

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017



MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS: DEC. 2 TO DEC. 10

(L) indicates a living intention

Saturday	Dec. 2	First Sunday of Advent	
4:30 pm	Danny Neeson		Fran & Carl Jorgensen
Sunday	Dec. 3		
9:00 am	Vito Maurovich		Deloris, Michael & family
11:00 am	Our Parishioners		
Monday	Dec. 4		
8:30 am	Albanese Family		
Tuesday	Dec. 5		
8:30 am	Marino Argentin		Angie & family
Wednesday	Dec. 6		
8:30 am	Jack Scimone		daughter Connie
Thursday	Dec. 7		
8:30 am	Gerry Poisson		Andy & Betty Quinn
Friday	Dec. 8	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception	
8:30 am	Thida Buor, Solidad & Ricardo Javier		Buor family
Saturday	Dec. 9	Second Sunday of Advent	
4:30 pm	Ignatius, Carmeline, Jacinto & Helen D'Silva		Paschal, Marie & Dylan Fernandes
Sunday	Dec. 10		
9:00	Elizabeth Alice Boyes		
11:00 am	Our Parishioners		

SANCTUARY LAMP (Week)

December 3: Guy Guerette, requested by Joy Vincent.

December 10: Louisa Rodrigues Ferreira, requested by the Estrada family

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR NOV. 25/26

Offerings: \$4,899.00 Building Fund: \$ 1,407.00

Upcoming special collection: **December 10 – Religious Education**

FAITH FIRST NEWS

Confirmation Gathering #3 Tuesday, December 5

2018 NEW YEARS EVE DINNER-DANCE: Usher in the New Year with family and friends at the St. Thomas à Becket Annual New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance on Sunday Dec. 31, at 6:30 pm. Hosted by the Becket Social Club. Enjoy a gourmet catered meal, NEW MENU, great music & dancing. Tickets available until Dec 22. Early bird tickets \$35/person until Dec 5. \$40/person afterwards. Meal choice can be ordered at time of ticket purchase. 13 & older, BYOBeverage. Info or tickets: Phil 514-696-4167 or Guy 514-887-4898.

MARRIAGE MYTH

“A Catholic is not permitted to marry a non-Catholic in church unless he or she becomes Catholic.” Not true. We often celebrate the weddings of Catholics to Protestants, Jews, Muslims, Hindus and others. The non-Catholic does have to understand the obligation of the Catholic party to raise the children as Catholics, however, and both parties have to appreciate the challenges of an interfaith marriage. To learn more, contact one of our priests.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT



“Beloved, now is the acceptable time spoken of by the Spirit, **the day of salvation, peace and reconciliation**: the great season of Advent. This is the time eagerly awaited by the patriarchs and prophets, the time that holy Simeon rejoiced at last to see.

This is the season that the Church has always celebrated with special solemnity. We too should always observe it with faith and love, offering praise and thanksgiving to the Father for the **mercy and love** he has shown us in this mystery. In his infinite love for us, though we were sinners, he sent his only Son to free us from the tyranny of Satan, to summon us to

heaven, to welcome us into its innermost recesses, to show us truth itself, to train us in right conduct, to plant within us the seeds of virtue, to enrich us with the treasures of his grace, and to make us children of God and heirs of eternal life.

Each year, as the Church recalls this mystery, she urges us to renew the memory of the great love God has shown us. This holy season teaches us that Christ’s coming was not only for the benefit of his contemporaries; his power has still to be communicated to us all. We shall share his power, if, through holy faith and the sacraments, we willingly accept the grace Christ earned for us, and live by that **grace and in obedience** to Christ.

The Church asks us to understand that Christ, who came once in the flesh, is prepared to come again. When we remove all **obstacles** to his presence he will come, at any hour and moment, to dwell spiritually in our hearts, bringing with him the riches of his grace.

In her concern for our salvation, our loving mother the Church uses this holy season to teach us through hymns, canticles, etc. She shows us how grateful we should be for so great a blessing, and how to gain its benefit: our hearts should be as much prepared for the coming of Christ as if he were still to come into this world. The same lesson is given us for our imitation by the words and example of the holy men of the Old Testament.

~ *St. Charles Borromeo*

REFLECTIONS ON CONFESSION:



Confession is the most **challenging** and difficult of the sacraments, because in it we lay bare our inmost thoughts, our weaknesses and sins that shame us, our deepest motives. This we do to another human person, a priest who, we know in faith, takes the place of God. It can be very humiliating. And yet we get untold benefits of freedom, forgiveness, peace, healing and strength from this sacrament. We sin as **individuals**. We also have to make an individual confession. It does us good to go on our knees, put our sinful deeds into words before an ordained priest, face up to the truth about ourselves and entrust our lives to **God's merciful and just love**.

This sacrament reconciles us not only with **God**, but also with **others** whom our sin has wounded or against whom our sinful ways have set up a barrier of discord or enmity. Here we are reconciled with the **Church** whose life our sin had weakened. We are also reconciled with **ourselves** in our inmost heart and regain our peace of conscience.

~ *Bishop Philip Boyce, Ireland*

BECKET PANTRY DESPERATELY NEEDS: salmon, tinned meat, stew rice (small packages) rice & noodle mix, creamed corn, mixed vegetables, green beans, muffin mix, tomato sauce, tinned tomatoes, spaghetti sauce, jam, gravy, Jell-O / pudding, coffee, tea, laundry detergent, toilet paper, toothpaste, shampoo, bars of soap. All non-perishables accepted. Thank you!

RAY OF HOPE CHRISTMAS TREE: We will be collecting gifts for Benedict Labre House. Please take a tag from our giving tree, purchase the item, wrap, place the tag on gift (for identification) then place the gift under the tree **by December 10**. Sleeping bags (new or gently used) also needed.

LITTLE SISTER OF JESUS KATHY MCKEE (sister of Fr. Francis McKee), will be in Montreal December 5. She is coming from Rome, to give a talk about Bl. Charles de Foucauld at Jesus Light of the World parish, Mary Queen of Peace church hall, at 7:30 pm. Brother Charles was a French mystic whose goal was to evangelize among those least likely to have heard about Jesus. Info: 514-683-6810

ST. LUKE CAFÉ - THE STORY OF THE BIBLE: November 2017 - January 2018 7 – 9 p.m. Presenter Samuel Farrugia

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The Bible has fired the imaginations of such creative writers as C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien. They believed the Bible had the power to create a world within which we could live virtuous lives of truth, goodness & beauty.

Thursday, December 7: “IN THE BEGINNING...” The story of the beginning of a good world ... a very good one.

Thursday, December 14: “THE SHADOW SPREADS” Evil threatens to plunge the world back into chaos, but hope appears as one family is given a new destiny.

Thursday, January 11: “THE CRUCIFIED GOD” One man’s destiny is to make the story of God’s people turn the corner, and thereby rescue the world

Thursday, January 18: “THE BIRTH OF A NEW WORLD” An exploration of Jesus’ defeat of evil and the launch of the new creation.

Thursday, January 25: “TELLING THE STORY” How we can communicate the uniqueness of the Bible’s story in a meaningful and appealing way.

YOUR HELPING OTHERS DONATIONS AT WORK:

Following are excerpts from some of the thank-you notes we have received from our recipients:

“On behalf of NOVA West Island we thank you for responding to our request for your donation... Our primary mandate is to provide home-care and support to ALS and cancer patients... particularly during the palliative stage, at no or minima cost to the families. Your financial support is especially appreciated as we receive no government funding.

~ Marie-France Juneau RN, BScN, MScN

“Bit by bit, people are returning to Norcia. Fallen walls and ruined buildings still confront the eye at every turn... the basilica sadly remains only an apse, a façade and a pile of rubble. Thanks to the practical support of our friends, a small part of the brewery is being restored and we hope to bottle the two batches of beer that we brewed before the earthquakes..... we have poured the foundations for our new wooden church and dormitory and have landscaped the hillside around the site, moving tons of earth, and building stone terraces by hand, one stone at a time. God willing we will soon celebrate in a new church and offer our prayers for the many benefactors whom He used to help us build it. With heartfelt thanks for your words of kindness and generous gift. Greetings to all your parishioners at St. Thomas à Becket.

~Fr. Benedict Nivakoff, OSB, Prior, Monastero Di San Benedetto Noria

<<... Cette argent nous permettra d'aider les familles à se procurer les fournitures scolaires pour débiter l'année scolaire... Merci à tous vos paroissiens qui contribuera à rendre cette rentrée scolaire plus facile pour ces familles.>>

~Johanne Test, Directrice, École Sainte-Geneviève Ouest