

Fourth Sunday of Advent

*December
18, 2011*



The icon of the Annunciation, more than any other, helps us to see clearly how everything in the Church goes back to that mystery of Mary's acceptance of the divine Word, by which, through the action of the Holy Spirit, the Covenant between God and humanity was perfectly sealed.

Pope Benedict XVI Homily on the Annunciation Saturday, 25 March 2006

Weekday Masses: Dec. 19, 7:15 pm, Dec. 20, 21, 22, 23: 8:30 am

WE KEEP ADVENT: The slow sailing of the Earth around its star brings another winter. An old hymn sings our impatience:

How long, dear Savior, O how long,
shall this, thine hour delay?
Fly swift around, ye wheels of time,
and bring the promised day.

We wait for Christmas. Yet even more, the church looks forward to that promised day when Christ will return and time will end. But in all the anticipation and preparation, let's not overlook the present moment, this holy time of Advent. We keep Advent now until sunset on December 24.

The word advent is from a Latin word for "coming." We remember Christ's first coming at Bethlehem, and we "wait in joyful hope" for Christ to return in glory. John of Damascus (who died in the early 8th century) wrote this prayer: "You have taken me captive with longing for you, O Christ, and have transformed me with your divine love. Burn up my sins with the fire of your Spirit and count me worthy to take my fill of delight in you, that, dancing with joy, I may magnify your glory."

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CAFÉS: Developed for *all* parishioners, our CAFÉS offer you a chance to learn more about our Catholic Faith and enrich your prayer life. We offer over 50 CAFÉS throughout the year, for individuals, couples, families, young and old.

Becket Film Fest presents: *Becket*, Wed. Dec. 28, 7:30 pm: (rescheduled from Dec. 03). Come join us for this historical drama and true story our patron Saint Thomas Becket. This film follows the friendship between King Henry II (Peter O'Toole) and Thomas Becket (Richard Burton), a royal courtier and confidant whom Henry appoints as Archbishop of Canterbury. As Becket takes his duties with the Church seriously, he finds himself increasingly at odds with the King, who finally orders the death of his once-close companion when he continues to defy the throne.

Stay tuned for our upcoming winter and spring CAFÉ schedules.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the Benedict Labre House Giving Tree project. The gifts will be picked up on Dec. 19, and distributed to the needy during the Benedict Labre House annual Christmas dinner.

BECKET CHRISTMAS BASKET NEWS: All our Christmas Baskets were delivered to needy families in our community on December 17. This year, we helped to make Christmas brighter for a record 84 families. We are blessed at Becket to be able to fill every single request for help, through the generous donations of our parishioners. A big thank you to everyone who helped with the donations, organization, packing and delivery. Special thanks to Marie and Ray Kalita and Filomena Parise, for coordinating this annual project, and for their tireless efforts in making sure that everything runs smoothly. God bless you, and all your families.

MAY THIS 'SEASON OF GIVING' not dull our conscience, but compel us, especially during these difficult economic times, to seek lasting solutions to the injustice of poverty in our midst. As we prepare to celebrate our Saviour's birth let us hope for a better world, more just, and more open to the presence of God in our brothers and sisters. God bless!

VOCATIONS REFLECTION: Mary received and responded to the Lord's will through the invitation of an angel. Who are God's messengers in your life? Listen to God speaking to you through them.

Diocesan Vocations Office: 514-925-4348 vocationsmtl@diocesemontreal.org

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS: DEC. 17 TO DEC. 25

Saturday	Dec. 17	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
4:30 pm.	Jane D'Lima	Edwina Dias & family
Sunday	Dec. 18	
9:00 am	Luciano Della Rocca	Rina Della Rocca
11:00 am	Anna Nazzareno Loreto D'Allesio	Zanetti family
Mon.	Dec. 19	
7:15 pm	Dorothy Roscoe	Penny & Denis Charbonneau
Tues.	Dec. 20	
8:30 am	Michelina Iacovino	Vanda Parise
Wed.	Dec. 21	
8:30 am	Fidele Beaulieu	Eva & Guylaine Beaulieu
Thursday	Dec. 22	
8:30 am	Souls in Purgatory	Eva & Guylaine Beaulieu
Friday	Dec. 23	
8:30 am	Elizabeth Lecomte	Annette & Glenda
Saturday	Dec. 24	CHRISTMAS
4:30 pm	Ralph Peluso	Marieta & Chuck
5:30 pm	Jane & George D'Lima	The D'Lima family
7:00 pm	Mark Julius Coelho	Pat & Donny
10:00 pm	Our Parishioners	
Sunday	Dec. 25	
10:30 am	Sean Richardson	Dawn & Gerry Richardson

Weekday Readings for Dec. 19 to Dec 23

Mon.	Dec. 19	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a	Lk 1: 5-25
Tues.	Dec. 20	Is 7:10-14	Lk 1: 26-38
Wed.	Dec. 21	Sg 2:8-14	Lk 1: 39-45
Thurs.	Dec. 22	1 Sm 1: 24-28	Lk 1: 46-56
Fri.	Dec. 23	Mal 3: 1-4, 23-24	Lk 1: 57-66

THE SANCTUARY LAMP is offered this week for Giovanni Gargiulo requested by the Rivera family.

CHANGES TO CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:

All Christmas Eve Masses will be celebrated in the church at 4:00 pm, 5:30 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm. There will be no Masses celebrated in the hall. Christmas morning Mass will be celebrated at **10:30 am.**

CHRISTMAS AT BENEDICT LABRE HOUSE: Thank you to everyone who took a tag from the Benedict Labre House Giving Tree.



Together we will help to make Christmas a little brighter for many homeless people. Please remember to place the gift in a gift bag and attach the tag from the tree, so we know what is in the bag. (do not wrap gifts please) Place the gift under the tree by **Dec. 19.** Still want to donate? McDonald's Gift Cards are still welcome.

WELCOME IN THE NEW YEAR at the St Thomas à Becket Annual New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance on Saturday Dec. 31, at 6:30 pm. Enjoy a gourmet catered meal, great music & dancing. Come dance the night away. Tickets available until Dec 23. \$35.00 each. Vegetarian meal can be ordered at time of ticket purchase. 16 & older, BYOBeverage. Info. Gord 514-421-8699 or Guy 514-887-4898.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAL: Help us make our sanctuary beautiful for Christmas. We invite you to make a donation towards our Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one. Include your donation in an envelope that is clearly marked "Christmas flower donations". Write on the envelope: *name* of your loved one (memorial) along with *your name* (donor). Include your parish envelope number if applicable. Bring your donation to the office, or drop it in the collection basket at Mass. Names of loved ones will be included in upcoming holiday bulletins.

Advent, Christmas, & New Year 2011-2012

Annual Christmas Concert

Sun. Dec. 18, 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Masses

Sat. Dec. 24, 4:00, 5:30, 7:00 & 10:00 p.m. ← Note new Mass times for 2011

Christmas Day Mass

Sun. Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m.

Holy Family

Fri. Dec. 30, 8:30 a.m.

Holy Hour of prayer for God's peace in the world

Sat. Dec. 31, 3:15 p.m.

Mary Mother of God Vigil Mass

Sat. Dec. 31, 4:30 p.m.

Vigil of Adoration and Prayer

Sat. Dec. 31, 10:00 p.m. to 12 midnight

Mary, Mother of God

Sun. Jan. 1, 10:30 a.m.

Epiphany of the Lord

Sat. Jan. 7, 4:30 p.m.

Sun. Jan. 8, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Baptism of the Lord

Mon, Jan 9, 7:15 p.m.



Please note there is no Mass Monday Dec. 26, 2011.

Parish and Faith First offices are closed Dec. 26 to Jan. 03.