

The Nativity of the Lord

December 25, 2015

THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

- Dec. 28** Monday **Holy Innocents**
9:00 am INT: Joey Pacis
- Dec. 29** Tuesday **5th day within the Octave of the Nativity**
7:00 pm INT: Fr. Thomas Arackal
- Dec. 30** Wed. **6th day within the Octave of the Nativity**
8:00 am RIP: Charles & Lucy Luterbach
- Dec. 31** Thursday **7th day within the Octave of the Nativity**
- Jan. 1** Friday **The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**
- Jan. 2** Saturday **St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory**
9:00 am INT: Thanksgiving to our Bls Mother
- Jan. 3** Sunday **The Epiphany of The Lord**
10:00 am INT: Our Parish

The complete Mass time schedule is listed on the front page.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please pray for the sick of our Parish particularly: Anita Cishecki, Bob Smith, Ann Lum Min, Jose Reyes, Vanessa Miller, Marlene Brakel, Chloe Castro, Wendy Castro, Thomas Chlebak, Andrew Chew, Teresita Drexler, Suzanne Dubeau, Bill Van Eldik, Sarah Gielty, Annie Hughes, Joseph Slacik, Irene Hanson Monnie, Cecilia Obcena, Art Samson, Don Rowe, Matt Essman, Carol Berry, Trish Kelly and Liam Week.



*Merry
Christmas*



Imagine, Jesus, the Son of God and our Saviour born in a stable and place in a manger instead of in a cot! When God comes he usually comes in humility, silently and peacefully, without causing a great disturbance. God's humble coming in Jesus would not surprise us if we know God better. But of course we will never know God sufficiently to understand. So no matter how much we try to understand God becoming human in Jesus we will not be able to comprehend, it will remain a mystery. The best reaction is that of the shepherds, simply to praise God.

Jesus in the manger, you give us hope. In the darkness of our world, your light has shone. Your coming in gentleness encourages us to hold out the hand of reconciliation, to help one another, to work for peace. We remember the message of the angels; "Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace". Baby Jesus, help us to be people of peace and to spread peace everywhere we go.



JUBILEE
YEAR
OF
MERCY
Dec. 8, 2015 - Nov 20, 2016

TO THE IGNORANT; TO COUNSEL THE
DOUBTFUL; TO ADMONISH SIN-
NERS; TO BEAR WRONGS PATIENTLY;
TO FORGIVE OFFENCES WILLING-
LY; TO COMFORT THE AFFLICTED;
TO PRAY FOR THE LIVING AND THE
DEAD; TO FEED THE HUNGRY; TO
GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY; TO
CLOTHE THE NAKED; TO HARBOUR

Year of Mercy Reflection . . .

"Jesus is the face of the Father's mercy. These words might well sum up the mystery of the Christian faith... Jesus of Nazareth, by his words, his actions and his entire person reveals the mercy of God." – Pope Francis

2016 CHURCH ENVELOPES BOXES

2016 envelope sets are issued alphabetically, for that reason your envelope number will have changed. If we missed you, please fill in an envelope request card provided in the vestibule and drop it in the collection or at the office. A set will be ready for you in the vestibule the following weekend.

* Pre-Authorized Payment Plan participants have been issued envelopes for the special collections.

* If you would like to start using the Pre-Authorized Payment Plan for your weekly contribution forms are available in the vestibule or at the parish website: stjpm.com/parish/donate/



PREP



Parish Religious
Education Program

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

PREP classes are Tuesday at 3:45pm, Wednesday at 3:45pm and 6:45pm For registration information please email Louanne Richards at prepkids@stjpm.com or phone 778-712-0890.

Children's Liturgy is every Sunday at the 10 am Mass. All children 4-8 years of age, sit with their parents and will be called up after the Collect (opening prayer) and then will be led out and assembled in the portable for their liturgy.

The PREP program has been holding a Bottle and Can Drive for a few years and this year, and beyond, we are inviting all parishioners to participate with us. There are containers in the hallway for you to drop them off. If there are large bags you may put them inside the gate by the portable. All proceeds go to the Building Fund! Thank you!!

ARCHBISHOP CARNEY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Our Open House is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 2016 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

At our Open House we welcome students and their families interested in applying for September 2016 (Grades 8-12) and for those who would like to visit our school. Our school is located at 1335 Dominion Avenue, Port Coquitlam, 604 942-7465.



PROJECT ADVANCE 2015



Live gratefully, give generously.
PROJECT ADVANCE

We thank our parishioners who answered the call of Project Advance "Live gratefully, give generously." Your donations will strengthen our diocese and the parish community. This means that you recognized you have received blessings in your life from God and that you want to share the blessings with others. To date, we have received **254 gifts** totaling **\$44,605.** from our parishioners. Donations are still accepted for Project Advance and we encourage those who have not yet given to consider sharing their gift today by going online at www.rcav.org/giving Gifts received by December 31st will be eligible for a charitable tax receipt 2015.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Imagine how Mary felt at the birth of Jesus: excited, awed, frightened. Deep faith was her light in the darkness, for Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest. In faith is found the real, lasting, and deep joy of Christmas. In helping those who are poor and suffering we find the real, lasting and deep joy of Christmas.

THANK YOU ~ Dear St. Joseph's parishioners: Your generosity is overwhelming. The charitable work of this parish is made largely possible by your goodwill and generosity. The members of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul thank you for your contributions to our Jesse Tree project. We also thank you for your food and monetary donations throughout the year. God bless you all.

Fr. John Eason, Port Chaplain, Apostleship of the Sea, phoned and asked us to personally thank the parishioners of St. Joseph's Parish, for the many gifts they donated to his mission to seafarers. The gifts will be distributed to sailors who are away from their homes this Christmas. God Bless you all. We wish you all a happy and holy Christmas as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

LIVING WORD PRAYER GROUP

God For Us, God With Us, God Within Us.

Because of the tender mercy of our God . . . the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace. Luke 1:78-79

At first God was the God *for us*, our protector and shield. Then, when Jesus came, God became the God *with us*, our companion and friend. Finally, when Jesus sent his Spirit, God was revealed to us as the God *within us*, our very breath and heartbeat. **Lord, by the power of the Holy Spirit may we live daily in your loving and healing presence. Amen.** The Living Word Prayer Groups meet Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm in the portable. All are welcome.

COMPLIMENTARY 2016 CATHOLIC CALENDARS



Provided by Burquitlam Funeral Home & First Memorial Funeral Services.
Please help yourselves to a couple per family.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve: 6pm, 9pm & 12 Midnight.

Christmas Day: 10:00 am & 12 Noon.

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

December 31st Thursday Vigil Mass: 4pm

New Year's Day: 10 am & 12 Noon



KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS CONCERT



The Knights of Columbus have received much feedback that the recent Parish Christmas concert was a runaway success! For allowing the Knights to be a part of this concert, the Knights would like to thank Choir Director Jeff Cabralda and all the Parish Choirs, as well as the children and parents who made such a concert possible. As co-sponsor, the Knights aimed to spread the message – Keep Christ in Christmas through this concert. Watch out for pictures at our website: <http://koc9846.vcn.bc.ca>

As for the Knights' Choir, a great many people commented that it was fantastic to HEAR and SEE so many MEN gathered together to lead the congregation in song! In today's society, where men are all but marginalized, we, the Knights of Columbus stand apart to show our dedication to our Catholic faith and as examples to lead our families in worthy acts. If you're interested in joining our (quite literally!) merry band of brothers, please contact the Knights of Columbus at 604-468-8205.



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL)



We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and many blessings in the New Year.

USHERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE SATURDAY 5:30 pm MASS.

The role of ushers has had a long history in the Catholic Church. Referred to as porters in the Third Century, ushers used to guard the church doors against disruptive intruders. Today, ushers serve the opposite function by being the first to welcome parishioners and visitors to Mass. If you are interested in this special ministry please contact Fr. Thomas or the parish office.

THANKSGIVING MASS

Celebrating the 23rd. year Anniversary of the Life in the Spirit Seminar on January 8th at 7 pm. at Immaculate Conception Parish, Delta. Main celebrant will be Bishop David Monroe from Kamloops with eight priests concelebrants. Immediately after Mass there will be laying on hands for healing followed by fellowship at the Parish Hall. Everyone is invited to come.

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL MASS FOR LIFE

Join Archbishop Miller at the Holy Rosary Cathedral, Vancouver, for the annual Mass for Life on Monday, December 28, at 12:10 pm.