



# St. Joseph's Parish

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VOJ 2N0

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Website: <http://stjosephsmithers.com>  
e-mail: [sjparish@telus.net](mailto:sjparish@telus.net)

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9am - 3pm

Pastor: Rev. Pier Pandolfo 250-847-3175

## SUNDAY BULLETIN for November 28th & November 29th, 2015 1st Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33.14-16, Psalm 25, Thessalonians 3.12-4.2, Luke 21.25-28, 34-36

*"Your redemption is drawing near."*



### Week Mass Times 1st Sunday of Advent

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>28th</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>29th</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>†Manuel &amp; Cecilia Garcia</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>30th</b>	<b>No Mass (Father Pier in Houston)</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>6:15 pm</b>	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>†William &amp; Joan Murtagh</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>@ Bulkey Lodge</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Souls in Purgatory</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>5th</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>6th</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>†Cor &amp; Alida Bot</b> <b>†Mary, Gerry and Pierre</b>

### Ministry Schedule December 5th & December 6th, 2015 2nd Sunday of Advent

DATE	Saturday, Dec.5	Sunday, Dec.6
GREETERS	David & Marj Hemenway June Philpot	CWL
LECTORS	Emily Buenten Gemma Gillis	CWL
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Bob Bresser Janna Delany	CWL
ALTAR SERVERS	Volunteer Servers	Volunteer Servers

### PARISH MINISTRIES

*Pastoral Assistant:* Dennis Gonia

*Secretary:* Brenda Pyper

Parish Pastoral Council

*Chairperson & Diocesan Appeal Coordinator:*

Michael desHarnais

*Social Coordinator:* Johanna Habjan

*Liturgy:* Gemma Gillis

*Youth Ministry:* Vacant

*Development & Peace:* Marj Coupe

*Catholic Women's League:* Mary Ellen Kallio (Acting President)

*Knights of Columbus:* James Schwab

*School Council Co-Chairperson:* Rob Blackburn/Trevor Bruintjes

Parish Finance Committee

*Finance Vice Chairperson:* Wayne Callison

Casey Pyper, David Schwab

*Maintenance:* Pete Stroet

*Collections:* Rita Coupe

*RCIA & Children's Catechism:* Dennis Gonia

*Children's Liturgy:* Ann Marie Maclsaac

*Altar Servers:* Nancy Verbeek

### COLLECTION REPORTS

November 21st & November 22nd, 2015

34th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Church \$1,659.35

School \$10.00

Total Diocesan Appeal to-date \$18,752.00

Amount to Goal \$2,922.00

Thank you for your generosity!



*Please remember the following in your prayers:*

Agnes, Patti, James, Nelson, Rose, Rachel,  
Charlie, Leah, Nolan, Thomas, Nyla, Jane,  
Jules, Sandy, James, Janet, Francis, Esther,  
Frank, Lucia, Zenny, Ricardo and Shelley

If you or someone you know would like to be on the prayer list, call the parish office at 250-847-2012.. Please note the prayer list will be updated at the end

### 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

**WATCH AND PRAY:** We begin our church year by looking forward, and we take the reality of the first coming of Christ 2000 years ago and use it to look forward to his second coming at a time no one knows. The posture of all of creation is one of looking forward. We look forward 'watching' – this reminds us that we have an active part to play in God saving us, that we are no puppets or programmed computers, but that we have personal will to make decisions for the coming of God into our lives. We look forward 'praying' – here we acknowledge that our eternal future belongs to God, and the way we belong to that eternal future is by developing a life of conversation (prayer) with God. We look forward 'hoping' - as we remember the promises God made to us at our baptism of this eternal life, Advent is a time where we practice 'hope' that God is faithful to all his promises.

**Homework:** Commit to 5 minutes of prayer every day of Advent; eg read the gospel of the day.

**Word Among Us publication:** The parish is offering this booklet free of charge. It covers the Advent season. I encourage families to make a commitment to read all or parts of the readings for each day. Incorporate the readings as part of a commitment to 5 minutes of daily prayer.

**Year of Mercy and Reconciliation Service:** Review the information in the bulletin on the Year of Mercy asked for by Pope Francis. Our first activities are: (1) Sunday, Dec 06, examination of conscience during mass using the Works of Mercy; (2) Monday, Dec 07, opportunities for reconciliation (see times posted); (3) Monday, Dec 07, 7pm, join Knights of Columbus sponsored Hour of Prayer for the family; (4) Tuesday, Dec 08, our mass joins Pope Francis in starting this Year of Mercy.

### Books from our library for your consideration:

Pope Saint John Paul II: Crossing the Threshold of Hope : written 16 years into being Pope, this personally written book describes the hope our faith engenders.

Wicks, Crossing the Desert, referring to the wisdom of the desert writers, this is a book for those who want to transform their lives.

Green, Come Down Zacchaeus, a book on the spirituality of the laity, written for both the spiritual and the theological seeker of understanding.

Rolheiser, The Restless Heart, explores loneliness. A wonderful book for Advent.

Other books available.

**Smithers Pro-Life's annual BAKE SALE** is happening this year on Dec. 12th, 2015. Please drop off your baking at Henry and Ann Adema's at 1301 Morice Drive. The sale will run from 8:30-3:30. We are so encouraged by your wonderful support & delicious baking!

## upcoming EVENTS

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

Nov 29 Pancake Breakfast hosted by the Knights of Columbus  
 Dec 2 Cleaning of the School-Meet in kitchen at 9:30am  
 Dec 6 First Reconciliation Service 2pm  
 Dec 7 Decorating of the Foyer for Christmas —Noon  
 Dec 7 Advent Reconciliation (see below for times)  
 Dec 7 K of C Hour of Prayer -Beginning 7pm  
 Dec 8 Opening of Year of Mercy-6:15pm Mass  
 Dec 8 CWL Christmas Party 7pm in Foyer

### ADVENT 2015

We are on the season of Advent—of waiting and preparation for the birth of Jesus Christ. Let us prepare ourselves and create a space for Jesus in our hearts, in our homes, and in our lives.

**ADVENT RECONCILIATION:** As a community, let us do this together as we celebrate Advent Reconciliation on the 7th of December from 3PM-4:30PM; 5:30-7PM and 8PM onwards.

**May we find God's mercy and consolation as we approach him in the Sacrament of Confession and create a sacred place for him in our lives this advent season.**

### Key points about the upcoming Holy Year of Mercy

(Abridged)

Source: [www.romereports.com/...key-points-about-the-upco...](http://www.romereports.com/...key-points-about-the-upco...)

To convene the Jubilee, the Pope delivered a so-called bull. It is entitled "**Misericordie Vultus,**" or "**The Face of Mercy.**" The text includes 25 points that the Pope believes are important for the upcoming year.

God forgives with tenderness and compassion, the Pope said. However, Christians should also be forgiving to be credible. And so the motto of the Jubilee will be "**Merciful like the Father.**"

*"The time has come for the Church to take up the joyful call to mercy once more. It is time to return to the basics and to bear the weaknesses and struggles of our brothers and sisters. Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope."*

The Jubilee will begin on December 8th and ends on November 20, 2016. Specific points include:

- It invites Catholics to rediscover works of mercy.
- It suggests that the Sacrament of Confession will be paramount.
- The Pope will appoint priests in every diocese to be "convincing preachers of mercy," and they will forgive particularly grave sins without having to ask permission from the Vatican. For example, they will have the authority to pardon sacrilege against the Eucharist.
- Gangmembers will be asked to convert.
- It proposes dialogue with Jews and Muslims to avoid contempt or discrimination.

The Pope explained that the Jubilee is an opportunity for every person and not simply an institutional event.

POPE FRANCIS

*"Why a Jubilee of Mercy today? Simply because the Church, in this time of great historical change, is called to offer more evident signs of God's presence and closeness. This is not the time to be distracted."*



Parish Goal	=	\$ 21,674.00
Amount to Goal	=	\$ 2,922.00
Actual to Date	=	\$ 18,752.00



**ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL**  
**School Principal:** Rosemary McKenzie  
 Our school website: [www.stjosephsschool.ca](http://www.stjosephsschool.ca)  
 Phone: 250-847-9414

**Catholic Schools: "Proclaim Jesus with Loving Hearts"**

**VIRTUE FOR NOVEMBER: FLEXIBILITY**

Hold fast to your values and virtues and flex on changes – big or small – over which you have no control. We always have a choice as to our thoughts and our attitudes and God can help us with this.

**ST. JOSEPH'S CHOIR**

We have once again been invited to sing at the Carol fest organized by School District #54. We will be performing on Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Smithers Secondary School along with many other choirs from the public schools in our district. There will be two performances; one at 5 p.m. and another at 7:30 p.m. A note was sent home today with your child/ren so please check their backpacks. Please have your child practice the words for our songs and listen to the music which can be found on the website under Student Resources. All choir members need a white shirt and black pants or skirt for the performance. Thank you, Mrs. Cachia and Mrs. Lowe.

**TUPPERWARE**

The PSG have teamed up with Tupperware for a fundraiser. We are raising funds for any trips, supplies and extras our teachers and classrooms may need to support our children. We have a few brochures (in the office) full of exclusive products and/or colours available for you to order from; in return 40% of the total proceeds gets donated!!! We also have an online link available for your convenience or out of town family/friends where you can still support our fundraiser and the best part is, it gets directly shipped to you! Go to [www.tupperware.ca](http://www.tupperware.ca) select Find a Fundraiser, Province, then PSG (St. Joseph's School), then select Support and place your order by December 13, 2015. Thanks!!

**PARKING LOT INFORMATION**

Now that the snow has come, please remember to drive slowly and ENTER from 1st avenue and EXIT via Broadway. BACK IN along the fence. Please note that along the school side near the staff entrance is staff parking. Thank you.

**ANNUAL "BOOKS-GO-ROUND" BOOK DRIVE**

Smithers Community Services Association is conducting a book drive to collect new or gently used books. We use these books to fill over 400 Christmas Hampers for children and families in our community.

Starting on November 16, SCSA will place collection boxes in your school. Be awesome and bring your new or gently used books. We will take care of the rest. Books should be in good condition, without torn pages or writing in them. Please, no text books, outdated nonfiction, encyclopedia sets or coloring books. Your donation is greatly appreciated.

**Transport Required!**

Is anyone travelling to Prince George in the near future? We require the transport of some church supplies to be picked up from Ave Maria's (on 20th Avenue) and brought back to Smithers. If you can help out, please call the office at 250-847-2012.



The annual CWL membership fee of \$36.00 is now due. You can place this amount in the collection basket, clearly labeled "CWL", or either hand-deliver or mail it to the parish centre.

**HELP NEEDED: for the "School Kitchen Cleaning" on Dec. 2nd.** Please meet in the school kitchen @ 9:30 am. Coffee and sweets provided and on Dec. 7th we are looking for help in decorating the foyer. Be there at noon.

**The "CWL Christmas Party" is on Dec. 8th in the foyer at 7pm** following the 6:15pm mass. All ladies of the parish are welcome to come and join us for an evening of goodies and sing along of Carols. **Don't forget your exchange gift (\$10 value) and a small gift for passage house.**



To everyone who dedicated their time and talents in anyway in helping to make our Bazaar such a big success we say THANK YOU, THANK YOU and many blessings. To date the total amount raised is \$5,700.69 to be shared with the Parish, School and CWL!



Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast  
 ..... come eat, visit and build community  
 Sunday : November 29th following Mass  
 Admission by donation

Funds raised will be directed to the Bulkley Valley Syrian Refugee Sponsorship Group



**Tim McCosker**  
 Bsc. BappSc.  
 Registered Physiotherapist

2/F Fitness Northwest  
 3771 Broadway, Smithers, BC  
 Tel. 778 210 1669 / 778 210 1450



**Edith McCosker**  
 Creative Director

Tel. 250 8465370 / 778 210 1450

[www.butterflydreams.co](http://www.butterflydreams.co)



**Babine Animal Hospital**

**Michael Des Harnais, BSc., DVM**  
 Veterinarian

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P.O. Box 3013  
 1079 Toronto St.

# St. Anthony's Parish

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VOJ 1Z2

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e-mail: [houston.parish@gmail.com](mailto:houston.parish@gmail.com)

Office Hours:

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

Visit to the Sick at Home: by a



## 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*

### DECEMBER LITURGICAL SCHEDULE AND ACTIVITIES

6—2nd Sunday of Advent	11:30 AM Mass
13—3rd Sunday of Advent	11:30 AM Mass
20—4th Sunday of Advent	11:30 AM Mass (Sacrament of Reconciliation )
21— Reconciliation	(please call office for the time)
24—Christmas Mass	7:30 PM
27—Holy Family	11:30 AM Mass

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE** Christmas luncheon will be on the 9th of December noon time. It will be at the place of Frank and Liz Gerei at 2970, Olsson, Houston.. Please bring something to share.,

### Advent Reconciliation Service

St. Anthony's Parish Members are invited to Parish Reconciliation Service which will happen on the 20th –21st of December. Fr. Pier will be available to administer confession after the mass on the 20th. For those who would not be able to come on Sunday for confession, it will be made available until the following day—Monday (21st).

### ADVENT 2015

Advent anticipates the coming of Christ from two different perspectives. The season offers the opportunity to share in the ancient longing for the coming of the Messiah, and to be alert for his Second Coming. Today we light the first candle in our advent wreath as a sign of that longing. Let us prepare a place for Jesus in hearts as we celebrate hope and preparation that this season brings.



Diocesan Annual Appeal 2015-2016  
**St. Anthony's Parish Goal: \$5,029.00**  
Actual to Date: \$2,780.00  
Amount to Goal \$2,249.00



### We pray for the Sick:

Denise, Helen & Harry, Eric Sr., Arsenia, Araceli, Sara, Dorothy, Reginald, Juanito, Kelda, Shaylyn, Max and Pol

### Ministry Schedule SUNDAY, December 6, 2015 2nd Sunday of Advent

GREETERS	CWL
LECTORS	CWL
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	CWL
ALTAR SERVERS	Lucas and Alicia Bishop
Gift Bearers	CWL
Collection Counter	Eric Bishop
Church Cleaning	Nov 23-28—Bishop Family

COLLECTION REPORTS (Thank you for your support!)  
Sunday Collections November 22, 2015

Loose	\$ 24.00	Soup and Bun	\$126..00
Envelope	\$285.00		

*From the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)*

### CHAPTER THREE MAN'S RESPONSE TO GOD ARTICLE 2 WE BELIEVE

#### I. "LORD, LOOK UPON THE FAITH OF YOUR CHURCH"

**168** It is the Church that believes first, and so bears, nourishes and sustains my faith. Everywhere, it is the Church that first confesses the Lord: "Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you", as we sing in the hymn "*Te Deum*"; with her and in her, we are won over and brought to confess: "I believe", "We believe". It is through the Church that we receive faith and new life in Christ by Baptism. In the *Rituale Romanum*, the minister of Baptism asks the catechumen: "What do you ask of God's Church?" And the answer is: "Faith." "What does faith offer you?" "Eternal life."

**169** Salvation comes from God alone; but because we receive the life of faith through the Church, she is our mother: "We believe the Church as the mother of our new birth, and not in the Church as if she were the author of our salvation." "Because she is our mother, she is also our teacher in the faith."