatient with people we love? What is the importance of checking off everything from our holiday list, if it blinds us to the moments of grace that God places in our life?

Those moments of grace are at the heart of the holiday season. Those moments are what we cannot miss. It is for those moments that we must stay awake. Christ is with us, and Christ does plan to bless us in the upcoming weeks, with tenderness, reconciliation, and joy. But the success of the holidays will depend on our ability to recognize those moments and to take them in.

This is the Cherokee Indians' beautiful story of creation: After God created everything, He asked all the plants of creation to stay awake for seven days in celebration of the earth. But with each passing day, more and more of the plants grew tired and fell asleep. On the seventh day, only two plants were still awake: the pine tree and the holly bush. So, God blessed them and said to them, "Because you stayed awake, you will remain green forever. In the heart of the winter you will remain sentinels of life. So, to this day the Cherokee Indians say that when winter comes, all the other plants lose their leaves and fall asleep. But the pine and the holly bush stay awake.

Now clearly the pine and the holly are traditional signs of Christmas. Let them remind us to stay awake to the things that really matter. The upcoming weeks are not about our tasks but about our relationships. After all, the upcoming weeks are not about what we will do, but what Christ will do for us. For Christ will indeed bless us with moments of grace. Those moments are what we must not miss. It is for those moments that we must stay awake.

Fr. Joseph

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Office Hours:
Mon - Fri: 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Closed during lunch from
12:00 to 12:30 PM

MASS TIMES

(NO IN-PERSON MASSES)

Live streamed Mass:
10:30 am Sunday
6:30 pm Tuesday
9:00am Thursday &
First Fridays

Click [here](#) for the Live-
Streamed Masses

[Click here](#) for Mass readings

CONFESSION

(In the vestibule, but enter
downstairs by the office)
Saturday: 10:00 - 11:00 am &
3:00 - 4:00 pm
(See reverse for Advent times)

Advent Message Week 1

Candle Name: Prophet's Candle

Candle Symbolizes: Hope

Reminds Us: Jesus is coming

And again, Isaiah says, "The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; in him the Gentiles will hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15: 12-13



Prayer

Heavenly Father, Advent is a time for remembering and reflecting on the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Father, I pray that you will turn our hearts toward you as Christmas approaches. Let us not get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the season this year and miss the chance to celebrate the gifts of hope, peace, joy, love, that you sent to us on that first Christmas.

Help us to see that you are with us. Nothing is too difficult, too messy, or too dirty for you. Jesus came to give us the gift of eternal life through the salvation that only you, our Heavenly Father, can give when we believe in your Son, repent of our sins, and confess Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

That first Christmas, you gave us the gift of hope wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. Thank you, Father, for your immeasurable gift. In Jesus' precious name, we pray. Amen

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat - Nov 28 <i>St. Catherine Laboure</i>	<i>Sp. Int. of William Andrew</i> Thanksgiving day † Engr. Federico Palisoc
Sun - Nov 29 <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>	FOR PARISHIONERS † Mamerta Abril † Florence Higgs † Cecilia Lam
Mon - Nov 30	<i>Sp. Int. of Alina Smortchevsky</i>
Tue - Dec 01	<i>Sp. Int. of Lyndon Little</i> Pandemic
Wed - Dec 02	† Vera Daly
Thu - Dec 03 <i>St. Francis Xavier</i>	† Tadeusz Pason
Fri - Dec 04	† Ed Hauser † Martha Junker
Sat - Dec 05	† Basim Azzam <i>Sp. Int. of Bernie and Terance Chung</i> † Timothy James Culff
Sun - Dec 06 <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Vocations</i> FOR PARISHIONERS † Charles Brandt † Joe Jarvis

Dear Parishioners,
Since we no longer have our six Sunday Masses, not every intention can be taken care of on the given Sunday. However, Fr. Scott and I will ensure that all Mass intentions will be satisfied in the week for which they have been taken.
Fr. Gary

Spiritual Adoption of the Unborn

Last year, on December 8th (the Immaculate Conception), an intrepid group of Parishioners at St. Anthony's decided to participate in a nine-month spiritual adoption program. Involving a single decade of the Rosary (along with the brief adoption prayer by Blessed Archbishop Fulton Sheen) daily, nine months of consecutive private prayers joyfully concluded on September the 8th (the Nativity of the BVM). With a successful trial-run complete, the whole parish is now invited to partake in the same nine-month prayer journey as a church community.



Prayer cards will be available, and look for monthly details with inspiring and informative facts about each stage of pre-natal development. Upon completion, a parish party will be organized, and gifts will be welcome to be brought to the "birthday" celebration, namely: donations to help young mothers, the North Shore Pro-Life society, etc.

Project Advance

We thank all those who have contributed for their support of our parish and would encourage all parishioners to prayerfully consider making a donation. The funds collected this year will go to our planned seismic upgrade and to the initiatives noted on the PA website at support.rcav.org/stanthonywestvanpa/. Please visit this website for further information and to make a donation. May God bless everyone.

ARCHDIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Communion after Livestreamed Mass

This weekend there will not be distribution of the Holy Communion. We will keep you up to date with the upcoming dates in the future.

Private Prayer in the Church

From 10 am to 4 pm Monday to Saturday (and 8 pm on Thursdays) the church is open for private prayer. There will be sanitizing products available for your use. Please see below for additional information on adoration on Thursdays and first Fridays

Adoration on Thursdays and First Fridays

Adoration on Thursdays from 10 am until 8 pm and First Fridays from 10 am to 4 pm. Since we need to have someone at all times during adoration, click [here](#) to register.

Confession Times during Advent

In addition to our Saturday confessions from 10 am to 11 am and 3 pm to 4 pm, during Advent there will also be additional scheduled opportunities for confession. Fridays 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Also, on Saturday December 12th (the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe), the Archdiocesan "day of mercy", continuously from 10 am to 4 pm.



ARCHDIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe for Deacon Richard Conlin | From Thursday, Dec. 3 to Friday, Dec. 11

There will be a diocesan novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe for Deacon Richard Conlin starting on Thursday, Dec. 3. The novena will conclude on his priestly ordination day on Friday, Dec. 11, the day before the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Sign up to receive daily prayers via email at rcav.org/ordination.

Advent Retreat: Ero Cras - "Tomorrow, I Will Be" | Friday, Dec. 4 at 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm on Zoom

Join Father Juan Lucca and Barb Dowding at this year's Advent Retreat: Ero Cras (Tomorrow, I Will Be), where we will explore the rich symbols in Advent and share the intricate details of the Christmas liturgy to help prepare us for the coming of Christ at Christmas, where our hope and our joy will be full. This retreat will take place Friday, Dec. 4 at 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm on Zoom. Register online at beholdvancouver.org/events

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Jesus exhorts us to "keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming." One tremendous way we can keep awake is to receive God's merciful love in the sacrament of reconciliation especially this Advent. Let us take this season of preparation to become better stewards by properly preparing our own souls for the coming of Christ in our lives.

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ST ANTHONY'S KIDS BULLETIN

*Advent is Here!
Jesus is coming!*

In a few weeks, it will be Christmas! During this season of Advent, we remember Jesus' first coming and get ourselves and our homes ready to celebrate His birthday.

Lighting the candles on an Advent wreath helps us to remember that Jesus, the light of the world, is coming. We start with one candle and every week, light one more so that the closer we get to Jesus' birthday, the brighter it gets.

Do you have an Advent wreath at home? Send in a drawing or photo for next week's bulletin

Today is the first Sunday in Advent
(Year B)

Liturgical colour - Purple

Gospel - Mark 13: 33 - 37



Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you

This Week's Gospel

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Watch out and be ready! You don't know when the time will come. It is like what happens when a man goes away for a while and places his servants in charge of everything. He tells each of them what to do, and he orders the watchmen to be on their guard.”

“So be on your guard! You don't know when the master of the house will come back. It could be in the evening or at midnight or before dawn or in the morning. But if he comes suddenly, don't let him find you asleep. I tell everyone just what I have told you. Be on your guard!”

We are starting a new season and a new year in our church.

The season is called _____.

Which Year is it? Circle the correct answer : A B C

First Sunday of Advent (Year B)

"Be on watch, be alert, for you do not know when the time will come"

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37



Charity no 1160384 and a company limited by guarantee no 09387398. Illustration: Emma Metcalfe

Look at the illustration. It is very busy with lots of things going on. Can you spot:

- The person who needs someone to be kind to them?
- The person who needs someone to share with them?
- The person who needs some help?

Think about what you would do to help one of these people and draw yourself into the picture.

Decoder Puzzle

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the number to reveal the coded word.

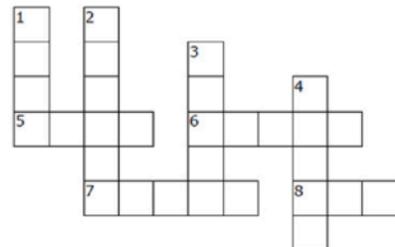
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
O	H	R	E	I	V	J	F	M	X	Y	G	C	B	S	N	A	Q	K	T	P	W	Z	U	L	D

- 2-4-17-6-4-16 _____
- 4-10-21-4-13-20 _____
- 20-2-5-4-8 _____
- 13-1-9-4 _____
- 17-16-12-4-25-15 _____
- 2-1-24-3 _____
- 3-4-17-26-11 _____
- 22-17-20-13-2 _____

HEAVEN	WATCH	READY	COME
EXPECT	ANGELS	HOUR	THIEF

Ready for His Return Crossword

"No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect Him."



ACROSS

- A period of time sixty minutes long
- One who steals something
- The time period from sunset until sunrise
- The period from sunrise until sunset

DOWN

- Man in the Bible who built an ark
- To come back
- To look or observe attentively or carefully
- To be prepared or available for service or action

HOUR	NIGHT	WATCH	READY
DAY	NOAH	RETURN	THIEF