



St. Joseph's Parish

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Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9am - 3pm
 Pastor: Rev. Pier Pandolfo 250-847-3175

SUNDAY BULLETIN for December 20th & 21st, 2014

4th Sunday of Advent

2 Samuel 7.1-5,8b-12,14a,16, Psalm 89, Romans 16.25-27, Luke 1.26-38

"You will conceive in your womb and bear a son"



Week Mass Times 4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday	20th 7:00 pm	† <i>Jessie Eileen Towns</i>
Sunday	21st 9:00 am	† <i>Victorino Pacheco</i>
Monday	22nd 9:00 am	
Tuesday	23rd 6:15 pm	
Wednesday	24th 6pm	<i>Children's Mass/11pm Midnight Mass</i>
Thursday	25th 10:00am	<i>Nativity of the Lord Mass</i>
Friday	26th 9:00 am	
Saturday	27th 7:00 pm	Intentions for Holy Souls in Purgatory
Sunday	28th 9:00 am	† <i>Manuel & Cecilia Garcia</i>

Ministry Schedule December 24th & 25th, 2014 *Solemnity, The Nativity of the Lord*

DATE	Wednesday, Dec.24	Thursday, Dec.25
GREETERS	6pm: Vigil Mass Jim & Marie Ziegler Jean Miller 11pm: Vigil Mass Rita Coupe, Cyril Habjan Mary Vandermaal	Theo & Corry Sikkes
LECTORS	6pm: Vigil Mass Katriona Barralon Emily Buenten 11pm: Vigil Mass David Schwab Christine Tessier	Vigil Overstall & Eileen Bouvier
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	6pm: Vigil Mass Tina & Al Bruintjes Johanna Habjan Willy Koldyk, Bob Bresser 11pm: Vigil Mass Tina Gemmell, Maria Sowa, Dave Hemenway, Mary Stroet Johanna Habjan	Al Bruintjes & Lu Blackburn & Foziea Loki
ALTAR SERVERS	Volunteer Servers	Volunteer Servers

Ministry Schedule December 27th & 28th, 2014 *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph*

DATE	Saturday, Dec.27	Sunday, Dec.28
GREETERS	Willy Koldyk Nilda Hudson	Jim & Marie Ziegler Jean Miller
LECTORS	Eileen Bouvier Gemma Gillis	Christine Tessier Brian Burrill
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Bob Bresser Jean Moisey	Johanna Habjan Al Bruintjes Tina Bruintjes
ALTAR SERVERS	Volunteer Servers	Volunteer Servers

COLLECTION REPORTS

December 13th & 14th, 2014 – 3rd Sunday of Advent
 Church \$1,730.75
 School \$5.00
Thank you for your generosity!

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Esther & Frank Patrick, Darin Garcia, Charlie, Nolan, Roger, Claudia, Don McMullen, Sister Joan MacNiell, Cheryl & Roy Stoner, Gordon Nickerson, Marie, Flo, Tristan, Lucia, Zenny Schwegler, and Patty Sikkes-Rathjen



If you or someone you know would like to be on the prayer list, please call the parish office 250-847-2012

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

"We are the Catholic Community of St. Joseph's Parish, gathered as disciples of Jesus Christ to worship God, to serve others and to grow as loving members of God's family."

Note from the pastor



ADVENT "YES". The "yes" of Mary to the Angel who came to bring her the news of the coming divine birth, is a 'yes' to 'the divine will of God, inviting human participation, by the power of the Holy Spirit'. We have the 3 Gospel themes of divine will, human participation, and the power of the Holy Spirit.

We find the Divine Will of God presented in the Annunciation story with the phrases 'will be called the Son of the **Most High**' and '**nothing is impossible** with God'. The Divine Will of God nips our pride, and helps us to be open to ideas, situations, and events other than what we had planned.

We find the human participation presented in the story with the phrases 'Mary was much **perplexed** by the angel's words', and 'Mary said to the angel, "How can this be since I am a **virgin**"'. This human participation recognizes both our humanness and our invitation to take responsibility for the situations we find ourselves into.

And the work of the Spirit is presented in the story with the phrase 'The **Holy Spirit** will come upon you'. This Holy Spirit is always available to us; we must learn to call on the Spirit more often.

We are created in the image of God who is constantly saying 'yes' to building up His children. One of the most powerful stories I read, I found on the bulletin board in a school staff room. The charcoal sketch of a dishevelled, poorly clothed, and insecure looking, young girl caught my eye. The words were from a teacher who was reflecting on her vocation. I remember her speaking of such a child as a gift and a blessing. I remember her speaking of her vocation as a privilege to 'NOT extinguish the flickering flame' but to unveil the beauty within. I have never been able to forget this story, and I regret not having taken a copy.

We are first students, and then we are all teachers. This Advent Season, when we are preparing to receive Jesus as 'the Word of God', as God speaking to us directly, as God teaching us clearly in human form, we are the students with God as our teacher, a teacher whose words build us up. Following God's example, we in turn use words that build people up. And the lesson plan we use to build people up contains the three themes of divine will (and not our will), human participation (helping people accept responsibility), and the power of the Holy Spirit. All this in the word 'yes'.

In summary, this Advent Season we have studied 4 ways we can improve how we speak to one another: (1) words are powerful, so commit to studying, (2) just as the Gospels speak the same message but in four different ways, we have to be aware of our message and the audience we are speaking with, (3) a very important part of all speaking are the words 'will you forgive me', and (4) say 'yes' to building people up.

upcoming

EVENTS

Please mark your calendars for the following **December meetings and events:**

Dec.24th-Wed Christmas Eve Children's Mass 6pm
Christmas Eve Midnight Mass 11pm
Dec.25th-Thurs Christmas Day Mass 10am
Dec.31st-Wed Anticipated Mass New Year 6:15pm
"Wine & Cheese" social to follow
New Year's Eve mass

Children attending 6:00 p.m. Mass on December 24, Christmas

Eve, are invited to take part in the nativity scene and dress as shepherds or angels. Names of children who would like to participate can be left at the parish office so we know how many costumes to prepare. There will be a rehearsal for those taking part immediately after the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, December 21st.

Contact Gemma Gillis 250-847-4074 if you require more information.



REMINDER

Please bring in your poinsettia donations starting this week.. They will be used to decorate the church for Christmas. Thank you.

Advent and the Sacrament of Penance

Advent prepares us for Christmas, and there is no better way of preparing for Jesus' coming but making ourselves ready especially our hearts, washing it of everything that may hamper Jesus from entering this sacred place.

The Sacrament of Penance or Confession is an opportunity for us to approach Jesus and meet our merciful and loving God. It is a gracious moment when God touches us and heals us of our woundedness caused by our human nature and limitations.

Opportunities for the sacrament are:

Saturday Dec.20th - 6:00 - 6:45PM
Sunday Dec.21st - 8:15 - 8:45AM
Monday Dec.22nd - 6:00 - 8:00PM

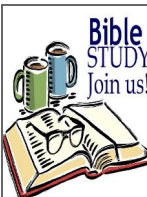
Merry Christmas!!!

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

(John 3:16)

We wish to greet everyone a Merry and Blessed Christmas. May peace and love reign in everyone's heart and to all families.

-from St. Joseph Parish Staff



Bible Sharing is held every Tuesday at 10:15am in the Parish Center. Come and join us for coffee or tea.

Bible study will resume on January 13th, 2015

YOUTH
GROUP

The Youth Group of St. Joseph's Church meets **TODAY December 21st at 6:30pm** for their Annual Christmas Party! See you all there!



ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL
 School Principal: Rosemary McKenzie
 Our school website: www.stjosephsschool.ca
 Phone: 250-847-9414

Catholic Schools: "Live The Joy of the Gospel"

The **Parent Support Group** is hosting a Ukrainian Dinner & Grade 7 Dessert Auction. This delicious dinner will be held on Saturday, January 17th, 2015. Tickets are available to purchase in the office or at Hetherington & Hooper. Adults \$10.00 and children (under 7) \$5.00. Homemade perogies and cabbage rolls as well as salad, dessert, and beverages are on the menu! A cabbage roll making session will be scheduled for the new year;. More details to follow!



ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL STAFF WISHES YOU ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR. BE SAFE, TAKE TIME TO RELAX AND ENJOY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!
-BLESSINGS TO ALL!

VIRTUE: Love

Love is in the air, especially at this time of year. You can feel the love of family, friends and co-workers during this special time. Take time to share your love with all the people around you and they will want to do the same. And remember, God so loved us that he sent his Son into the world. Love is the Joy of Christmas.

"He becomes small in order to make me strong; He goes to death, with that condencence, so that I might live..."

"This is the music of the language of the Lord, and we, in the preparation for Christmas, ought to hear it: it would do us much good. Normally, Christmas seems to be a very noisy holiday: it would do us good to have a little silence and to hear these words of love, these words of such nearness, these words of tenderness..."You are a worm, but I love you so much.' [Let us pray] for this, and to be silent in this time in which, as it says in the preface, we are watchful in waiting."



BROADWAY PLACE

With the cold winter weather, Broadway place is in need of warm clothing such as: winter Jackets, long-johns, winter socks, gloves and toques. If you are able to give any good used items or new, it would be much appreciated. Thank you!

The Vocation And Mission Of The Family In The Church And Contemporary World

In preparation for the General Synod of Bishops on the Family, scheduled for October 4th to 25th, 2015, the General Secretariat of the Office for the Synod released the publication of its preparatory document, known by its Latin name, the 'Lineamenta'. It is available on the Vatican website at: http://www.vatican.va/roman_curial_synod/documents/rc_synod_doc_20141209_lineamenta-xiv-assembly_en.htm#.



On Wednesday, December, 31st 2014 following the **6:15pm Mass**, we will be having a **Wine & Cheese Evening** in the foyer. Please join us as we gather together to thank and appreciate those who have shared their time and talents with the Parish of St. Joseph's throughout the year. Also, to acknowledge our blessings to have Father Pier Pandolfo as our Parish Pastor.

Please bring a dish of finger food (your choice). The wine and meat/cheese platters will be provided. See you there, Cheers!

And a **Thank You** to all the ladies who came to our Christmas Party. Enjoyment and carolling was shared by all!



Knights of Columbus Fr. Callaly Council 7973 Keep Christ in Christmas

Christmas has become for many -- including children -- a secular holiday. The Knights of Columbus has introduced the Keep Christ in Christmas` program to help combat the sanitization of Christmas by stores and the media that attempt to remove reference to Jesus.` Help profess the true meaning of Christmas by purchasing and displaying a "Keep Christ in Christmas" nativity magnet that will attach to a metal, car or refrigerator. The magnets cost \$5.00 each with proceeds from the sale going to the parish. They are available at the foyer of the church (St Joseph's, St Anthony's and St Mary's) or by contacting Jim Schwab , Grand Knight 250 847-3408.



Babine Animal Hospital

Michael Des Harnais, BSc., DVM
 Veterinarian

3851-1st Avenue, P.O. Box 3358, Smithers, BC V0J 2N0
 tel. **250.847.8887** fax **250.847.8886**
 e-mail info@babineanimalhospital.ca web babineanimalhospital.ca



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St. Anthony's Parish

2001 Riverbank Drive
Houston, B.C.
VOJ 1Z2

Phone: (250) 845-2841 · Fax: (250) 845-2823

Cell: (778) - 816-0512

e-mail: houston.pariah@gmail.com

Office Hours:

Mon & Tue 9am- 4pm; Wednesday 9am-12nn; Thu 2pm—5pm

Visit to the Sick at Home: by appointment.



SUNDAY MASS TIME 11:30am

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rev. Pier Pandolfo
Pastor

Dennis Gonia
Pastoral Assistant

Joint Parish Pastoral Council & Finance Committee
Members

Eric Bishop · Stephen Rose · Georgina Dotto · CWL Representative



Upcoming events:

Dec. 21	Mass at 11:30 AM
	Decorating the Church for Christmas
Dec. 24	Christmas Carols at 8 PM
	Christmas Mass at 8:30 PM
January 1, 2015	New Year Mass at 11:30 AM
January 11, 2015	Feast of the Epiphany: Mass at 11:30AM



"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light..."(Is. 9:2)

Several people asked: "how can we celebrate Christmas, this supposedly festive time of the year, when all we see around us are troubles and unrest. Terrorists groups are attacking Christians and other religious communities in some parts of the world; Natural calamities hit some Asian countries leaving millions of properties damaged and hundreds and thousands dead; sickness; environmental devastation; plus old and persistent issues in politics that never seem to fade, etc..."

Indeed, it seems that celebrating is not an appropriate activity when there are people around the world experiencing suffering. Too much darkness seems to overshadow life.

Jesus does not offer magical solutions to alleviate the pain of this world (*though nothing is impossible - Luke 1:37*). The birth of Jesus made it possible for God to speak directly with us in a way that is most intelligible—words; and the signs we can understand and follow—works. The words and works that he uttered and did as he was fulfilling his mission of salvation that God promised his people, manifested for us the faithfulness of God in fulfilling his promise. This demonstration of faithfulness through Jesus, leads us to trust all the in God's faithfulness and to everything that he promised us—including salvation and life everlasting to those who believe and follow Jesus.

When life is beset with darkness and hope is dimmed by the shadows of pain and difficulties, Jesus—the light of the world, the fulfillment of God's promise, the concrete evidence of God's mercy, compassion and faithfulness, has words of salvation and worked salvation for us, and that alone is a reason for us to celebrate!!!

Merry Christmas everyone!!!-Dennis Gonia

Ministry Schedule
SUNDAY, December 28, 2014
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

GREETERS	Tammy Heibert and Claudine Ketchell
LECTORS	1. Ronnie Cruz 2. Shirley Collins
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	Dawn Bishop and (TBA)
ALTAR SERVERS	Lucas, Alicia, Isabelle, Tiffany
Gift Bearers	TBA
Collection Counter	Carmelita Brockerville
Church Cleaning	(December 15-20) Tammy Heibert

Ministry Schedule for December 24, Christmas Vigil Mass

Greeters: c/o Dennis
Lectors: 1. Stephen Rose 2. Jane Wardrop
EMCs: Vic and Gail James
Servers: Lucas, Alicia, Isabelle, Tiffany

COLLECTION REPORTS

Thank you for your constant support and generosity!
DONATIONS FROM SUNDAY December 14, 2014

Loose \$ 17.00
Envelope \$358.00
Total \$375.00

Decorating the Church for Christmas

Today, we decorate our church for Christmas Season. We would like to ask everyone available and able to help us prepare the physical aspect of our church for the season. May the symbols that we put in help us to prepare ourselves in our celebrations and draw us more to Jesus.

We are reminding all as well to bring your poinsettias donation for the church starting this week. Thank you



Diocesan Annual Appeal UPDATE

ST. ANTHONY'S GOAL: \$ 5,191.00
TOTAL PLEDGED: \$ 3,545.00
PLEDGES RECEIVED: \$ 3,525.00