



## Light and Vision

The days are getting shorter and shorter. What a difference in the amount of sunlight between December 21 and June 21. And it's not just the number of hours of sunlight but the quality of the light itself that is quite different.

Light plays an important role in our lives, even affecting our emotional state at a primal level. Just think of the way we feel on a beautiful sunny morning as opposed to a dark rainy day, all other things being equal. There are certain aspects of our behaviour that change depending on whether it is day or night, artificial light, firelight, sunlight, candlelight, December, or June; all have profoundly different influences on us. Look around the church and notice how different it feels depending on the circumstances of the available light – summer, winter, morning, afternoon, rainy or sunny. The natural light that comes through these windows has its own beauty in all circumstances.

Light has an important function in theology, in the liturgy and our ideas about our relationship with God. The very first action God takes in Genesis, while observing the earth as a formless wasteland at the moment of creation is to say, "Let there be light!" (Gen. 1:3) and there was light. Almost as if to say, "What could be more important than light?"

**Vision** is the faculty to be able to see. Another definition of vision is "the ability to think about or plan the future with imagination and wisdom".

I've been thinking about a vision for the future of Our Lady of Lourdes parish a lot lately and particularly about our

## 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1st Reading: Isaiah 61.1-2a, 10-11  
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24  
Gospel: John 1.6-8, 19-2

**basement reno project.** For the project to come to fruition, it requires vision – that is, vision in the sense of planning for the future with imagination and wisdom.

**Presently, there exists a dark, empty shell of a room with inadequate, unpleasant light, making for an un hospitable, unfriendly atmosphere.**

Let's face it; it's time to change that. I have a vision of that basement becoming a multi-use venue for social activities of all kinds, allowing us to welcome people into our church; a place with amenities that could serve the people, connect people, inspire people to bring other people to Christ. That's my vision. Do you share the vision I propose? Or do you have another idea? I would very much like to know what your vision is.

How do you like the idea of a lift to bring people from inside the church to the basement and the washrooms (without having to travel outside in the elements)? Our Project Advance Campaign donations will be going toward the cost of a lift as part of the overall renovations.

There will be natural light coming in through windows that were shuttered up many years ago. Natural light will play a role in making the **downstairs hall a beautiful, welcoming, friendly, sociable space.**

Light is life and knowledge. Darkness is ignorance and death. "I came into the world as light, so that everyone who believes in me might not remain in darkness." *John 12:46* Jesus is the light of the world.

Let us together prepare a vision for this now desolate space and turn it into a beautiful reality for present and future parishioners.

Peace,  
*Father Larry*

DEC 17, 2023

# BULLETIN



OUR LADY OF LOURDES  
COQUITLAM

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## WELCOME

We welcome all visitors. If you are new to the Parish, please fill out the registration form available at the entrance to the Church. And please introduce yourself to our pastor, Father Larry.


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


**Pastor:** Fr. Larry Lynn

 [llynn@rcav.org](mailto:llynn@rcav.org)


**Admin. Assistant:** Ana C. Moura

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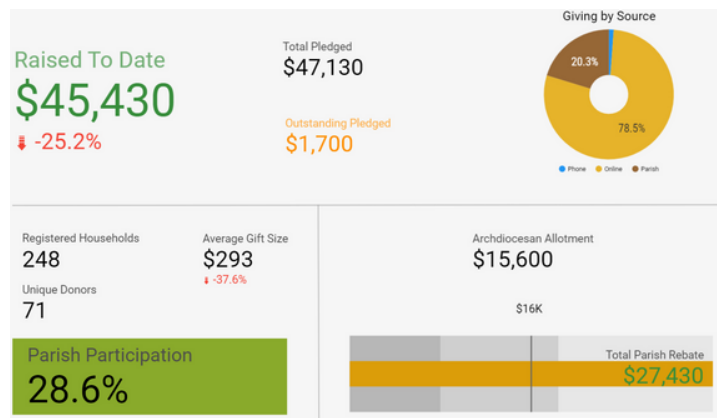
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## Final Plea for Project Advance 2023

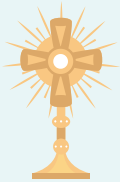
We are getting close to the end of our Project Advance Campaign. This year our goal is \$70,000. The desire is to raise enough money to pay for the lift that will allow folks with mobility issues to go between the Nave of the church to the basement without having to walk outside and around the block to use the washrooms.

This is part of a larger plan to make good use of the now empty shell of a basement. We'd like to make it amenable to many kinds of social activities and increase the vibrancy of our parish and provide a source of revenue.

With two weeks left in the tax year of 2023, we are roughly \$23,000 short of our goal. If you have already contributed, thank you for your generosity. If you have not given yet, now is the perfect time to consider giving something, anything, no matter how small the amount. Take five minutes and participate in the future of your parish.



## 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**

## Stories of the Week

Our Lady of Lourdes saw a lot of great activity last weekend. On Saturday evening we hosted, Les Échos du Pacifique, the choral group that started here at OLL 50 years ago. It was a pleasure to welcome them and listen to superb renditions of music for the season. The church was two thirds full, with many folks who haven't been her here in many a year. I say WELCOME!



And Sunday morning, doncha know, jolly old St. Nicholas himself showed up to bring good will and gifts for the children. A beautiful visit!



### 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.

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16-Dec	Saturday	5:00 PM	✝	Florence Langlois and Norman Langlois
17-Dec	Sunday	9:00 AM	INT	OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISHIONERS
17-Dec	Sunday	11:00 AM	✝	Ashley Irene Brass
18-Dec	Monday	8:30 AM	✝	For the Souls of Buthello Family
19-Dec	Tuesday	8:30 AM	✝	Avelina Pineda
20-Dec	Wednesday	8:30 AM	✝	Alcide Parent
21-Dec	Thursday	8:30 AM	✝	Alice Addenbrooke
22-Dec	Friday	8:30 AM	✝	Alex Trinidad Fernandes
23-Dec	Saturday	8:30 AM	✝	Rosina Bertani

# 2023 ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES

EACH SERVICE WILL BEGIN AT 7:00PM

- Wed, Dec 13: Our Lady of the Assumption, PoCo**
  - Thurs, Dec 14: Our Lady of Lourdes, Coquitlam**
  - Fri, Dec 15: All Saints, Coquitlam**
  - Mon, Dec 18: Our Lady of Fatima, Coquitlam**
  - Tues, Dec 19: St. Luke's, Maple Ridge**
  - Wed, Dec 20: St. Joseph's, Port Moody**
  - Thurs, Dec 21: St. Clare's of Assisi, Coquitlam**
  - Fri, Dec 22: St. Patrick's Maple Ridge**
- "Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offense." - Psalm 51**

## 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.

## 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 Couples for Christ** for sponsoring.



## PARISH MINISTRIES

- Alpha** Anthony Marroquin & Alex Lim
- Altar Servers** Alex Lim
- ACRSS Rep** Irenaeus Lim
- CWL** Josephine (Dollie) Basa
- Choir (Sun 9am)** Josephine (Dollie) Basa
- Choir (Sun 11am)** Roger De Villa
- Couples for Christ** Alejandro & Stella Delos Santos
- K of C** Danny Kusnardi
- Lector** Suzanne Tkach
- Prayer Group** Alex & Nancy Lim
- PREP** Marilyn Sarte
- Project Advance** Kathy Gorkoff & Francis Gutierrez
- Sacristan** Alex Lim
- Ushers** Robert Tang & Terry Charbonneau

**Contact parish office for info.**


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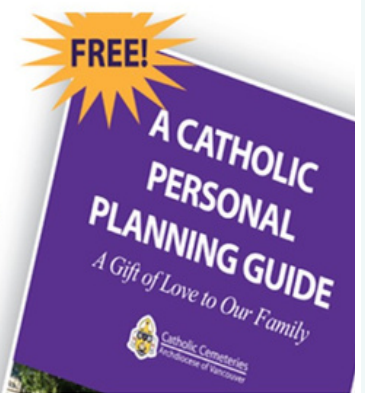
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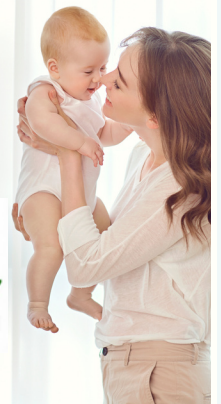
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**Please Remember Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Your Will. Thank you!**