



First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2009

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

Box 454
Smithers, B.C. V0J 2N0
(250) 847-2012



www.stjosephsmithers.com

Pastor: Fr. Rectorino Tolentino, jr • Pastoral Assistant: Ronnie Cruz • 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:	6:00pm - Evening Prayer 6:30pm - Mass	 ADVENT 
Tuesday:	6:00pm - Evening Prayer 6:30pm - Mass	
Wednesday:	8:30am - Morning Prayer 9:00am - Mass	
Thursday:	11:00am - Mass at the Bulkley Lodge	
Friday:	6:00pm - Evening Prayer 6:30pm - Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
Saturday:	7:00pm - Mass	
Sunday:	9:00am - Mass	
Reconciliation:	Saturday 6:00pm - 6:30pm	

MORNING PRAYER / EVENING PRAYER: Beginning this week, we will be praying morning and evening prayer. On the days that there is morning Mass, we will begin at 8:30am with Morning Prayer. On the evenings that there is Mass, we will begin at 6:00pm with evening prayer.

SUNDAY COLLECTION

NOVEMBER 21/22			
CHURCH: \$ 1919.50		SCHOOL: \$ 10.00	
DIOCESAN APPEAL: Parish Goal: \$23,400.00	Total Pledged: \$22,945.00	Amount to goal: \$454.00	
REFUGEE: (total pledged) \$ 58,740.00	(pledges received) \$ 50,709.09		

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 5, 2009	Sunday, December 6, 2009
Lector 1: Christine Tessier	Lector 1: Arlene deGelder
Lector 2: Gemma Gillis	Lector 2: Trevor Bruintjes
Eucharistic Ministers:	Eucharistic Ministers:
Bob Bresser	Carol deGelder Lu Blackburn
Jean Moisey	Janna Delany Johanna Habjan
Tina Gemmell	Al & Tina Bruintjes
Greeters: Gary & Mary H, Sheila	Greeters: Tim & Mabel H, Maria P
Coffee/Juice: Greeters	Coffee/Juice: Greeters
Altar Servers: Please check in the Sacristy	Altar Servers: Please check in the Sacristy



NOVEMBER
30th - Rectorino Tolentino Sr, RIP
DECEMBER
1st - Allan Short, RIP
2nd - Vinko Strgar, RIP
3rd - Connie & Espie, Int
4th - Francisca Valarao, RIP
5th - People of the Parish
6th - Concetta & Michelangelo Sia, RIP

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

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, Dec. 24 th (Vigil of Christmas)	7:00pm Children's Christmas Mass 10:30pm Midnight Mass (Smithers)
Friday, Dec. 25 th (Nativity of the Lord)	9:00am Mass (Smithers) 12:00pm Mass (Houston)
Friday, January 1 st	9:00am Mass (Smithers) 12:00pm Mass (Houston)

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Tuesday, December 8th at 10:00am (School)
Thursday, December 10th at 6:00pm (Houston)
Friday, December 18th, at 6:00pm (Smithers)



In preparation for Christmas, there will be **CHOIR PRACTICES** on Dec. 7, 14, 21st. **EVERYONE** is invited to attend.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

St. Joseph's youth group has created a Community Christmas Tree this year. We have put up a tree in the Foyer of the Church and decorated it with 100 gift tags. On the back of each gift tag is the age and gender of a Child. We are asking each family in our church community to take a gift tag off the tree and purchase a Christmas present for a child matching the age and gender marked on the tag. You can return the unwrapped gift to the church and leave it under the tree with the gift tag attached. **All the gifts must be returned to the tree by December the 13th.** These gifts will go to children of families in our community that are being supported by the Christmas Hamper Program. We have also completed a food drive and collected over 400 non perishable food items for the Christmas Hamper Program and the Food Bank. Thank you for your help with our Community Christmas Project.



PARISH BAZAAR RAFFLE WINNERS:

1st prize : \$150.00 B.V. Wholesale Gift Certificate - Ian Gemmell
2nd prize: \$100 Family Pool Pass - Michael Sowa
3rd prize: Food processor - Luke Smith
4th prize - \$50 Gift Certificate to Steakhouse on Main - Bernice Mitchell & Sheila Holly
Child Door Prize: Emily Malbeuf **Adult Door Prize -** Richard Brandon
A total of \$3575.87 was raised!! (1/2 of the proceeds from this years Bazaar will be donated to St. Joseph's Parish).
THANK YOU to everyone for helping out at this year's Parish Bazaar and making it such a great success.



COMING UP!

BAPTISM PREPARATION: Our next preparation session is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 1st at 7:00pm** in the church. If you are interested in having your child baptized, please call the Parish Office to register.

RCIA & CHILDREN'S CATECHISM: Our next session will be held on **Thursday December 3rd at 6pm** over at the Priest's residence.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU
THANK YOU to all who attended our Ministry meeting on Wednesday. Please watch the bulletin for more information.

Advent 2009

Our Dear Parishioners of St. Joseph and St. Anthony,

Be alert at all times... this is the message that we hear from Evangelist Luke as we start another Liturgical Year thru the observance of Advent.



Let me engage you with a quick review of what is Advent. **Advent** means *coming*. From our Christian point of view, this word, *advent*, refers more specifically to the *coming of the Lord*. It has a twofold nature: it prepares us for Christmas, when we recall Christ's first coming among us, and it is also a time when we look forward to his second coming at the end of the ages. Advent is a season of joyful expectation (*adopted from the ORDO*).

As we wait therefore for the coming of our Lord, I invite us to prepare in our own respective ways - in our hearts, homes, families and in our parish communities. I encourage us to support the activities in our parishes related to Advent. Please explore our Sunday Bulletin and Monthly Calendar and it will show you these activities wherein your participation is needed.

As a community of faith, truly preparing and waiting for the coming of the Lord, may we look at Mary Most Holy, the faithful Virgin, to help us and all the faithful to make this period of Advent, and the whole of the new liturgical year, a journey of true sanctification, to the praise and glory of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

I remain,

Rev. Rectorino M. Tolentino, Jr.
Pastor



ANGELS FOR DINNER

This year we received beautiful handcrafted angels from the Philippines specifically from Msgr. Romy Ranada who visited our parish just recently. The idea is that parishioners will sponsor a Christmas dinner of a poor family in the parish community of Our Lady of Annunciation, Quezon City, Philippines by getting an Angel in exchange of your generous donations.

These angels are now hanging on the tree and are available for distribution in the church foyer or parish office.

Parish Christmas Party & Family Day 2009

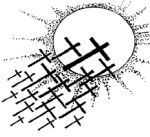
On **Sunday December 27**, Feast of the Holy Family, we will once again gather as one family of the parish community of St. Joseph's Parish. This will be our Parish Christmas Party and Family Day Celebrations. As early as now, we invite and encourage individual, couples, group of people in the parish who would like to render a performance for that evening. This will be a potluck dinner to be hosted by the different cultural groups in our parish and being headed by our Social Committee.



While I realize that the time allotted for the Second Diocesan Annual Appeal has not come to its term, I have been made well aware of the extraordinary generosity of all of you. While economic times are difficult you continue to make sacrifices in order that our mission may go on undisturbed. Prayerful thanks for the way in which you continue to take ownership of our Diocesan Church and its mission. Keep up your precious efforts and may our Lord bless you richly.

Sincerely in our Lord,
+ Gerald Wiesner, omi
Gerald Wiesner, O.M.I.
Bishop

PRO LIFE NEWS Saturday, Dec 5th, 8:30am-3:30pm. We will be holding our annual Pro-life Bake sale at the Extra Foods mall. Baked items may be dropped off at the mall before noon on the Saturday, or the day before, [Friday], at Jenny Vandenberg's in Telkwa [846-9158] or at Hermina's in Smithers [847-3666].



ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH

Box 819

Houston, B.C. V0J 1Z0

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E-Mail: houston.parish@gmail.com

Pastor: Fr. Rectorino Tolentino, jr • Pastoral Assistant: Ronnie Cruz

SCHEDULE OF LITURGIES

11:30AM SUNDAY December 6, 2009

LECTORS: 1. Gail J 2. Vic J

EMC's: Garry B Adrian M

ALTAR SERVERS: Malerie K, Jon K

GREETERS: Bill G

CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE

November 30 - Dec 5: Sherry & Carm

COLLECTION COUNTERS

Dec 6 Carm

DONATIONS FROM SUNDAY NOVEMBER 22, 2009

Envelopes	\$ 515.00	Holy Childhood	\$ 87.38
loose	\$ 26.87	Elevator Fund	\$ 20.00
Total	\$ 541.87		

SECOND ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

Goal: \$5320.00 **To date:** \$3114.00

ELEVATOR FUND: We need to raise \$104,000.00

To date we have raised \$99,338.35 including Fund Raising, Grants & Donations.

PARISH ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Advent is a time of preparation. The prophets of the Advent Scripture summons us to a conversion that prepares the world and ourselves for the Lord's coming. A communal gathering that celebrates the Sacrament of Reconciliation is one way that we, as a community and as individuals, can prepare ourselves to welcome and receive Jesus with purified hearts. We will celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday, December 10 at 6pm.**

CHRISTMAS DECORATION: As we remember the Birth our Saviour Jesus Christ, we would like to show our deepest loved for Him. As a Roman Catholic and His disciples, it is our tradition to keep Him in our hearts forever. Hence, to show up our sincere loved for Him, we are inviting you to come and participate in **preparing and decorating our Church on December 20** after our Eucharistic celebration. Your participation would be very highly appreciated. Thank you in advance!



In preparation for Christmas, there will be MUSIC PRACTICE on Dec. 7, 14, 21st at 3:30pm. EVERYONE is invited to attend.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS HAMPER PROGRAMME: This Christmas we will be supporting once again the SALVATION ARMY'S CHRISTMAS HAMPER PROGRAMME. Please refer to the attached list of needs and indicate on the poster in the basement what you are able to donate to these hampers. All items will be sent on December 13.

THANK YOU LETTER: We have received a thank you letter from Shirley's brother in law Ray Collins for our prayers intended to his late spouse Donna Collins. Please see the big bulletin board for letter.

CWL ANNOUNCEMENT Membership dues (\$26.00) can be placed in an envelope marked "CWL" and put in the collection basket or can be given directly to Liz Gerei. All women of our parish are invited to attend at the Element Restaurant on Thursday December 10 at 11:30am. Please phone Corrie at (250) 845-2487 for a reservation. A small donation for Tachie/Pinche mission would be highly appreciated and they will have a Bake Sale on December 13 after our Mass Celebration.

JESSE TREE

This Sunday we begin the Season of Advent. One of the things that we will have this Advent is the Jesse Tree which celebrates the genealogy or ancestry of Jesus. Just as we wait and prepare to celebrate the coming of Jesus into the World, the Jesse Tree helps us remember the many people of the Old Testament who also waited for his coming. It really is like Christ's Family Tree!

Each Sunday of Advent, the children in the parish are asked to bring symbols they have at home which represent some of these people. Following the closing prayer, the children will be invited to hang their symbols on the Jesse Tree. Take time to ask the children about their symbols and who they represent.

