

# Christmas Edition Bulletin

DECEMBER 2024



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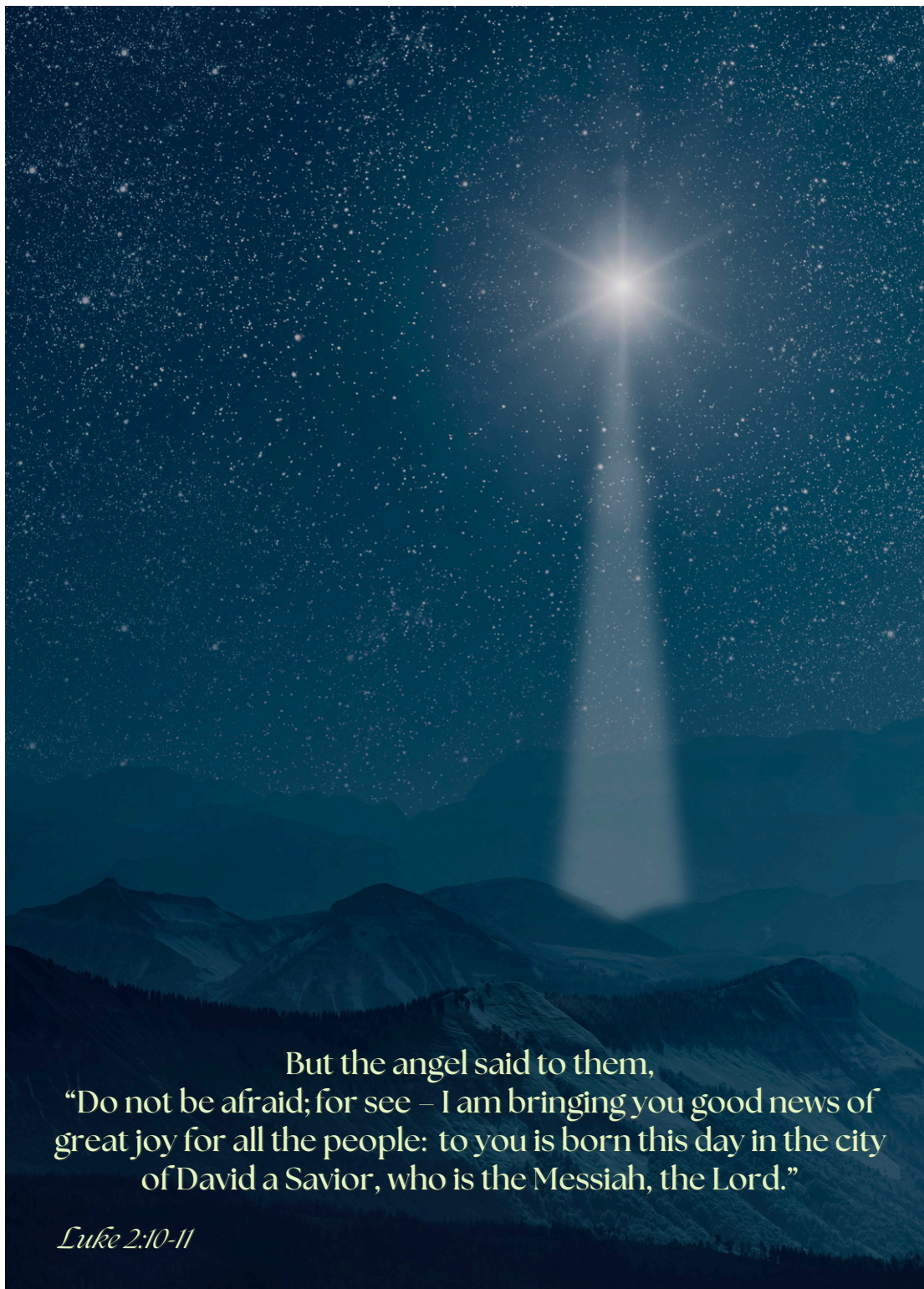
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## WELCOME

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.




But the angel said to them,  
“Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of  
great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city  
of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.”

*Luke 2:10-11*

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

**Pastor:** Fr. Larry Lynn

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

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 [ourladyoflourdesparish@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyoflourdesparish@gmail.com)



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## Jubilee Year 2025

### Opening Mass

Archbishop Miller will open the Jubilee Year 2025 at Holy Rosary Cathedral on **Sunday, December 29 at 11:00 am** with a Solemn Opening Mass. This Holy Year, celebrated every 25 years, invites the faithful to embrace pilgrimage, deepen prayer, and renew relationships under the theme "Pilgrims of Hope."



DOMESTIC  
ABUSE SERVICES

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL SOCIETY

### Needs Your Support

On October 5, 2024 a fire devastated several businesses in Langley. A thrift store operated by Domestic Abuse Services – Our Lady of Good Counsel Society, was affected and has had to close its door. This store played a vital role in funding "Eva's House," a shelter offering safety for women and children escaping domestic violence. During this period of rebuilding, your support can make a profound difference in their lives. Visit [domesticabuseservices.ca](http://domesticabuseservices.ca) for more information, to donate or to volunteer.



mustard seed

## Parish Office Closed After Christmas



The parish office will be closed over the Christmas break, reopening **Monday, January 6**. No bulletin will be published until the weekend of January 11/12. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the office right away.



## Father Larry Away

Father Larry will be away for a bit of a vacation from **January 2 to 9**. **Father Eslin FX Pereira** will be here to look after the Masses and pastoral needs during his absence.

## New Website Domain and Email Coming

Starting in January we will have a new website address, or URL. It will be the same great website (check us out often!), same information, events and photos but it will be a shorter and less cumbersome to type in. We will also have a new parish email address to contact the office or Father Larry. Details to come. The phone number will remain the same.



WE ARE CHANGING  
OUR DOMAIN NAME

[WWW.OLOL.CA](http://WWW.OLOL.CA)



2025

## 2025 Offering Envelopes

The Offering Envelopes for 2025 are ready for pick up near the church entrance. Please take your box home today but do **not** use the envelopes until 2025. If you would like envelopes and don't see a box with your name of it, please contact the parish office.

## Feast of the Holy Family

Bring your family to Mass on December 29 where there will be a special blessing for families. A celebration will follow in the hall. You are invited to bring cookies, cake or a family recipe to share. We will also be playing a Catholic family trivia game.

### WEEKDAY MASS

Mon. to Sat.: Rosary at 7:55am and Mass at 8:30am  
There is no morning Mass, Confession or Adoration on the First Saturday of the Month.

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

### ADORATION

Tues. to Sat. starting at 9:00am (following Mass). The Church will remain open until 6:00pm.

### 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.



## MASS INTENTIONS

### Christmas/ New Year's Mass Times

Come and celebrate with much joy! Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, Redeemer and Divine Companion is born! We will have three beautiful Christmas Masses on **December 25, at Midnight (with caroling 45 minutes beforehand), 9 am and 11 am** in English and French. Bring your family, or your friends, or even a neighbour who may be curious. All are welcome for His birth was for all of humanity.

We will gather again mid-week to honour our Blessed Mother. January 1 is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Masses follow the regular Sunday schedule with anticipated Mass on **Saturday, December 31 at 5 pm and Sunday, January 1 at 9 am and 11 am.**

### COFFEE & 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. We thank the following parish ministries for sponsoring:

- **PREP Family (for December 22, 2024)**
- **Choir (for December 29, 2024)**
- **Knights of Columbus (for January 5, 2025)**

### PRAYER FOR THE SICK

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

**Dr. Erb, Kathleen Lauzon, Ralph Roberts, René & Gilberte Collette, the Quek Family, Father Lucien Larré, Teresita Cunningham, Raymond Albert, Fernand Finnigan, Ozina Finnigan and Father Alan Boisclair.**

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.

21-Dec	Saturday	5:00 PM	INT	Danita Dyczko
22-Dec	Sunday	9:00 AM	INT	Our Lady of Lourdes Parishioners
22-Dec	Sunday	11:00 AM	✝	Benjamin Ong
22-Dec	Sunday	7:00 PM	✝	Jerome Josef & family
23-Dec	Monday	8:30 AM	✝	Rosina Bertani
23-Dec	Monday	7:00 PM	INT	Gerald Guno
24-Dec	Tuesday	8:30 AM	INT	Gerald Guno
25-Dec	Wednesday	Midnight	INT	Our Lady of Lourdes Parishioners
25-Dec	Wednesday	9:00 AM	✝	Kyler Tang
25-Dec	Wednesday	11:00 AM	✝	Devon Citrano
26-Dec	Thursday	8:30 AM	✝	All Souls in Purgatory
27-Dec	Friday	8:30 AM	INT	Kevin & Ivonne
28-Dec	Saturday	8:30 AM	✝	Antonio Ceccato
28-Dec	Saturday	5:00 PM	✝	Lavilla family
29-Dec	Sunday	9:00 AM	INT	Our Lady of Lourdes Parishioners
29-Dec	Sunday	11:00 AM	INT	Sharie Venida
30-Dec	Monday	8:30 AM	✝	Gutierrez family
31-Dec	Tuesday	8:30 AM	✝	All Souls in Purgatory
31-Dec	Tuesday	5:00 PM	✝	Chung & Wong family
1-Jan	Wednesday	9:00 AM	INT	David Goody & family
1-Jan	Wednesday	11:00 AM	INT	Zoila & Mila Guno
2-Jan	Thursday	8:30 AM	INT	Michael & Anne McNamara
3-Jan	Friday	8:30 AM	INT	Roberto & Perlita Grey
3-Jan	Friday	7:00 PM	✝	Morris & Fernandez family
4-Jan	Saturday	8:30 AM		No Mass
4-Jan	Saturday	5:00 PM	INT	Guno family
5-Jan	Sunday	9:00 AM	INT	Our Lady of Lourdes Parishioners
5-Jan	Sunday	11:00 AM	INT	Guno family
6-Jan	Monday	8:30 AM	INT	Grey family
7-Jan	Tuesday	8:30 AM	INT	Brandon & Vince Grey
8-Jan	Wednesday	8:30 AM	INT	Jason Guno
9-Jan	Thursday	8:30 AM	INT	Cole Guno
10-Jan	Friday	8:30 AM	INT	Mikaela Guno
11-Jan	Saturday	8:30 AM	✝	Marianna Tchorzewska

To book Mass Intentions please connect with the parish office to request an intention.

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





## My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Christmas is almost here, the New Year is upon us, I'll be going to Montréal on January 2, returning on January 9. Therefore this is the final bulletin of a most extraordinary year at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish/ La Paroisse Notre Dame de Lourdes, and I thought this might be a good time to reflect on who we are as a parish and what we have accomplished in 2024.

The vision for the parish that I have tried to articulate, is in some ways best said in a comment from a parishioner of another parish who was passing by and remarked, "With the beautiful Christmas lights, the church is beginning to feel like the heart of a Town Square."

Exactly!

Our Lady of Lourdes should feel like the steadfast rock, the shelter from the storms of life, the peaceful refuge, the town square where the neighborhood comes together in community, and not only for our parishioners but for our neighbors, as well.

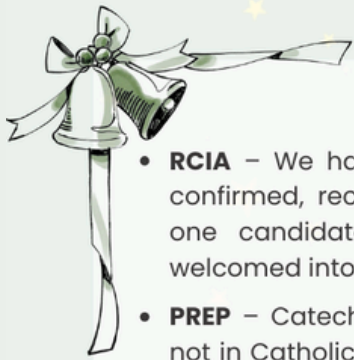
The church is  
*"...somehow better, nobler, more dignified, with more meaning behind it...with more love than the other buildings."*  
*letter from Marcel Proust.*

That's Our Lady of Lourdes, a cornerstone of the Village of Maillardville where Catholicism lives and thrives. It is a place that gives identity to the neighborhood. It's supported by the people in the neighborhood even while it is supporting them. It reaches out to those in need and meets the spiritual needs of our parishioners and all people living in Maillardville. *(see Bulletin of Oct. 20)*

I believe we are well on our way to achieving that. The following is a list of events and notable changes and what you, the parishioners have accomplished during 2024:

- We ran the **Catholicism** series of **Bishop Robert Barron**. Ten episodes of sheer beauty and great information on what it means to be Catholic.
- The **Knights of Columbus** ran a series on strengthening the family, entitled **"Into the Breach"**.
- We offered a showing of season 4 of the TV series **"The Chosen"** on Tuesday mornings in St. Anne's Hall. It was very well attended and created its own community for discussions of biblical themes.
- Our **post Mass "Coffee and Donuts"** run by several groups, **Choir, CWL, Couples for Christ, Knights of Columbus, and PREP Parents**, has been an excellent way to bring our community together and where many ideas and plans for the parish are hatched, and growth happens.
- Speaking of growth, our parish has grown with many new parishioners and the official word is that Mass attendance is up by over 7%. And we have welcomed approximately 20 new families into our parish.
- We have been diligently moving forward on the **Basement Renovation Project**. We are working with Oberto Oberti Architecture and Westbourne Projects with Giulietta Roz as our project manager. The construction company will be chosen this week. **Construction will begin in March** and is due to be completed in July. **We hope to be operating the hall/venue by August.**
- We participated in many **pro-life initiatives: The March for Life in Victoria, 40 Days for Life, Baby Bottle Campaign for Pregnancy Concerns, Walk/Run for Life – Life Compass Society** and we hosted two **First Saturday Pro-life Masses**.
- Hosted **two concerts** by the choral group that calls Our Lady of Lourdes home, **Les Echos du Pacifique**.





- **RCIA** – We had one catechumen baptized, confirmed, received the Holy Eucharist and one candidate, a young man who was welcomed into the Church.
- **PREP** – Catechesis for our children who are not in Catholic schools. They learn about our faith. We have a very dedicated group of teachers and parents who themselves want to learn more about the faith.
- **Kneelers** – We have **reupholstered and repaired all the kneelers** in the church.
- **New Front Doors** – We have recently replaced the front doors of the church with dignified, custom-made, red oak doors that look like church doors. This was paid for by a **Legacy donation from the late Mrs. Marguerite Finnigan**.
- **Processions** around the square: **Stations of the Cross** on Good Friday, **The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes**, and on **Corpus Christi Sunday**, a procession with the Holy Eucharist.
- **Family Fun Day** on July 14 to kick off the summer and raise funds for the basement project. With prizes, games, garage sale, music, food, and fun, we raised \$20,000.
- **Project Advance** – you were very generous. The tally is not in yet, but I know we have come close to our goal of \$70,000 and our participation rate has increased to over 30%. Thank you.
- **Our Lady of Guadalupe** – our Spanish speaking parishioners from Latin America organized a special Mass (partly in Spanish) and fiesta with great food from various Latin American countries for this special celebration of Our Blessed Mother.
- **Simbang Gabi** – This year we have teamed up with All Saints Parish to share in the presentation of the Simbang Gabi Novena of Masses before Christmas. This is a Filipino tradition that we are all encouraged to celebrate during the Advent Season.

- We have happily hired a few new people this year:
  - **Rudy Arnuco**, Custodian – a delightful, generous man who is keeping the parish campus beautiful, clean, and in good repair.
  - **Leanne Penco** – a very accomplished and competent administrative assistant. She is organizing the workflow for Father Larry and coordination with the various teams.
  - **Agnes Wan** – she was helping with the choir last year but now she is the Director of Music (with Roger De Villa). Agnes is a music teacher and brings great skill to help our choir improve constantly.
  - **Marilyn Sarte** – Coordinator of Lay Formation. Marilyn is a long-time parishioner who has dedicated herself to the salvation of souls at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. She oversees PREP, RCIA and other lay programs.

As you can see, my brothers and sisters, there is a huge commitment by many of our parishioners to bring about the salvation of all souls – the stated mission of the Catholic Church. It is a large undertaking and the rewards for doing so are even larger. I'd like to thank everyone who participates in our parish, in any way. Your willingness to open your hearts and respond to the initiatives that are offered is heartwarming.

I wish you and your families to have a blessed celebration of our Lord's Nativity, and that you are able to spend precious time with loved ones and share **the Peace and the Joy** that Christ has shared with you. May **God bless you and keep you in the New Year.**

In the Peace of Christ,

*Father Larry*

