

December 9th, 2018
Second Sunday of Advent

Feast of the Immaculate Conception – Dec 8



Mary, give us your heart: so beautiful, so pure, so immaculate; your heart so full of love and humility that we may be able to receive Jesus in the Bread of Life and love Him as you love Him and serve Him in the distressing guise of the poor.

✍ Mark Your Calendar

Monday, Dec 10 – IC Parish Women’s Potluck at 6pm
Tuesday, Dec 11 – Knights of Columbus Christmas Party

★ Christmas Mass Times

Monday, Dec 24 – 4pm, 6pm, 8pm & 10pm Mass
* The 10pm Mass is our Traditional Midnight Mass

Tuesday, Dec 25 – 10:30am & 12 noon Mass

New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day

Monday, Dec 31 – 4pm Mass
Tuesday, Jan 1 – 10am & 11:30am Mass

Stewardship Reflection

“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value...” Philippians 1:9-10 Glittery holiday ads can blind us to our stewardship values and distort our needs and wants. It is important that during this season of endless buying we remember that each of us also has the need to give back to God and to those that are in need. *–Copyright © 2018 Archdiocese of St. Louis*

Saint Anthony’s Christmas Food Pantry



Every Christmas there are families (and seniors) who need the assistance of others so that they may celebrate a special Christmas dinner with their families.

Our Parish children in P.R.E.P (Parish Religious Education Program) will be setting up a special Christmas Hamper Pantry – St. Anthony’s Christmas Food Pantry – so that families experiencing hard times may have a nice Christmas dinner together. Our PREP children can’t do this alone.

We are asking our parishioners at large to work together with our PREP children to stock up our ‘St. Anthony Christmas Food Pantry’. ‘Food Donations’ may be left in front of the manger in the Parish Center or at the back of the Church over the next few weeks. ****non-perishable food items - canned cranberries, canned fruit, canned or bottled vegetables, crackers, cookies, marmalade, jam, tea, coffee, chocolates etc...**



Secret Santa: Father Paul knows a number of middle aged men and women who would very much appreciate a Christmas gift – to know that someone cares for them! These men and women are survivors of life on the street and very much disconnected from family and friends. Each of them lived very hard lives (undiagnosed mental health issues complicated by addictions). Now in their 50’s and 60’s their health is spent and life does not hold much joy or promise. Currently they all live in a non-profit care facility with a wonderful staff. Nonetheless, it is a very lonely place because they do not have family or regular visitors. A little Christmas gift from a Secret Santa would mean a lot to them!

If you would like to be a Secret Santa this Christmas please take a Christmas decoration from the tree in the Church – each decoration suggests a ‘Present’ that was requested by the men or women at the center. Simply purchase the gift, write out a Christmas Card, attach it to the outside of the gift (if you have time please wrap it) and leave it at the Parish office before Christmas Day. Above all, hold that person in prayer – God’s love and goodness!

First Reconciliation for the children in Grade 2: Wed, Dec 12 at 7:00pm (Jesuit Room/Parish Center)

As your children prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation this year you are encouraged to gather with our Principal, your child’s teacher and Fr. Paul so that you may hear firsthand about the faith formation your child is receiving around this Sacrament and how you can nurture the gift of your child’s faith at home. Parents you loom large in the faith formation of your child and your coming to this gathering affirms for your child that our Faith is important and truly does shape and form our minds, hearts and souls.



A Lesson from the Trees

Not long ago the trees were loaded with golden leaves.
 Though pretty to look at, they robbed me of the world beyond.
 But now that the leaves have fallen,
 I am able to look through the skeletal branches to the deep blue sky beyond.
 Teach us, Good Lord,
 how to take care of our material needs;
 how to take care of ourselves without neglecting others;
 and how to live joyfully in this world without losing sight of the world to come.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!



★ For all who made our Christmas Fair such a wonderful and blessed event! God is Good!



Christmas Potluck

IC Parish Women's Christmas Potluck:

Monday, Dec 10 at 6:00 PM

Please bring a friend, your favourite dish and a bottle of wine to share. We will be singing our favourite Christmas Carols, and playing some much loved Christmas games. For details, please contact Susan at (778)772-3465.

A Thank You Note and Raffle Winners:

1st Prize: Luan Ling (Ticket #1247)

2nd Prize: Zora Milanovic (Ticket #1082)

3rd Prize: Erin Driscoll (Ticket #3713)

Thank you for your generosity in support of our "Little blue School"

Winter Coat Drive - The Knights of Columbus are still collecting warm winter coats (gently-used) to be distributed by Catholic Charities to those people in need on the Downtown East Side until Dec 11th. Please drop off your donation at the Parish Center.

Turkey Dollars The Knights of Columbus are collecting Turkey Dollars as offered by Stongs Market to deliver turkeys to Catholic Charities and to the Covenant House during Christmas time. A collection box is located at the Church entrance. Thank you!

Project Advance 2018 – Have you made your pledge for this year yet? If you have not yet made a gift it is not too late!



It is the major fundraiser that we have as Roman Catholics to enable us to do the ministry that Jesus asks from us as the Church. Thank you to those who have made a gift. Your gift is a sign that you value Immaculate and want to support the outreach we do in the name of Jesus. It enables us to bring the presence of Jesus' love to other. Donations can be made through the Parish office/online at www.rcav.org. **Tax receipts** will be issued for donations received by Dec 27, 2018.

Twilight Mass It was wonderful to see so many 'new' and 'old' faces joining us at our monthly Twilight Mass on Dec 2. How joyful it is to have the soul and mind renewed, refreshed and reformed. See you again in 2019.

Calling Volunteers We are looking for 2-3 volunteers to help with the installation of outdoor carpet for the ramp at the side entrance of our Church. Tentative date is Sat, Dec 15 (weather permitted). Please contact the Parish office or Alex (604) 358-3070 if you can come assist us on this project – to ensure safety of everyone while using the ramp. Thank you!

Sharing Christ with the World

Evangelizing Joyfully with Michael Dopp
"An evangelizer must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral!" – Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*. Every Christian is called to be actively engaged in evangelization, but where does one begin? What is true evangelization and why is it important? Hear from Michael Dopp, founder of the New Evangelization Summit on what it takes to evangelize in today's culture. Evangelizing means sharing Christ with the world in every human situation and we are all called to share the good news! Learn how to develop a missionary zeal to live out our baptismal vocation. Join us on Thu Dec. 13, 7-9 p.m. at the John Paul II Pastoral Centre, Vancouver. Free Admission. <https://rcav.org/event/sharing-christ-with-the-world>