

ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE 2023

SAT
DEC 23

9:00 am & 4:30 pm
Confessions
10 to noon & 3:30 to 4:15 pm

SAT
DEC 30

9:00 am & 4:30 pm

SUN
DEC 24

8:30 am & 10:30 am
Christmas Eve
4:30 pm & 10:00 pm

SUN
DEC 31

8:30 am & 10:30 am
New Year's Eve
4:30 pm

MON
DEC 25

Christmas Day
8:30 am & 10:30 am

MON
JAN 1

New Year's Day
8:30 am & 10:30 am

Pastor: Fr. Wilfred Gomes

Temporary Adm:
Rev. Vincent Hawkswell
tel.: 604-671-5301

vhawkswell@rcav.org

Parish Deacon: Dcn. Tony Gray
Accounting: Elizabeth Bell
Adm. Assistant: Cleiser Oliveira

SUNDAY MASSES

SAT 4:30 pm (anticipated mass)
SUN 8:30 am | 10:30 am

DAILY MASSES

MON – SAT 9:00 am
1ST FRIDAY 6:30 pm

CONFESSIONS

MON – SAT 8:30 am–8:50 am
SAT 3:30 pm–4:15 pm

Online Giving Offertory

SCAN WITH MOBILE PHONE OR CLICK THE
QR-CODE



2347 Inglewood Ave., West Van,
Tel: (604) 926-6881
Email: parish.sawv@rcav.org
Web: stanthonywestvan.com
Follow us Instagram:
[@stanthonyswv](https://www.instagram.com/stanthonyswv)



... "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." Luke 2:7-15

ADVENT MESSAGE_WEEK 3

Candle Name: Shepherd's Candle
Candle Symbolizes: Joy
Reminds Us: The Joy the world experienced at the birth of Jesus

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

News in and around the Parish

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 18

9:00 am - *Sp. Int. of John Waldock*

Tuesday, December 19

9:00 am - *Sp. Int. of Adeline B*

Wednesday, December 20

9:00 am - † Jaroslaw Domanski

Thursday, December 21

9:00 am - † Tadeusz Domanski

Friday, December 22

9:00 am - *Sp. Int. of Margaret Langero*

Saturday, December 23

9:00 am - *Sp. Int. of Chris Charles*

4:30 pm - † Sr. Severina Aquino

Sunday, December 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 am - *Sp. Int. of Andrew Family*

10:30 am - *Parishioners*

Christmas Eve

4:30 pm - *Sp. Int. of Sheila Vicic*

Midnight Mass

10:00 pm - *Sp. Int. of Altemir Pinto*

PARISH ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

SUN—DEC 24 9:30 pm

Carol singing

TUE—DEC 26 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Boxing day Skating party

THU—DEC 28 12:00 pm

Community Lunch

WED—JAN 1

Centennial Logo Contest Deadline

MON — SAT 8:15 am — 8:30 am

MORNING PRAYERS

MON 10:00 AM

CATHOLIC FAITH IN PLAIN ENGLISH

TUE 7:00 PM

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

WED 4:00 PM

MARIAN MOVEMENT CENACLE

WED 6:00 PM

PREP

THU 1:00 PM

CRAFT GROUP

THU 7:00 PM

ALPHA

THU 7:15 PM

RCIA

FRI 9:30 AM—4:00 PM

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

FRI 3:00 PM

DIVINE MERCY

1ST FRI 7:00 PM

PARISH HOLY HOUR

3RD SAT 9:30 AM

ST. PHILOMENA PRAYER GROUP

3RD SAT 6:30 PM

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

2ND SUN 10:30 AM

PARISH STUDENT MASS

SUNDAY ENVELOPES

Sunday Offering Envelopes are available for you in the vestibule.

Cannot find your envelopes?
Phone Parish Office.

CENTENNIAL BOXING DAY SKATING PARTY

Everyone is invited to join us for our traditional skating party at West Vancouver Ice Arena.

DATE: TUESDAY, DEC 26TH

TIME: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

REFRESHMENTS: PROVIDED

Bring family members & friends!

All are welcome!



CHRISTMAS CAROLING DON'T MISS THE FUN:

Come one, come all. Join the St. Anthony's caroling group as we prepare to participate in the Dundarave Festival of Light Bonfire Lighting on December 23rd at 6:00pm. If interested, we look forward to you joining as many rehearsals as you are able to. The rehearsal dates are

DEC 18TH AND 22ND.

For more information, call Tricia at 604-922-1152 or the parish office.



ST. ANTHONY'S CAROLLING

St. Anthony's choir invites you to join them for a carolling from 9:30 to 10:00 pm. followed by Christmas Eve Mass.

COMMUNITY LUNCH

THU, DEC 28TH at noon

Join us on for our next community lunch. Invite friends and neighbours along and join fellow parishioners for a delicious lunch. RSVP to the parish office.



News in and around the Parish

CATHOLIC FAITH IN PLAIN ENGLISH

Catholic Faith sessions every **MONDAY at 10 am - 12 pm** in the hall. Catholics & non-Catholics are welcome to join us even for a few sessions.

Session 16: Dec 18, 2023

MARY AND JOSEPH



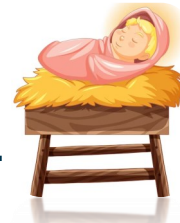
THE MAKING OF THE NATIVITY SCENE

Families are invited to join the making of the nativity scene on Dec 23 after the 9:00 am Mass. There will be hot chocolate, hot apple cider and cookies for everyone. Come and it'll be fun for all!



BLESSING OF CHRIST CHILD FIGURES

If you bring your Christ Child figure from your home Crèche to any of the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day Masses at St. Anthony's, they will be blessed.



ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH CENTENNIAL LOGO CONTEST

JANUARY 31, 2024.

Do you feel inspired to create a logo for our wonderful Parish? The chosen logo will be displayed as part of our new website, letterhead, envelopes, bulletins, and social media.

All designs and ideas welcome! Prizes for first place and runner up.

Submit your creative design by For more information and to submit your design, send an email to the Centennial Committee via: saintanthony.wvan@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT DEC 24, 4:30 PM MASS

A reminder to the parents who would like their children (ages 4-15 yrs) to participate in this year's December 24th Children Christmas Mass/Pageant.

The Mass will be at 4:30 pm and a rehearsal will take place at 4:00 pm in the Church Hall. Your children should arrive, in an angel or shepherd costume (no Church costumes are available) at the hall, promptly at 4:00 pm.

Parents will leave their children in our Pageant Committee's care and proceed to the Church, to choose a seat for your family. Please save a seat for your children, because they will come and sit with you just before Mass begins at 4:30pm.

Merry Christmas from the Pageant Committee!



FIAT SNOWSHOE

Come spend quality time with the Religious Sisters of the Archdiocese and have fun outdoors on Saturday, January 6! We will meet at St. Anthony's Parish in West Vancouver and start with Mass at 9 a.m., then drive to Cypress for the snowshoe up Black Mountain. The trail is a 5.3-km snowshoe loop with a beautiful view at the top.

All women aged 18-35 are welcome! There is no cost. Please pack a bagged lunch and bring your snowshoes. If you need help getting snowshoes or a ride, please contact Sister Mary Martha at smmhetzler@rcav.org. Learn more and register at beholdvancouver.org/events.

Registration deadline: Wednesday, January 3



PRO LIFE CHRISTMAS CARDS

Stay in touch this Christmas! Check out our beautiful selection of Pro Life Christmas Cards.

They are available in the office **\$10 per pack.**

Pro-Life Christmas cards and prints will be available at the CWL Advent Breakfast.



News in and around the Parish

ARCHBISHOP MILLER'S MESSAGE FOR ADVENT

A fellow priest with whom I lived and taught for many years always used to remind us at the beginning of Advent that Christmas “comes at the worst time of year.” We have shopping, writing Christmas greetings, putting up decorations, and endless social gatherings. Although it is supposed to be the season of “waiting” and “preparation,” we are mostly spinning our wheels frantically just trying to keep afloat.

We usually slide by the season and make it into a mini-Christmas. Indeed, Christmas carols have already been serenading us for weeks. The time before Christmas that the Church so carefully puts aside as a special liturgical season is absorbed into the feast that follows.

Even if we lament the so-called “over-commercialization” of Christmas, a point fairly taken, we can still look at Advent as a great blessing for us and even for a seemingly indifferent world. Despite its being ignored or absorbed by Christmas, Advent is still a time when forces of kindness and generosity are mobilized, and we should rejoice at that.

The very fact that people feel something different or special at this time of year is a cause for rejoicing. In the words of then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, “Advent’s intention is to awaken the most profound and basic emotional hope within us, namely, the memory of the God who became a child. This is a healing memory; it brings hope. It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors to hope.”

But how should we celebrate Advent? We do so as a four-week preparation for the coming of the Lord. First, at his Second Coming, which is emphasized in the early weeks. Originally, in fact, Advent was held to be primarily a period of getting ready to greet the Lord when he comes in glory at the end of the ages. Second, of course, and what is more to the forefront, is Advent as a preparation for our celebration of the Lord’s Birth at Christmas.

In the fifth century, St. Cyril of Alexandria distinguished the two “comings” of Jesus in this way:

In his first coming he was wrapped in swaddling clothes in the manger. In his second coming he is clothed with light as with a garment. In his first coming he bore the cross, despising its shame; he will come a second time in glory accompanied by the hosts of angels. It is not enough for us, then, to be content with his first coming; we must wait in hope of his Second Coming.

Dear friends: May this Advent draw you ever closer to the Lord Jesus Christ, anticipating with hope his coming at the close of the ages, and celebrating with joy the staggering and wondrous mystery that the Word was made flesh and was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem.

+ J. Michael Miller, CSB
Archbishop of Vancouver

THE GIVING TREE—ADVENT

During this 2023 Advent Season, St Anthony’s Parish will give parishioners the opportunity to make Christmas “happy” for many needy people.

In our church foyer, you will find a “Giving Tree” with a variety of paper ornaments on it. If you wish to participate please follow the steps below:

- Purchase the gift cards;
- Place each gift card in an envelope together with the paper ornament;
- Place the envelope in the locked black metal mailbox outside parish office door.

All gifts will be delivered by December 24th 2023.

Thank you and may God bless you!



CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS

This weekend you will find yellow envelopes in each pew. These envelopes allow you to make a donation toward the flowers which adorn the Church during the Christmas season. The envelopes also allow you to include the names of those you wish to have remembered at the Masses for New Year’s Day, January 1st (a holy day of obligation).

On the card inside the envelope, you can write the names of those you wish to have remembered. Please also include your donation, and then place your envelope with the completed card into the collection basket or hand it in at the parish office.

All Masses for the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

(New Year’s day) will be celebrated with the intentions of the people whose names you submitted

(living and deceased).

As always, we **thank you** for your support and generosity.

