

December 13 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

[John came] to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him . . .
“I am ‘the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord.’”

John 1: 6-8, 19-28

Our inner “John”

At one time or another, we find ourselves lost in a desert. Things have not worked out as planned. We’ve made mistakes — costly ones perhaps. We’ve been let down and used. We don’t know where to turn or who to trust. But if we listen hard enough, we hear a “voice” crying out to us, a voice that speaks in the oasis of our hearts, directing us to a new spring of hope. A loving spouse, a wise teacher, a generous neighbor, a conscientious boss — all can be that “voice of one crying the desert” that leads us to hope.

We walk a lot of crooked roads in our lives: relationships that for some reason have become strained; demands on our time that have distracted us from being present for those we love; attitudes of bigotry and privilege that have brought strife and pain to others because of their race, gender, culture or creed. Daring to believe we can make a difference, we start “straightening” those crooked roads, making an entry way for justice and reconciliation, for peace and healing to enter our broken world.

There are too many “dark” places in our world — cynicism, despair, avarice, bigotry. We wonder how we could possibly kindle any light on our own — but, somehow, light begins to radiate from our small glowing ember of compassion, our small flame of generosity never seems to go out.

The coming of Christ calls us to the work of making a straight road for him, of transforming the barren deserts around us into harvests of justice and peace, of reflecting the light of his forgiveness and mercy in our midst. We are all called to this kind of “prophetic” work begun by John at the Jordan River: to use whatever skills and resources we possess to bring hope into prisons of despair, joy into deserts of sadness, love into broken hearts and spirits of stone.

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December 13, 2020
3rd Sunday of Advent

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ

Parish Information

Pastor: Monsignor Jim Robertson

Office Administrator: Dianne Russell

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

465 Curling Street
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Tel: (709) 785-5025

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e-transfers: sacredheartrcparish@gmail.com
Password "**Church**"
www.sacredheartrcparish.ca



Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:30 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.

To Register, please call the office Monday to Friday between 9 am and 1 pm.

Reconciliation:

By request

Mass During the Week:

Tue, Wed, & Thu at 7 p.m. and Fri at 10 a.m.

Daily mass is cancelled any day in which there is a Funeral Mass or schools are closed due to weather.

Holy Hour of Adoration:

Discontinued until further notice.

Marriages:

Six months’ notice required. A year's notice is recommended.

Baptisms:

Please call the Parish Office to schedule preparation session.

St. Vincent de Paul:

To assist those in need. Call 638-9010.

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

December 6th, 2020

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| Regular Sunday | \$1307.00 |
| Building Fund | 150.00 |
| Sunday Missals | 5.00 |
| Advent | 320.00 |
| Flowers | 220.00 |
| St. Vincent de Paul | 30.00 |
| Word Among Us | 5.00 |
| In Memorium, Late Stan Tompkins | 10.00 |
| Shepherd's Fund | 70.00 |
| World Mission Sunday | 25.00 |

MASS INTENTIONS

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| Tue. 7pm | Gus & Irene Rumboldt |
| Wed. 7pm | Late Captain Robert Evans |
| Thu. 7pm | Special Intention |
| Fri. 10am | Late Basil Donahue |
| Sat. 4:30pm | Late Thomas & Edith, James Hackett |
| Sun. 11am | Parish Community |

PARISH DUES: Received with thanks from Bill and Gen Quigley.

SUNDAY MISSALS: are available at the back of the Church. \$5 each.

FACE MASKS: Wear facemasks when entering, leaving, and moving about the church. It may be removed if you are seated and able to maintain 2m distancing.

SUNDAY ENVELOPES FOR 2021: now available for pick up at the church.

PARISHIONER CONTRIBUTIONS: Please note this year's deadline for monies to be included on the 2020 tax receipt is Dec. 29th.

LADIES FUNDRAISING: Our Bingo Draw for December will include 3 Bonus draws so everyone is encourage to get their donations in by Dec 20th. The draw will take place on December 27th. Regular donors for December are those with last names beginning with N through Z, but anyone can enter the draw. Each donation of \$10 qualifies for on entry. Donations can be put in a envelope , clearly marked BINGO, include your NAME, and drop in the collection or the parish house mailbox. Good luck to everyone. The winner of the November draw of \$79.50 is Eileen Moore. Congratulations!

RECONCILIATION DURING ADVENT - update: Due to Covid-19, there will be NO communal celebration of Reconciliation. Reconciliation will be offered every Saturday during Advent at the Cathedral from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, or upon request. As well Father Jim will be in the reconciliation room at Sacred Heart Church from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Saturday December 19th.

ADVENT FOLDER: Advent offering envelopes are available at the church. We ask you to generously support this Advent collection. Please think of them as a replacement of the folder with a suggested offering of \$20.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: If you would like to donate toward flowers for the altar in memory of a loved one, you may do so by putting your donation in an envelope (envelopes located at the church) with the name of your loved one and drop it in the collection or drop by the Parish Office.



TREE OF GIVING: Our tree is in the back of the church but unlike other years, there are no TAGS on the tree as we are trying to discourage touching things due to Covid-19. It is there simply to remind you to open your hearts to the needy in our community. Please bring a non perishable food item to put by the tree. Also, please check the "best before date" on all food items. Thank you for your generosity during this difficult time.



U-TUBE REFLECTION: A short U-Tube reflection on the Sunday Advent Readings can be accessed beginning every Monday of the week (for the upcoming Sunday) on www.cccb.ca Bishop Douglas Crosby, Bishop of Hamilton, is the presenter.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS - update: Please be advised, due to Covid-19 restrictions, registration for Christmas Eve Masses at 4:30pm and 7:00pm are now full. **You will be escorted to your assigned seat.** There is still space available for the Christmas Eve Mass at 9:00 pm and Christmas Day Mass at 11:00 am. Please call the office to register as soon as possible. Also, if you decide not to attend a mass you already registered for, call in and have your name removed so another can attend. Thank you for your co-operation. Office # 785-5025.



HOLY FATHERS PRAYER - December: We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: Anyone desiring a Christmas hamper should call 638-9010. **We are accepting donations of knitted goods, hats, mitts, socks, and stocking stuffers in the SSVP box at the entrance to the Church.** Parishioners are also invited to sponsor a person or family for a Christmas Hamper. If you wish to do so contact the SSVP at 638-9010.

CHRISTMAS CHURCH CLEAN UP:

We will be cleaning the church for Christmas on December 14th beginning at 9:30 am. Get your buckets and cleaning cloths ready! Please don't forget your masks.



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

Christmas Eve Masses, Dec. 24 @ 4:30 pm 7:00 pm and 9:00 pm.
Christmas Day Mass, Dec. 25 @ 11:00 am
Saturday Mass, Dec. 26 @ 4:30 pm
Sunday Dec. 27 @ 11:00 am
NO MASS: Monday Dec 28th, Tuesday Dec 29th, Wednesday Dec 30th
New Years Eve, Dec. 31 @ 4:30 pm
New Years Day, Jan. 1 @ 11:00 am
Saturday Jan 2 @ 4:30 pm
Sunday Jan 3 @ 11:00 am

AIN'T NOBODY GOT TIME FOR THAT

