

December 20th, 2020 Fourth Sunday of Advent

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Saturday, December 19th

4:30 Harrison Thomas Joseph & Lidia Bartolla Diaz Abreus by Lucy-Ann Joseph

Sunday, December 20th

Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:30 Kate and Ed Sampson by Ann & Louis Mallette

Monday, December 21st

St. Peter Canisius

9:00 M. Shirley McCarthy by Bill & Eileen Curran

Tuesday, December 22nd

9:00 Souls of the Doulton-Cordeiro families by Effie Cordeiro

Wednesday, December 23rd

St. John of Canty

9:00 Deceased English Sisters of the CND Congregation by Eileen & Bill Curran

Thursday, December 24th

The Nativity of the Lord ~ Christmas Eve

6:30 Vincent Cosentino by the Family

8:00 Deceased Family members of Teresa Mary by T. Doyle

9:30 Pauline and Guy Benoit by a Friend

Friday, December 25th

The Nativity of the Lord

9:30 Deceased English-speaking Priests by Fr. MacEachen

11:00 Agnes MacLellan by Louise MacLellan

Saturday, December 26th

St. Stephen

4:30 All deceased Ascension Parishioners in 2020 by Fr. MacEachen

This week the Sanctuary lamp

will burn in memory of

Antonio Ang

by the Family

REFLECTION

There are just five days left until the celebration of Christmas begins. Let's live these last days of Advent well.

We read in today's Gospel passage from Luke the wonderful words of the Blessed Mother's "fiat," her "yes" to God's plan. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." These are among the most beloved words in the Gospel. But the next sentence is also important for the Christian steward.

After Mary's fiat, we read, "Then the angel departed from her." Our Blessed Mother was left with a lot of unexplained details about God's plan for her! Yet, she followed God's will perfectly. She gave herself and her life fully to God as a gift. She was the first disciple. We are called to follow her example today.

This Christmas let us resolve to make our whole life a gift to the One Who has given us everything. He will give us all the help and strength we need.

www.catholicsteward.com

Schedule of Masses ~ Christmas Season 2020

Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24th 6:30pm 8:00pm 9:30 pm

Christmas Day

Friday, December 25th 9:30am 11:00 am

Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 26th 4:30pm

Sunday, December 27th 10:30 am

New Year's Day Feast of Mary, Mother of God

Thursday, December 31st 4:30 pm

Friday, January 1st 10:30 am

Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday, January 2nd 4:30 pm

Sunday, January 3rd 10:30 am

Please note that all above listed Masses require reservations via our website (www.ascensionofourlord.ca) and are limited to 25 persons per Mass.

Reservations for the Christmas Masses open December 14th

Reservations for weekend Masses (December 26-27 & January 2-3 will open on Monday December 21st & December 28th respectively.

Election of Wardens

At a meeting of parishioners held Sunday, December 13th, two wardens were elected: Pino DiIoia was elected for a second term and Edmund Nash was newly elected to serve a first mandate. Congratulations to both! We thank Bonnie Auger who served on the Board for two terms and who did a wonderful job. The term of office for the two new Wardens begins on January 1st, 2021.

Weekly Donation Envelope Boxes

Parishioners who use the envelope system for their parish contribution will find the 2021 boxes available at the main entrance of the church. Please be sure to pick up only the box that has your name and number on it. Boxes are in alphabetical order. If you are currently not able to attend Mass in person or if you don't have a donation envelope box—but would like to make your weekly donations to the parish using this method, or if you have any questions please contact the parish office. Thank you for your faithful generosity.

Christmas Flowers to Decorate the Church

You are invited to make a donation toward the purchase of flowers to decorate the church and altar for the Christmas season. If you wish your donation to be made in memory of a loved one please include the names with your donation. Donations should be received at the latest by December 20th in order to allow us to plan the decor of the church during this holy season.

Sunday Missals 2021

The Living with Christ Sunday Mass books are available for sale at the back of the church. The cost is \$5 each. The supply is limited so you are encouraged to purchase your copy as soon as possible & write your name in your book.

If you are currently not able to attend Mass in person, but would like a Missal, please contact the parish to make arrangements to obtain one.

Resources for Advent Reflection and Prayer

1. The “Praying Advent” website offers many helpful resources for individuals and families who want some help to begin the season of Advent and move through it well. There are a great variety of pages which will address the issues almost anyone is facing. In addition, there is a Daily Prayer for each day of Advent. Just Google “Praying Advent” or go directly to: onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Advent

2. Loyola Press Advent Resources www.loyolapress.com/liturgical-year/advent
Includes interactive Advent calendars for adults, children and families, Advent activities for children and inspirational articles for all.

3. Ignatian contemplation and reflective prayer encourage us in the season of Advent. Resources include: Advent Weekly Prayer reflections, Video Reflections & Podcasts
<https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/advent/>

Pope Francis proclaims “Year of St. Joseph”

In a new Apostolic Letter entitled *Patris corde* (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis describes

Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

The Letter marks the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX's declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To celebrate the anniversary, Pope Francis has proclaimed a special "Year of St Joseph," which began December 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and extends to the same feast in 2021.