

November 29th – First Sunday of Advent

“Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming . . . May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: Watch!”

Mark 13: 33-37

The Advent of 2020

It’s been a long year of waiting: waiting to determine the depth of the danger, waiting for a sense of how long, waiting for clear directions as to what to do next.

For some, the waiting has been especially excruciating: waiting and hoping that our loved one will survive — for some families, that hope crashed into grief.

Many have lost hope that their jobs will ever return and are desperate for some sense of what to do next.

Now, as winter begins, we continue to wait: for a vaccine, for a return to normal, for the next crisis.

Yes, the waiting has been painful and distressing. But, for many of us, this pandemic Advent also been a time of change and conversion: We’ve grown closer to our families. We have a new appreciation of those who work hard — and mostly unnoticed — to keep open the services we need to function. We’ve realized that God has raised up many saints in our midst, courageous and brave prophets clad in PPE. And we understand as we’ve never understood before how much we need one another and can’t wait to re-connect with family and neighbors and friends and classmates live, in person, not on a screen via Zoom or Skype.

This year of 2020 has been one long Advent — and it’s not over. But it has been an Advent of discovery, of awareness, of insight; an Advent for seeing with new hearts and spirits God in our midst.

The late Father Henri Nouwen wrote that our lives are a continuing Advent, an Advent in which “the Lord is coming, always coming. When you have ears to hear and eyes to see, you will recognize him at any moment of your life. Life is Advent; life is recognizing the coming of the Lord.” Waiting is often the cost of love: in waiting we realize our powerlessness; we realize our deepest hopes and wants; we realize the gift of those we love in our lives. As we struggle through this especially difficult Advent of 2020, may we open our homes and hearts to the light of God’s compassion and peace in these dark, difficult days.

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November 29th, 2020
First 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.



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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

November 22nd, 2020

Regular Sunday	\$2504.00
Building Fund	200.00
Sunday Missals	115.00
Development & Peace	50.00
Shepherds' Fund	1025.00
Ecclesiastical Students	50.00
Pope's Pastoral Works	50.00
World Mission Sunday	50.00
St. Vincent de Paul	50.00
Needs of the Canadian Church	50.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Tue. 7pm	Late Franz & Joanne Kranacher
Wed. 7pm	Late Joe Gallant & Deceased Family Members
Thu. 7pm	Special Intention
Fri. 10am	Father Don Leonard
Sat. 4:30pm	Late Gertrude Noseworthy
Sun. 11am	Parish Community

PARISH DUES: Received with thanks from: Tom Quigley, and John Barriault.

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

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

SHEPHERDS' FUND FOUNDATION: Thank you for your generous support of the Shepherds' Fund Collection. To date the total is \$1170.00 Envelopes will continue to be available and donations will be accepted at any time.

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

CONDOLENCES: We offer our prayerful condolences to the families of the late Audrey Brake and Marjorie Callahan. May they rest in peace.

LADIES GROUP FUNDRAISER: Since Covid has put a stop to all our fundraising activities, we have come up with the following idea to help support our parish. **"BINGO DRAW"** Our regular donors will be called each month, (Parishioners in sections F through M on this list are asked to donate for November), but all parishioners are welcome to participate. Those who give a donation of at least \$10.00 will have a chance to win 10% of the total donations collected for the month. Every \$10 donation will equal one ticket in the draw i.e. if you donate \$20 your name will be in twice. Donations must be in by the third week of each month. Put your donations in an envelope marked BINGO, include your name, and drop in collection, Father Jim's mailbox, or give to any member of the ladies group.

ADVENT FOLDER: You will find in your bulletin, an Advent offering envelope. 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.



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: We will again be providing Christmas Hampers to those people in the community who are in need. Anyone desiring a 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 a person(s) or group wishes to do so they should contact the SSVP at 638-9010. We really appreciate your support in this endeavour.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL: We will take up the monthly Poor Box Collection on Dec 5th – 6th. Parishioners are asked to put their donation in an envelope and place it in the baskets that will be provided. Please give generously.

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

RECONCILIATION DURING ADVENT: 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 12th and 19th.

CHRISTMAS CHURCH CLEAN UP:

Just a reminder that we will be cleaning the church just before Christmas. The date has been set for December 14th beginning at 9:30 am. Get your buckets and cleaning cloths ready! Please don't forget your masks.



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.

U-TUBE REFLECTION: The Bishops of Canada are providing a short U-Tube reflection on the Sunday Advent Readings that can be accessed beginning every Monday of the week (for the upcoming Sunday) on the CCCB webpage at www.cccb.ca Bishop Douglas Crosby, Bishop of Hamilton, is the presenter.



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**