

Second Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2018



MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS: DECEMBER 8 to DECEMBER 16

(L) indicates a living intention

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| Saturday | Dec. 8 | Second Sunday of Advent | |
| 4:30 pm | Ken Doran | | Vivian, Ken & family |
| Sunday | Dec. 9 | | |
| 9:00 am | Our Parishioners | | |
| 11:00 am | Jean Guy Caron | | The Robertson family |
| Monday | Dec. 10 | | |
| 8:30 am | Mary Whyte | | Rina Reda |
| Tuesday | Dec. 11 | | |
| 8:30 am | Maria Bastone | | Rina Reda |
| Wednesday | Dec. 12 | | |
| 8:30 am | Cecilia & Caterina Mossa & family | | Rina Della Rocca |
| Thursday | Dec. 13 | | |
| 8:30 am | Luciano Della Rocca | | Rina Della Rocca |
| Friday | Dec. 14 | | |
| 8:30 am | Margaret & Frederick Linton | | The D'Lima family |
| Saturday | Dec. 15 | Third Sunday of Advent | |
| 4:30 pm | In thanksgiving | | Clayton & Maureen Marolly |
| Sunday | Dec. 16 | | |
| 9:00 am | John Mercer | | Donna Ellis Bernier & family |
| 11:00 am | Our Parishioners | | |

SANCTUARY LAMP (Week)

December 9: Guy Guerette, requested by Joy Vinson

December 16: Barbara Kray, requested by Helen & Manfred Adam

LORD, GRANT MERCY AND LASTING PEACE to those who died recently, and strength and comfort to those who mourn them: *Sr. Marguerite Taillon, sscm*, sister of Guy Taillon.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR DECEMBER 1/2

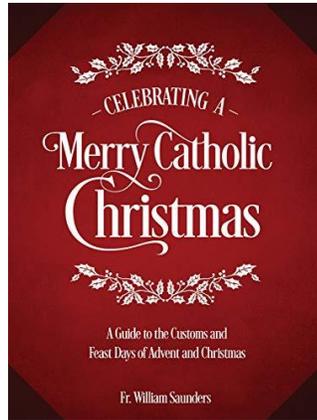
Offerings: \$5,607.15

Next Special Collection Dec. 30 – Building Fund

BENEDICT LABRE HOUSE RAY OF HOPE CHRISTMAS TREE: We will be collecting gifts for Benedict Labre House for the homeless. 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 16**. Want to shop early? Tags will have the following suggestions: Toques/hats, gloves, warm underwear (men and women), socks, deodorant, razors, feminine hygienic products, chocolates. Sleeping bags and back packs (new or gently used) are also needed.

CELEBRATING A MERRY CATHOLIC CHRISTMAS: A GUIDE TO THE CUSTOMS AND FEAST DAYS OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS,

by Fr. William Saunders



Celebrating a Merry Catholic Christmas is a treasure, one that offers its riches year after year. It is a valuable resource for understanding and celebrating Advent and Christmas as a Catholic. But, more than providing the historical roots of traditions, such as the Advent wreath and Christmas tree, it also features spiritual reflections and suggestions for practices to enrich your family's Christmas preparation and celebration. You'll find all of the major Feast Days of Advent and Christmas along with devotions and traditions that will help your family get more out these important seasons. Inside you'll learn:

- ❖ why candles are placed in windows; why poinsettias are used as a Christmas decoration
- ❖ the origin of the Christmas tree
- ❖ when Christmas actually ends
- ❖ and more, so that you and yours can appreciate more fully the significance of these traditions and grow in love and honor of Christ.

WORDS TO LIVE BY

“Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.

Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.”

~ *St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians, 4:6-8*

LECTORS NEEDED If you would like to become more engaged in parish life, but do not have much time to commit please consider becoming a Lector. You will be asked to read approximately once every 2 to 3 months. A schedule and training are provided. Lectors must be at least 16 years of age. Lectors are need at all Masses and especially at the 4:30 p.m. Mass. Call or email Tobias at 514-594-0830, tkoikaran@terfloth.com

CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST: Becket's Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Christmas Breakfast immediately following the 11 am Mass on Sunday, December 16. Please see the event flyers for ticket and event details.

GREETERS ARE NEEDED to cover the masses Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Even if you do not take part in the ministry, we need people to help out during this time. Please sign the poster hanging in the Narthex. If any questions please contact Norma Cook – 514-620-2019

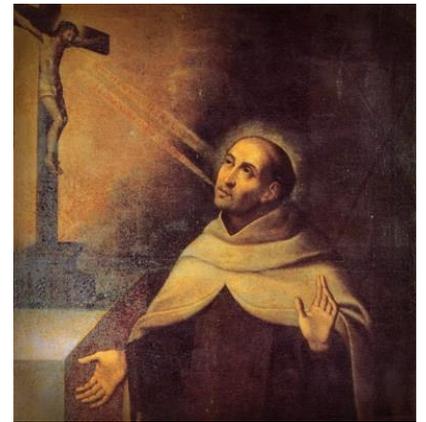
2019 NEW YEARS EVE DINNER-DANCE: Usher in the New Year with family and friends at the St. Thomas à Becket Annual New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance on Monday Dec. 31, at 6:30 pm. Hosted by the Becket Social Club. Enjoy a gourmet meal, catered by La Maison Verte, great music & dancing. Tickets available until Dec 20. Tickets \$40/person. Meal choice can be ordered at time of ticket purchase. 13 & older, BYOBeverage. Info or tickets: Rina 514-915-7586 or Guy 514-887-4898.

HEALING PRAYER SERVICE Monday, Dec. 17, at 7:30 p.m. The evening includes Eucharistic Adoration, music, scripture, and reflection. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered, and prayer teams are happy to meet with you.

HEALING MINISTRY TRAINING SESSION The last great command that our Lord gave his followers in Matthew 28:16-29, was “Go and make disciples of all the nations”. This is also known as the Great Commission. We invite you to an opportunity to become His disciples through Adults who are interested in a faith-enriching journey through prayer ministry may wish to enrol in Level 1 of our training program, sponsored by the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services of Canada. We will offer this foundational level in English in the Winter of 2019. It will be held weekly on Wednesday evenings from 6:15 p.m. until 9:30 p.m., beginning January 9 through April 17, 2019. We have included a provision for 2 “snow days”, if required. For more information and to receive our registration form, please write to healing.ministry@hotmail.com There is a limit of 24 participants and the course cost is \$55.00. The registration deadline is set for December 14.

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

St. John of the Cross (1542–1591) grew up near Avila, Spain, in poverty. His father died when he was young, and his widowed mother struggled to support the family. Shortly after his ordination in 1567, he met St. Teresa of Avila and was drawn into her reform of the Carmelites, which became known as the Discalced (“barefoot”) Carmelites. The reform set Carmelite brother against brother, and John was even imprisoned but used the time to write "The Spiritual Canticle." For this, and for his other great work, "Dark Night of the Soul," he is considered one of the greatest poets to write in Spanish.



The Discalced Carmelites are men and women who dedicate themselves to a life of prayer. The Carmelite nuns live in cloistered (enclosed) monasteries (there is one in Montreal in the Plateau) and follow a completely contemplative life. The Carmelite friars, while following a contemplative life, also engage in the promotion of spirituality through their retreat centres, parishes and churches. Lay people, known as the Secular Order, follow their contemplative call in their everyday activities. Devotion to the Virgin Mary is a characteristic of Carmelites and is symbolized by wearing the brown scapular.

Carmelites trace their roots and their name to Mount Carmel in the Holy Land. There, in the 13th century, a band of European men gathered together to live a simple life of prayer. Their first chapel was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. They called themselves the Brothers of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel.

The first Carmelites came as pilgrims to Mount Carmel to live a solitary lifestyle. These early hermits were mostly laity, who lived an unofficial religious life of poverty, penance and prayer. Between 1206 and 1214, St. Albert, Patriarch of Jerusalem, brought the hermits on Mount Carmel together, at their request, into community. He wrote them a rule for living, which expressed their own intention and reflected the spirit of the pilgrimage to the Holy Land and of the early community of Jerusalem. They were also inspired by the prophet Elijah who had been associated with Mount Carmel. That influence can be seen by the words of Elijah, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, God of armies" (IKg 19:10) on the Carmelite crest. Within fifty years of receiving their rule the Carmelite hermits were forced to leave Mount Carmel and settled in Europe.