

Dec 1st, 2019
1st Sunday of Advent



❖ *Advent Reconciliation Schedule 2019* ❖

Advent
 Reconciliation



IC Parish – Wednesday, Dec 4 ~ 7:00pm - 9:00pm
Saturday, Dec 14 ~ 10:00am - 11:30am

Vancouver College – Tuesday, Dec 10
 Little Flower – Wednesday, Dec 11
 St. Patrick's Regional – Wednesday, Dec 18
 Immaculate Conception School –
 Fridays, Dec 6 & Dec 13

★ Parish Calendar ★

Sunday, Dec 1 Twilight Mass at 8pm
Tuesday, Dec 3 IC Women's Christmas Potluck at 6pm
Wednesday, Dec 4 IC School Mass at 9am
Wednesday, Dec 4 Parish Advent Confessions 7pm & 9pm
Friday, Dec 6 Ricci Circle at 11:30am
Friday, Dec 6 RCIA at 7:30pm
Sunday, Dec 8 Sacred Heart Alumna Circle -
 Mass & Reception at 4pm

Twilight Mass
This Sunday, Dec 1st at 8:00pm



Talitha Koum (Little girl – arise!)

This past Sunday how blessed we were to have the women from the 'Talitha Koum' Society share with us such personal and transformative stories of pain, redemption and new beginnings. This is truly a 'pro life' ministry and a ministry where we see the grace of women ministering to women.

If you would like to make a donation to the Society, envelopes can still be found at the back of the Church. This is a life saving Ministry which receives minimal support from the government. In spite of this, they work miracles for women and are one of the few recovery houses where women can also bring their child with them. Knowing that their needs are many we will set up an **Advent Tree** in the Church to further assist them. Each decoration on the tree will name one item that they need at their recovery house. You are invited to take a decoration which names one item they need and then bring that particular gift to the Church. At Christmas we will forward your 'gift' to the Talitha Koum Society. The items vary from new bedding, new women's pyjamas, paper towels to new baby diapers and wipes.

Stewardship Reflection

"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." (Matthew 24:42)
 People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and grow in gratitude for all that we have been given. You begin to see and experience God's active presence in your life.

-Copyright © 2019 Archdiocese of St. Louis



Adult Faith Formation Evening:
Friday, December 6th at 7:30-8:30pm

This is an opportunity for school parents and other adults to learn about Catholic Faith. These are informal sessions led by Fr. Paul. Please contact the Parish office for information 604-224-5678.

Youth Ministry Sunday - Dec. 1, 2019

The purpose of this annual archdiocesan collection is to assist the work of the Ministries and Outreach Office in providing formation, training, and support for youth ministry.

Date Night for Married Couples Take some time together before the busy season of Christmas. Join us for dinner and evening of celebrating the joy of love in marriage. This event takes place Thursday, Dec. 5 at John Paul II Pastoral Centre in Vancouver. Register online for \$25/couple at rcav.org/event/date-night

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

During Advent there will be two opportunities at Immaculate to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Wednesday, Dec 4th from 7:00pm - 9:00pm –

Confessors: Father Ken and Father Paul

Saturday, Dec 14th from 10:00am - 11:30am –

Confessors: Father Ken and Father Paul



Come Join our Party!!

IC Parish Women's Christmas Potluck:

Tuesday, December 3 at 6:00pm

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.

❖ Ricci Circle: A Gathering of Chinese

Catholics at Immaculate Thank you to all of you who came to our first Ricci Circle gathering in October. The responses were overwhelming! How beautiful it is to witness God's grace and to experience the movement of the Holy Spirit in each of us as we get together to share and to celebrate the wonderful history we have in common. Come join us! Ricci Circle is a blessed circle of Prayer, Ministry, Fellowship and so much more. Our next meeting will be on Friday, Dec 6 at 11:30am in the Parish Center.

Saint Nicholas Day (Dec 6) **Blessing of Candy Canes**

Good Saint Nicholas, we honor you on this your holy feast day.

We rejoice that you are the Patron Saint and the holy symbol of joy for many peoples of many lands.

Come, great-hearted saint,

and be our patron and companion

as we, once again, prepare our homes and hearts

for the great feast of Christmas,

the birth of the Eternal Blessing, Jesus Christ.

May these sweets, these candy canes,

be a sign of Advent joy for us.

May these candy canes, shaped like your Bishop's staff,

be for us a sign of your benevolent care.

We rejoice that you are the holy bringer of gifts

and that so many have been delighted

through your great generosity.

Help us to be generous of heart.

Wherever these candy canes are hung,

on tree or wall or door,

may they carry with them the bright blessing of God.

May all who shall taste them experience the joy of God

upon their tongues and in their hearts.

We ask God, now, to bless these your brightly striped

sweets in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

☪☪ **Sacred Heart Convent School Circle:** ☪☪ **On Sunday, Dec 8 at 4:00pm,** women Alumni of the Sacred Heart Convent School at Immaculate have planned a Mass and Tea on the Feast day of the Immaculate Conception. If you are Alumni of the Sacred Heart Convent School here or elsewhere, please plan to join with us for this Mass & Tea. ***Please contact the Parish office 604-224-5678 to let us know if you hope to attend.***

It's that time of the year again to plan for Christmas presents for our loved ones



A Reminder that Gift Cards Order Form is due this Thursday, Dec 5

Immaculate Gift Cards Program is a Perfect Gift Option!



Please support our Fundraiser to help us to pay off our School's Seismic Upgrade Loan

These cards are an excellent Fundraiser because a generous percentage of the gift card purchases are rebated to the Parish. Order forms can be found online at our website or from the Parish office. You may also place your order on the phone, by fax or via email. As a Parish Family we thank you for supporting our 'Little Blue School'.



You can now **E-Transfer** or use your **Credit Card** to make donations to the Parish!

You can E-Transfer your donations to the Parish to our Parish Accounting email:

IC_Accounting@shaw.ca (Please note: no Password is required for E-Transfer).

For those who would like to make Monthly Donations with their credit cards, please contact Kathy at the Parish office (604)224-5678 and she will take your credit card info from you at the office or by phone. As a Parish family we gratefully thank you for your faith-filled support. May God bless you for your generosity!