



# Special Edition

## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

Sunday, December 24, 2023  
Monday, December 25, 2023  
Sunday, December 31, 2023  
Monday, January 1, 2024

# BULLETIN



## Peace

*“What Child is this,  
who laid to rest,  
on Mary’s lap is sleeping?”*

There’s nothing more comforting and reassuring and peaceful than a newborn baby sleeping on his mother’s lap. Even though the Holy Family was spending the night in a stable or a cave with the animals, at least it was warm inside. Mary had a successful childbirth and tradition and the beautiful hymn, “Silent Night” tell us that “all was calm, all was bright” – peaceful. At least for a while.

I pray that after the hectic nature of the secular lead up to Christmas, that you and your family enjoy true peace in the coming days as we celebrate the fact that the king of kings is born, our Saviour.

*“This, this is Christ the King  
whom shepherds watch,  
and angels sing.”*

Enjoy the peace of this time, this Christmas season which runs until the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord on January 7.

We can’t speak of peace, though, without recognizing how much the world is tearing itself apart and how much people are suffering. But we live in a world full of dichotomy – war and peace, love and hate. Christ shows us this dichotomy as he himself is a sign of contradiction. He was feared by the powerful and scorned by the proud. Yet He was welcomed with joy by the poor and embraced by the meek and humble. And so this peaceful first Christmas night inevitably leads to the event for which he was born. We sing of that event in the second verse,

*“Nails, spears shall pierce him through,  
the cross be borne for me, for you.  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh.  
The babe, the Son of Mary.”*

May the **reason for the season** be in your hearts always.

Have a Merry Christmas and a blessed and fruitful New Year.

Peace,  
*Father Larry*



# Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year to you!



## Our Lady Of Lourdes Parish | Paroisse Notre-Dame de Lourdes

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## Remember the Elderly this Christmas

Pope Francis reminds us that our obligation to visit the elderly is more significant than ever as the number of elderly people grows. This Christmas consider visiting the seniors in our community who may be feeling lonely or isolated during this season. "Social isolation and loneliness are as bad for your health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day," Jacques Lee, a Toronto-based emergency physician, told Global News.

To learn more about ways you can support the elderly in our community, please visit [chabc.rcav.org/seniorsatchristmas](http://chabc.rcav.org/seniorsatchristmas).

## 2024 Envelopes

The 2024 parishioner's envelopes will be available at the church in the first week of January due an unforeseen situation. Donations are welcome through the pink or green envelopes available at the church and please remember to write your name on the envelope. We are sorry for the inconvenience.

## Did you move recently?

Please let Ana know your new address, thanks!

## ADORATION



**SERVE THE LORD  
IN SIMPLE PRAYER  
AND  
CHANGE THE WORLD**

**WILL YOU COMMIT TO  
ONE HOUR A WEEK  
TO PRAY FOR PEACE?**

**Sign Up Sheet is available  
at Church**

**BECOME A TEAM LEADER.**

**SPEAK TO ANA IN THE OFFICE  
(604) 936-1311**

## Eucharistic Adoration – To Be Under His Gaze

We believe that our Lord, Jesus Christ is present in the Blessed Sacrament because he has said so. We believe him to be who he says he is, namely God; therefore, he is Truth itself and he has the power to accomplish this miracle of his real presence in the Eucharist.[1] We believe that.

And so, for us who call ourselves Christians, the natural response should be to go and spend time with Jesus. To just sit or kneel in front of him and gaze on him and let him look back at you. To speak with him but most importantly, let him speak to you in the silence.

I was speaking with a couple of our faithful adorers who spend considerable time in front of the Eucharist and one of them told me she had never felt such peace in her heart. It is liberating.

Because Christ himself is present in the sacrament of the altar, he is to be honored with the worship of adoration. To visit the Blessed Sacrament is a proof of gratitude, an expression of love, and the duty of adoration toward Christ Our Lord. [2]

Come for 15 minutes, a half hour, an hour. Help us keep the church open for as long as possible during the day.

May God bless you.

[1] Barry Braum, *That I May See*, Adoratio Press, p 71.

[2] *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1418

### WEEKDAY MASS

Mon. to Sat.: Rosary at 7:55am and Mass at 8:30am  
Thursday Mass will be followed by Adoration.

### SUNDAY MASS

English: Sat.: 5:00pm and Sun.: 9:00am  
English/French: Sun.: 11:00AM

### FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

Masses: 8:30am and 7:00pm  
Adoration: 9:00am – 10:00am and 5:45pm – 6:45pm

### CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Tues. to Sat. at 8:00am until 8:25am  
Sat.: 4:00 – 4:45 pm. Or by appointment.

### HOLY COMMUNION

Anyone who is not able to attend Mass and wishes to receive the Eucharist, please contact the parish office.

### BAPTISM

By appointment only.

### MARRIAGE

All couples planning to be married in this Parish should contact the pastor at least 6 months in advance. Non-parishioners must obtain written permission from your parish.

### FUNERAL

Contact Parish Priest before making arrangements.

### SACRAMENTALS

For blessing of cars, religious articles and house blessings, please contact Parish Office.

### BOOKING MASS INTENTIONS

Mass intentions are offered to God as prayers of intercession and thanksgiving. Please connect with the parish office to request an intention.

## CHRISTMAS SEASON SCHEDULE

### Saturday, December 23:

- 5:00 PM Mass (anticipatory for Sunday)

### Sunday, December 24:

- 9:00 AM Mass & 11:00 AM Mass

### Monday, December 25:

- Christmas Mass at Midnight  
The Nativity of the Lord
- 9:00 AM Mass & 11:00 AM Mass

### Saturday, December 30:

- 5:00 Mass (anticipatory for Sunday)

### Sunday, December 31:

- 9:00 AM Mass & 11:00 AM Mass

### Monday, January 1, 2024

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

- 9:00 AM Mass & 11:00 AM Mass

### Please note:

**December 25, Christmas Day, and January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, are the only 2 Holy Days of obligation in the year in Canada. We are obliged to attend both the Sunday Mass and the Mass of the Holy Day of obligation.**



## MASS INTENTIONS

23-Dec	Saturday	5:00 PM	✝	Benjamin Ong
24-Dec	Sunday	9:00 AM	INT	Our Lady of Lourdes Parishioners
24-Dec	Sunday	11:00 AM	INT	Thanksgiving for Gisela
25-Dec	Monday	Midnight	✝	Souls in Purgatory
25-Dec	Monday	9:00 AM	✝	Souls in Purgatory
25-Dec	Monday	11:00 AM	INT	Lucas Ataide
26-Dec	Tuesday	8:30 AM	INT	Merly Hilario
27-Dec	Wednesday	8:30 AM	INT	John Robertson
28-Dec	Thursday	8:30 AM	INT	Beverley Decario
29-Dec	Friday	8:30 AM	INT	Amanda Moura
30-Dec	Saturday	8:30 AM	INT	John Robertson
30-Dec	Saturday	5:00 PM	✝	Joe Buena Cruz
31-Dec	Sunday	9:00 AM	INT	Our Lady of Lourdes Parishioners
31-Dec	Sunday	11:00 AM	✝	Denise-Racine
1-Jan	Monday	9:00 AM	INT	John Robertson
1-Jan	Monday	11:00 AM	✝	Fermin Piezas
2-Jan	Tuesday	8:30 AM	INT	John Robertson
3-Jan	Wednesday	8:30 AM	INT	Thanksgiving Quyapo Family
4-Jan	Thursday	8:30 AM	INT	Nicole Koechlin
5-Jan	Friday	8:30 AM	INT	John Robertson
5-Jan	Friday	7:00 PM	INT	John Robertson
6-Jan	Saturday	8:30 AM	INT	Jennifer Gray

## PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Please remember in your prayers our parishioners who are ill, especially:

**Lina Aussant, Dr. Erb, Kathleen Lauzon, Ralph Roberts, René & Gilberte Collette, the Quek Family, Marielle Wunderlich, Father Lucien Larré and Teresita Cunningham**

Through the intercession of St. John Paul II we ask that you heal them O Lord. Give them love and strength we pray, through Christ our Lord.

## COFFEE AND DONUTS AFTER MASS

Come and join us for coffee after the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses on Sundays. Celebrate with each other and get to know your fellow parishioners. This weekend we thank **the choirs** for sponsoring.



## NO COFFEE & DONUTS on Dec 25 & Jan 1

We will have the LAST "Coffee and Donuts After Mass" for 2023 on December 24th and the FIRST one for 2024 on January 7th. Attendance in this activity has slowly but steadily increased since it was started. What is wonderful to see is the development of friendships and the warmth of interactions among parishioners. In the future, come for coffee/tea and more-than-just-donuts. There are interesting people in our community. Come meet them. Trade experiences and stories and be enriched by the exchange. Thank you to the various groups for hosting this weekly gathering.




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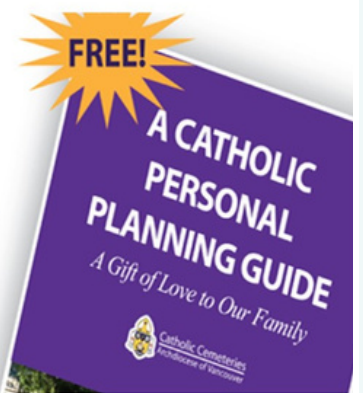
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**Please Remember Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Your Will. Thank you!**