



ST. PIUS X PARISH

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ARCHDIOCESE WEBSITE: www.rcav.org

ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER

Archbishop Most Rev J. Michael Miller, CSB



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 17, 2023

SUNDAY MASSES:

SATURDAY

5:00PM

SUNDAY

9:00AM & 11:00AM

DAILY MASS:

MONDAY

9:00AM

TUESDAY — FRIDAY

8:00AM

SATURDAY, HOLIDAYS

9:00AM

CONFESSIONS:

SATURDAY

4:00PM OR BY APPOINTMENT

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

Christ the Redeemer

Tuesday, December 19

7 pm

St. Stephen's

Wednesday, December 20

10:30 am

If you cannot attend one of these services offered on the North Shore, please visit rcav.org/adventpenitentialservices for a list of Confession times offered at other churches.

CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 23

● 5 pm

Sunday, December 24

● 9 am & 11 am

Sunday, December 24

● 5 pm

Monday, December 25

● 9 am & 11 am

Saturday, December 30

● 5 pm

Sunday, December 31

● 9 am & 11 am

Monday, January 1

● 9 am & 11 am

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Christmas Mass

Christmas Masses

Feast of the Holy Family

Feast of the Holy Family

Solemnity of Mary,

the Holy Mother of God



Aspects of the Advent Season

(from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops)

Violet Vestments: The liturgical use of violet in Advent reflects longing and anticipation, rather than penance. Rose vestments may be worn on the Third (*Gaudete*) Sunday to signal the mid-point of the season. The Entrance Antiphon at Mass on this Sunday begins with the word *Gaudete* – Rejoice.

Advent Wreath: Although originally used in home prayer, the wreath has found a place in the Advent decoration of the church building. Its evergreen circle and four candles reflect the passage of the Advent season. It is blessed at the beginning of Mass on the First Sunday.

Glory to God is not sung, and the organ and other musical instruments are used in moderation, not as a sign of penance but to allow us to anticipate the full joy of Christmas Day. Music will be robustly taken up again at Christmas. Flowers too may be used, but in moderation, so as to leave a sense of abundance for the Nativity.

Alleluia continues to be sung in the Gospel Acclamation and in other songs. This is the clearest indication that Advent is a season of expectation rather than of penance.

Reconciliation: Although not a season of penance, reconciliation (through penitential services and personal celebration of the sacrament) finds a special place in Advent. The sacrament is celebrated as we prepare a welcome for the Lord, seeking to approach his coming with hearts free of sin and filled with praise.

Waiting: Advent is a time of longing and waiting for the Lord to come. Premature decoration of the church building and early use of Christmas songs at liturgy compromise the spirit of expectation.

Advent Weekdays: The Scripture readings in the first part of Advent follow a semi-continuous reading of the prophet Isaiah, with Gospel passages that reflect a sense of fulfilment of the Isaian reading. During the second week, the Gospel readings introduce us to John the Baptist as the one who prepares us, through his message of repentance, for the coming of the Lord at Christmas and at the end of time. Finally, beginning on December 17, the Gospel readings from Matthew and Luke recount the historical events that prepared for the Lord's birth, while the first readings present important messianic passages that relate to the Gospel text.

The Prophets: The writings of the prophets (especially Isaiah) and the images they use in their books find a special place in Advent. It is important to remember, however, that we read the prophets not because they recount specific details of the coming of Jesus, but because of the intimate relation between the longing that they express and the fulfilment that Jesus brings. The plan and pattern of the Old Testament direct us to the coming of Christ and to the messianic kingdom that he inaugurates. In the works of the prophets, the Church finds the language and the symbols that help her to express the mystery of the coming of the Saviour.

"O" Antiphons: In the week before Christmas, a special series of antiphons is used for the Canticle of Mary (*Magnificat*) at Evening Prayer (Vespers) – the "O" Antiphons, so-called because each one of them begins with the interjection "O." They have been a part of the Advent liturgy since the Middle Ages. Each one acclaims a different title of the coming Lord and then invites him to act in accord with that title. Although historically a part of the Divine Office, they are today also found at Mass where they are sung as the verses for the Gospel Acclamation. These verses reflect the cry of the Church in the last days of Advent: Come, Lord Jesus!

Lord, make us turn to you. Let us see your face and we shall be saved.

2024 DONATION ENVELOPES:

Are now available for pickup in the vestibule. Please note that the boxes are in alphabetical order and some of your numbers have been changed. Those of you who make monthly credit card or pre-authorized payments will no longer receive donation boxes; you have been assigned a new 2024 number by the parish office for the sake of your tax receipt. If you do not find your box, please call the parish office during office hours. Second collections may also be added to your monthly credit card or pre-authorized payment by calling the parish office.

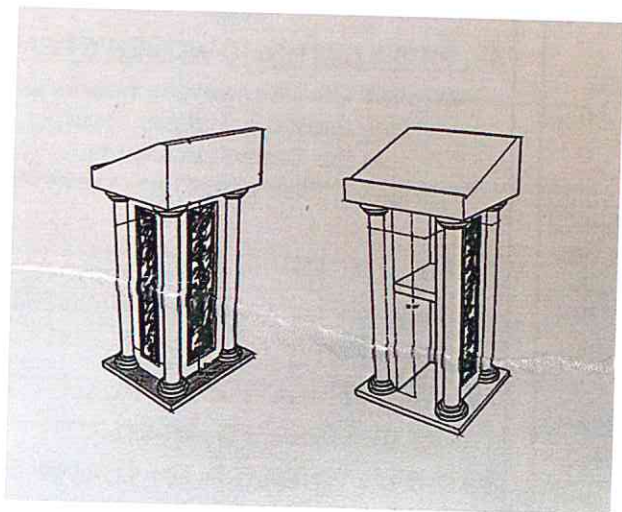
PRO LIFE CHRISTMAS CARDS:

Are now available for purchase at the back of the church. Cost: \$10. per pack or 3 packs for \$25. Please put your funds into the envelope provided.

PROJECT ADVANCE 2023 *Empowering Our Parish Vision*

All funds raised that are in excess of the parish goal set by the Archdiocese (\$29,400, plus the cost of materials needed for the appeal) will be dedicated this year to the commission of an Ambo to complete our sanctuary. The marble ambo will complement our marble altar in design, detail, and proportion. The total estimate for all components of this project – materials, construction, installation, and labour – is \$27,000. No donation is too small. Every pledge counts. Every gift matters. Every gift is important. Your gift is vitally important. All gifts are tax receiptable for 2023.

Thank you to everyone for your generosity!
Our total to date is \$45,715.00



AN INVITATION:

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.

VENDORS 2024 CATHOLIC EDUCATORS CONFERENCE:

Be a part of something truly special and grand. Register as a vendor at our 2024 Catholic Educators' Conference. Your presence at our conference will be a highlight, and we can't wait to have you on board. This year's conference is at the Vancouver Trade & Convention Centre. Register online at cisva.regfox.com/cec2024.

SUNDAY COFFEE & COMPANY:

A new co-ordinator is needed for Sunday Coffee & Company after Mass. If you are interested in this Social Ministry position, or would like more information, please contact Corinne Volpatti at volpatti@shaw.ca



CWL CHRISTMAS REMINDER TO KEEP OUR BOTTLE DRIVE ALIVE! "Return it Express" is a simple and convenient way to return your recyclable containers. **NO SORTING IS REQUIRED.** Use our clear bags in the basket on the CWL table. They are already affixed with our coded labels and instructions. St Pius X CWL will receive the benefit of your deposit refund directly into our account. Thank you for your support.



PRINCIPAL : MISS CHARLAINE FRANCIS
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KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 7
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INSTAGRAM: SPXGUARDIANS

OUR SCHOOL IS A VIBRANT FAITH AND LEARNING COMMUNITY DEDICATED TO DEVELOPING THE FULL POTENTIAL OF EACH CHILD USING CHRIST AS OUR CENTRE. WE ARE BLESSED WITH CARING AND DEDICATED EDUCATORS COMMITTED TO INSPIRING LIFE LONG LEARNERS IN ALL AREAS. WE WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE THE MANY ENRICHING LEARNING EXPERIENCES WITH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY. PLEASE JOIN US FOR A GUIDED OPEN HOUSE TOUR OF THE SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17TH 9AM-2PM.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY-FRIDAY
10AM-1:30PM
604-929-1404
PARISH.SPX@RCAV.ORG

REGISTRATIONS AND DONATION ENVELOPES:
REGISTRATION TO THE PARISH AND REQUEST FOR DONATION ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE VESTIBULE OR YOU MAY CALL THE PARISH OFFICE.

REQUESTS FOR MASSES:
FOR THE LIVING AND DECEASED. PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE. SUGGESTED MASS STIPEND IS \$10. MASS CARDS MAY ALSO BE PURCHASED FROM THE PARISH OFFICE. FOR A COST OF \$3.00

MARRIAGES:
TO BEGIN THE SPIRITUAL AND PRACTICAL PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE, PLEASE CONTACT FR JEFF AT LEAST 6 MONTHS IN ADVANCE.

BAPTISM:
PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO ARRANGE AN INTERVIEW AT LEAST ONE MONTH PRIOR.

VISITATION OF THE SICK:
Please call the parish office when a parishioner or family member is hospitalized or housebound to arrange visitation, Holy Communion and Anointing.

BERKLEY CARE CENTRE:
Every 1st Wednesday at 1:30pm.
Mass or Prayers with Communion.

ST PIUS X PARISH

PARISH GROUPS AND CONTACT INFORMATION & TO VOLUNTEER:

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

BARBARA JOHNSTON
236-999-1285

LECTORS

CECILIA McLAREN
604-729-4543

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

DAVID BOYER 604-929-6430
DAVID HOLSWORTH 604-929-5180

GREETERS

WE ARE IN NEED OF MORE USHERS/GREETERS

AT ALL THE MASSES

PLEASE CALL PARISH OFFICE

TO VOLUNTEER

604-929-1404

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To volunteer for Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament please contact Lisa Miiller
adoration.spx@gmail.com

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Come and pray the Rosary every Saturday morning before Mass at 8:30am

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ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

FOLLOW US - See what's happening!
Check out our Bulletin Board in the Church vestibule.

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DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICES

Our Lady of Good Counsel: 604-640-7543

BIRTHRIGHT:

MONDAY-FRIDAY,
110-207 West Hastings St. 604-687-7223

RACHEL'S VINEYARD: 604-525-0999