



ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH
 Box 454
 Smithers, B.C. V0J 2N0
 (250) 847-2012
www.stjosephsmithers.com

Administrator:
 Fr. Rectorino
 Tolentino, Jr.

Secretary:
 Linda Potter

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the People of God, in St. Joseph's Church, united with each other and our Pastor as members of the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, do hereby come together to form a Parish Pastoral Council. We do so knowing that every one of us is a living member of the mystical body of Christ, and that in this body, "there are different gifts, but the same spirit: different ministries, but the same Lord." (1Corinthians 12:4-5)

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Monday: 7:30am - Morning Prayer at Sister's house (3884 Alfred Ave)
 9:00am - Mass

Tuesday: 8:45am - Morning Prayer
 6:30pm - Mass

Wednesday: 8:45am - Morning Prayer
 9:00am - Mass

Thursday: 8:45am - Morning Prayer
 11:00am - Liturgy at the Bulkley Lodge
 9:00am - Mass

Friday: 8:45am - Morning Prayer
 9:00am - School Advent Mass

Saturday: 7:00pm - Mass

Sunday: 9:00am - Mass

Reconciliation: Saturday 6:00—6:30pm



3rd Sunday of Advent
 December 14, 2008



DECEMBER

15th -
 16th -
 17th -
 18th - Lisa Beaubien, RIP
 19th - Rectorino Tolentino Sr. RIP
 20th - People of the Parish
 21st - Brianne Svab, (stumborg), RIP

If you wish to have a Mass offered for a Special Intention, please call the Parish Office.



MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 20, 2008

Lighting of Candle: Laura B
Advent Prayer: Susan Forbrigger
Lector 1:
Lector 2: Susan Forbrigger
Eucharistic Ministers:
 Bob Bresser
 David Hemenway


Greeters: Linda, Bina, Liesel
Collection: Gary H,
Coffee/Juice: Greeters
Altar Servers: Please check in Sacristy

Sunday, December 21, 2008

Lighting of Candle: Arlene d
Advent Prayer: Rob Onstein
Lector 1: Alex Bussmann
Lector 2: Arlene deGelder
Eucharistic Ministers:
 Rob Onstein Tim Hicks
 Theo Sikkes Carol deGelder
 Al & Tina Bruintjes

Greeters: Wayne & Andrea C
Collection: Wayne C, Wayne W
Coffee/Juice: Greeters
Altar Servers: Please check in Sacristy
Children's Liturgy: Kristi P, Kate R

Please keep Sheri, Concetta, Cindy, & David in your prayers.



If you would like a name added to the Prayer Line please contact Lu Blackburn @ 250-847-2135

 **Music Ministry**

In preparation for Christmas, there will be **CHOIR PRACTICE** on Dec. 15, & 22nd at 7pm. **EVERYONE** is invited to attend.



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Faith,

In the Gospel scene of the ten lepers we hear of how they begged Jesus to heal them. In response Jesus sent them on their way to show themselves to the priest. Discovering that they were healed, one of them, a foreigner, returned to say thanks.

In the recent past I have come to you begging for help for our Diocesan Church. You in turn responded most generously to the Diocesan Annual Appeal. I am returning to say heartfelt thanks.

Your very generous response shows your willingness to share the responsibility for our mission as Church. I am most grateful to all of you, as it is your generosity – in all the ways you give – that is helping us Become Church.

I pray that the Incarnate God will bless you richly this Christmas and always.

Sincerely in our Lord,
+Gerald Wiesner, OMI

Sunday Collection

Church - \$ 2223.10

School - \$145.00

DIOCESAN APPEAL:

Parish Goal \$ 25,147.00

Actual to Date \$ 26,770.00

Amount exceeding Goal \$ 1623.00

Refugee:

(total pledged) \$ 58,740.00

(pledges received) \$ 44,247.17

2009 Envelopes

The 2009 Donation Envelopes are ready to be picked up from the tables in entrance way. If you are not presently using envelopes and would like to do so, please contact Linda at the Parish Office (847-2012). By using envelopes, we are better able to estimate our receipted donations – and you have a receipt by which you can use your contribution to the Church as a taxable deduction.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

To those men of our parish who looked after the trimming/removal of the trees beside the parish garden. It looks great!! Your endless dedication to keeping our church the beautiful place it is, is always greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU ALSO to everyone who helped out with the **SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS KETTLES.**



ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

Our school website: www.stj.homestead.com

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

The St. Joseph's School Council is re-evaluating our long term goals for the school. To help us ensure that we continue to be a unique, vibrant, welcoming school community, that nurtures the whole child, we are soliciting input from school and parish families. Please take a moment to identify what you value about our school, and areas we should build on or develop in the next five to ten years. Suggestions can be submitted by e-mail stj@telus.net, or placed in the suggestion box at the school and parish offices until January 31. Please include your name and contact information if you are interested in being an active participant in planning for our future goals. The council will review suggestions and take guidance from the suggestions provided. Thank you for your support!

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Dec. 24th (Christmas Eve) 7:00pm Children's Christmas Mass
11:00pm Christmas Eve Mass (Smithers)

Thursday, Dec. 25th (Christmas) 9:00am Mass
12:00pm Mass (Houston)

Thursday, January 1st 9:00am Mass
12:00pm Mass (Houston)



Advent Reconciliation Service- Friday, December 19th, at 7:00pm

Father Rector and other priests, will be available for individual Reconciliation after the Liturgy.

SPECIAL DATES TO REMEMBER

This year, once again, we are asking for donations of poinsettia plants. There will be cards available in the office, if you wish to donate a plant "In Memory" of a loved one. The more plants we get the nicer our church looks! We ask that the plants be in 6" pots. Please bring them to the church between Dec. 15 and 19th.

DECEMBER 21ST - Beginning at 12 noon, we will decorate the church for Christmas.

JANUARY 11TH - Beginning at 12 noon, we will be taking down the decorations.

"Many Hands Make Light Work"

For more information please call Carol at 250-847-2935

Please mark these dates on your calendar. If you can spare a plate of goodies for these dates, it would be greatly appreciated.

FOOD BANK / TOY DONATIONS

For the month of **DECEMBER**, we will be collecting various non-perishable food items for our local Food Bank. If you wish to donate an **unwrapped gift** for the food hampers that would also be greatly appreciated. Items may be dropped off in the containers at the back of the church before the weekend liturgies or anytime during the week.

Third Sunday of Advent

Young children sit on Santa's lap to answer the question that consumes them these days: **What do you want for Christmas?**



The child in each of us still wants stuff like toys and new clothes. But deep inside us we have more basic needs. We need security, fairness and love. We want something huge for Christmas. We want peace on earth and justice for the oppressed. We want poverty eliminated and wars ceased.

Isaiah promises we will not be disappointed. He promises that God will do such wondrous things that justice and praise will spring up in every nation. When God is the joy of our soul, Isaiah says, a robe of salvation clothes us and a mantle of justice enfolds us. When God is our joy, we feel rich as royalty, no matter how poor our state.

What does the earth want for Christmas? It wants good news for the poor, healing for the brokenhearted, liberty for captives, and release for prisoners. The earth wants what God alone can provide.

What do you want for Christmas? Is it something for you, or something for the earth? Will it hinder or help the earth to get what it needs?

Pastoral Assistant:
Detta Smith

ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH
Box 819
Houston, B.C. V0J 1Z0
Office: (250) 845-2841 Fax: 845-2823 Residence: 845-2877

Administrator:
Fr. Rectorino
Tolentino, Jr.

<p>SCHEDULE of LITURGIES THURSDAY DECEMBER 18, 2008 Mass at 2pm Intention: ?? *****</p> <p>SUNDAY DECEMBER 21, 2008 Mass at 11:30am Intention???</p> <p>LECTOR: 1. Shirley Collins 2. Liz Gerei EMCs: Adrian & Jo Meeuwissen SERVERS: +Jared B/C Cole C Alicia GREETERS: Tammy Hiebert Bill Goold</p> <p>CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE December 15 to 20 Sherry, Carm</p>
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DONATIONS FROM SUNDAY DECEMBER 7	
19 envelopes \$ 675.00	Holy Childhood \$ 2.00
Loose \$ 20.50	Elevator Fund (3 envelope) \$ 260.00
TOTAL \$ 695.25	Elevator Fund (Madge Hogarth Foundation) \$144.00
ELEVATOR FUND: We need to raise \$104,000.00 To date we have raised 88,411.47 including Fund Raising, Grants & Donations.	

COLLECTION COUNTERS	
December 21	Adrian

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
The next PPC meeting will be on Thursday December 18 following Mass at 2pm. Council Meetings are open to all parishioners—we welcome your input and involvement. Council members are asked to pick up their copy of the agenda from the small bulletin board.

COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE
Once again, the Houston Ministerial Association is coordinating an inter-faith Carol service on Sunday December 14th at the Christian Reformed Church. The service will begin at 7pm.

CONFIRMATION/FIRST EUCHARIST 2009
Bishop Gerry Wiesner omi will be with us at St. Anthony's on Wednesday May 6, 2009 to celebrate the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist. Preparation for these sacraments will begin in the New Year. If your child is in Grade 2 (or older) and you would like him/her to celebrate the sacraments next year, please register now with Detta so that the materials can be ordered. **Any adult who is not yet confirmed is also asked to see Detta.**

PARISH OUTREACH
Thank you from the CWL to all who donated money toward the replacement of a wood stove for the Church in Pinchi. To date we have received \$275.00. *If you would like to donate to this Parish Outreach, please put your contribution into an envelope marked "CWL: WOOD STOVE" and place it in the collection basket.*

2009 ENVELOPES
The 2009 Donation Envelopes are ready to be picked up from the entrance of the Church. Please check the name/number on the box with the list taped to the table. If you are not currently using envelopes and would like to do so, please see Detta. By using envelopes, we are better able to estimate our receipted donations - and you receive a receipt at the end of the year by which you can claim your contribution to the Church as a tax deductible.

DEVELOPMENT and PEACE
FALL ACTION
Last week you received information explaining the FALL ACTION which focuses on the overseas operations of some Canadian mining companies: saying *no* to mining and *yes* to growing food. Today you are asked to sign cards urging the Canadian government to introduce legal mechanisms to hold Canadian mining companies to account. These cards will be forwarded to Prime Minister, Stephen Harper and Member of Parliament, Nathan Cullen.

ALTAR SERVERS
In appreciation for your generous dedication in serving at Mass each Sunday, you are invited for pizza/games/movie at Detta's on Saturday December 27th from 5 to 8pm. This is just a small sign of our gratitude for your faithfulness and dedication to your ministry.



CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE
Christmas Day: NOON New Year's Day: NOON
CHURCH DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS
The Liturgy Committee invites parishioners to help in preparing our Church for the Christmas Season. We will decorate on **Sunday December 21 after Mass.** (You are also invited to bring goodies to share!!)
FLOWERS and PLANTS
Anyone wishing to donate flowers or plants to be used in decorating the Church is asked to bring their donation to the Church on December 21.