



## Pastor's Corner

Dear Parishioners,

Advent is the liturgical season that begins the Church's year, being rooted in the Latin verb "advenire" meaning "to come". We spend four weeks preparing for the coming of the Feast of the Nativity of the Lord, and we observe this time with some fasting, prayers, and meditation to dispose ourselves to welcome Christ on the feast of his birth. The season, although penitential in tone, is not without a spirit of joy, hope, and anticipation. On the third Sunday, known as "Gaudete" Sunday, a special note of joy is introduced into the liturgy, indicating the assurance of everyone in the redemption of mankind by Christ. Advent is a time when our minds are directed to the second coming of the Lord and is a season of joyful hope and spiritual expectation.

During these Advent Sundays we will focus our thoughts and prayers on the second part of our 3 R's theme, that of "Respect". Last year during Advent we focused our attention on the first piece, that of reverence, so this year we welcome the various ministries and groups that connect us to the idea and virtue of respect. The displays in the entrance area will help us to be more aware of the ways we can witness to this reality in our lives and in our parish, and possibly to become involved in some way ourselves.

And on Thursday this coming week we will celebrate morning Mass at 11am at Good Shepherd, with the special invitation for those wishing to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Because of this Mass the earlier scheduled Masses at 8 am and 9am are cancelled. And also, in keeping with the Advent spirit, the parishes in Surrey have set the dates for their penitential services, so now would be a good time to mark your calendar and book the time for your Christmas confession.. Please see the dates listed below.

Have a good week,

*Fr. Dion*



## Christmas & New Year's MASS SCHEDULE



### Holy Cross Church

**Christmas Eve:**

Monday, Dec. 24 – 4:00pm

**Christmas Day:**

Tuesday, Dec. 25 – 8:30am

**Holy Family Sunday:**

Sunday, Dec. 30 – 8:30am

**Solemnity of Mary (New Year's Day):**

Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019 – 8:30am

### Star of the Sea Church

**Christmas Eve:**

Monday, Dec. 24 – 4:00pm

**Christmas Day:**

Tuesday, Dec. 25 – 10:30am

**Holy Family Sunday:**

Anticipated Mass - 4:00pm

Sunday, Dec. 30 – 10:30am

**Solemnity of Mary:**

Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019 – 10:30am

### Good Shepherd Church

**Christmas Eve:**

Monday, Dec. 24 – 4:00pm, and  
Midnight Mass - doors open 10pm,  
carols start 11pm

**Christmas Day:**

Tuesday, Dec. 25 – 9:00am and 11:00am

**Holy Family Sunday:**

Anticipated Mass - 5:00pm

Sunday, Dec. 30 – 9:00am, 11:00am, 7:00pm

**Solemnity of Mary:**

Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2018 – 9:00am, 11:00am and  
7:00pm

## ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES

Thursday, Dec. 13	7:00pm	OLGC
Thursday, Dec. 13	7:00pm	St. Matthew's
Friday, Dec 14	7:00pm	Precious Blood
Tuesday, Dec. 18	7:00pm	IC Delta
Wednesday, Dec. 19	7:00pm	St. Bernadette
Thursday, Dec. 20	7:00pm	Good Shepherd Church

## This Sunday's Mass Readings

**1ST READING:** Jeremiah 33:14-16

**RESPONSORIAL:** Psalm 25:4-5, 8-10, 14

**2ND READING:** 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

**GOSPEL:** Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Excerpts taken from Scott Hann [stpaulcenter.com](http://stpaulcenter.com)  
and [dioceseofsalford.org.uk](http://dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

The First Sunday of Advent is the cry of the Church for the coming of the Kingdom of God. As we prepare to remember how we first welcomed the birth of the Word of God, we long for the Second Coming of that Word, when the world will be remade and the Kingdom will be definitively established.

In this time "between" the First and Second Comings of the Lord, our job is not just to wait, but **to go out with joy proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom of God.** We work to build that kingdom wherever we can, nourished by our prayer and praise, working for justice, peace and charity.

All our "work" in our parishes is, in a sense, eschatological – it is a proclamation of a better world, a richer kingdom, the Kingdom of God for which we long. **"To evangelize is to make the kingdom of God present in our world."**(Evangelii Gaudium 176)

Pope Francis further reminds us that all missionary activity in the Church comes first and foremost from the work of God's grace: **"The salvation which God offers us is the work of his mercy. No human efforts, however good they may be, can enable us to merit so great a gift. God, by his sheer grace, draws us to himself and makes us one with him. He sends his Spirit into our hearts to make us his children, transforming us and enabling us to respond to his love by our lives. The Church is sent by Jesus Christ as the sacrament of the salvation offered by God. Through her evangelizing activity, she cooperates as an instrument of that divine grace which works unceasingly and inscrutably."** (EG 112)

The first and most important prayer of all engaged in missionary activity is **"Thy will be done!"** Saint Paul knew well what this means - he wrote this advice in his letter to Timothy: **"In a large house there are utensils not only of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for special use, some for ordinary. All who cleanse themselves of the things I have mentioned will become special utensils, dedicated and useful to the owner of the house, ready for every good work."** (2 Timothy 2:20-21) **We are here, today, in our parishes because people before us and among us have become "special utensils" in God's house – willing to be shaped by the Lord to be instruments of His Kingdom.** Let us give thanks to God for all those who have given of themselves so that **"the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you, so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed."** (1 Corinthians 1: 6-7)



Pope Francis also echoes this thanksgiving: **"I feel tremendous gratitude to all those who are committed to working in and for the Church ... I must say first that the contribution of the Church in today's world is enormous. The pain and the shame we feel at the sins of some members of the Church, and at our own, must never make us forget how many Christians are giving their lives**

**in love. They help so many people to be healed or to die in peace in makeshift hospitals. They are present to those enslaved by different addictions in the poorest places on earth. They devote themselves to the education of children and young people. They take care of the elderly who have been forgotten by everyone else. They look for ways to communicate values in hostile environments. They are dedicated in many other ways to showing an immense love for humanity inspired by the God who became man. I am grateful for the beautiful example given to me by so many Christians who joyfully sacrifice their lives and their time. This witness comforts and sustains me in my own effort to overcome selfishness and to give more fully of myself."** (EG 76)

As we begin this new liturgical year, marking the beginning of a period of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Christ, our Saviour, at Christmas, let us take these words to heart. Even as we give thanks for all that we have done and do for the building of God's Kingdom, we must also remember the Advent warning against complacency: **"Be on your guard, stay awake!"**

In today's First Reading, the prophet Jeremiah focuses our gaze on the promise God made to David some 1,000 years before Christ. God says through the prophet that He will fulfill this promise by raising up a "just shoot," a righteous offspring of David, who will rule Israel in justice. Today's Psalm, too, sounds the theme of Israel's ancient expectation: "Guide me in Your truth and teach me. For You are God my Savior and for You I will wait all day." We look back on Israel's desire and anticipation knowing that God has already made good on those promises by sending His only Son into the world. Jesus is the "just shoot," the God and Savior for Whom Israel was waiting.

Knowing that He is a God who keeps His promises lends grave urgency to the words of Jesus in today's Gospel. Urging us to keep watch for His return in glory, He draws on Old Testament images of chaos and instability—turmoil in the heavens, roaring seas, distress among the nations. Many will cower and be literally scared to death. But Jesus says we should greet the end times with heads raised high, confident that God keeps His promises, that our "redemption is at hand," that "the kingdom of God is near"!



<b>Dec 3</b>	<b>Monday</b>
7:30am	Morning Prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours - <i>GS</i>
8:30am	Rosary for Priests after 8am Mass - <i>GS</i>
<b>Dec 4</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>
9:00am	Drop-off, Drop-in Coffee ( <i>school parents</i> )- <i>GS</i>
4:00pm	King's Banquet Soup Kitchen - <i>SOS</i> Hall
6:30pm	CWL Mass followed by Christmas Potluck - <i>GS</i>
<b>Dec 5</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
7:30am	Morning Prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours - <i>GS</i>
9:00am	- Noon Confessions for School Children - <i>GS</i>
9:00am	Korean Bible Study - <i>GS</i> Cry Room
9:30am	<i>Endow</i> Women's Group (week 7 of 8) - <i>GS</i>
10:00am	Seniors Fitness - <i>SOS</i> Hall
6:30pm	Confessions - <i>GS</i>
7:00pm	RCIA - <i>GS</i> Meeting Room
7:30pm	Charismatic Prayer Group - <i>School</i>
<b>Dec 6</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
	<b>NO 8am Mass at Good Shepherd Church</b>
	<b>NO 9am Mass at Star of the Sea Church</b>
11:00am	Seniors Mass & Anointing - <i>GS</i> Meeting Rm
4:00pm	Legion of Mary - <i>GS</i> Fireside
6:15pm	PREP - <i>School</i>
6:30pm	1st Holy Communion Parents meeting - <i>GS</i>
<b>Dec 7</b>	<b>Friday</b>
6:00am	Friday Morning Men's Group - <i>GS</i> Fireside
7:30am	Morning Prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours - <i>GS</i>
8:30am	Rosary for the Crisis in the Church - <i>GS</i>
9:15am	School Mass - <i>GS</i>
9:30am	Seniors & Friends Christmas Café- <i>SOS</i> Chambers
6:30pm	1st Friday Mass - <i>GS</i>
6:30pm	Young Adults Group meet in church parking lot to carpool to Sts. Joachim and Ann's Parish
<b>Dec 8</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
7:30am	Morning Prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours - <i>GS</i>
8:30am	Our Lady of Guadalupe Rosary Prayer Group - <i>GS</i>
8:30am	Confessions - <i>SOS</i>
10:00am	Confessions - <i>GS</i>
11:15am	Families around the Nativity - <i>GS</i>
6:00pm	K of C Christmas Dinner - <i>SOS</i> Chambers
<b>Dec 9</b>	<b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b>
7:00pm	Teen Mass - <i>GS</i>

**Ministry Fair at all the weekend Masses at Good Shepherd Church**

**Stella Maris Concert Choir**  
presents

**THE PROMISE OF A KING**

**Sunday, December 16th**  
at Good Shepherd Church, 3:00pm

Tickets available from the Parish Office  
or at the door on Dec. 16th  
Adults \$10, Senior/Students \$8  
Family (2 adults and 1 or more children) \$25

**Perpetual Adoration Chapel**

REMINDER TO ALL WEEKLY SCHEDULED ADORERS: If you are going to be absent over the Christmas Season, please contact you Hour Coordinator as soon as possible.

We thank everyone for faithfully making your Holy Hour of prayer each week before the Blessed Sacrament. We encourage you to share this life-giving relationship with family members and friends, and invite them to know Him and adore Him! **May God bless you over this Advent Season!**

Hours in need of a weekly adorers:

Sunday, 1:00am-2:00am	Tuesday, Midnight-1:00am
Sunday, 2:00am-3:00am	Tuesday, 3:00pm-4:00pm
Monday, 5:00am-6:00am	Friday, 8:00pm-9:00pm
Monday, 10:00pm-11:00pm	Saturday, 11:00am-Noon

Hours needing a Substitute:

Sundays, Dec. 9, 16, 23 - 1:00am-2:00am  
Mondays, Dec. 17, 24 - 2:00am-3:00am  
Mondays, Dec. 24 & 31-2:00pm-3:00pm  
Mondays, Dec. 24 & 31 - 10:00pm-11:00pm  
Tuesdays, Dec. 25, Jan 1 - 3:00pm-4:00pm  
Friday, Dec. 21 & 28 - Midnight-1:00am  
Friday, Dec. 7, 14, 21 - 8:00pm-9:00pm

For more information please call:  
Sandra Perrin 604 542 6057 or  
Donna Sali 604 542 3070.

*Welcome*  
We're glad you're here  
Our newest parishioners:

Dee Family: Stephen, Julia, Isaac,  
Benjamin, Veronica,  
Matthias, Ellyse,  
Lucy, Sophia, Beatrice  
  
Sussy Flores & Nicholas Flores-Bligh

### Prayer Requests

**Please pray for:**

Nicholas Fleming, Cathy Fifer,  
Bradley Antchak, Bill Lesage,  
Brianna Ginn, Kelsey Freisen,  
Jim Cullina, Nancy Murchison,  
Mark Heeler, Rachelle Beaver,  
Janice Thorsen, Walter Butula,  
Ray Wittrock, Mia Tennant,  
Sarah Philibert, Bernd Firnung,  
Colleen Hopwood, Isla Ufford,  
Nikolas Fleming, Juliette Jacks,  
Chuck Lafaive, Marie Geiger,  
Dermot Dunne, Ken LaHaie,  
Magdalena Coombs,  
Luka Volentier, Lynn Carruth,  
Leslie Jones, Barbara Demers,  
Charlotte Sears, Alice Anderson,  
Van Huguet, Catherine Dempsey,  
Andrea Egan, Catharina Noble,  
Marian Nadelko, Derek Ridsdale,  
Graham Shore, Fran Caparo,  
Pat Flickinger, Sophie Cosgrave,  
Dan Hof, Joanna Boomars,  
Joyce Henderson, and  
Bernadette Deeley.

If you want any of the  
2018 Breaking Bread  
hymnals, please  
feel free to come pick  
them up from Good  
Shepherd Church (in the hallway  
outside the "Cry Room"). The  
hymnals not claimed will be  
recycled this week.



### POPE FRANCIS' Prayer INTENTIONS



**for December**  
**EVANGELIZATION ~ In the Service**  
**of the Transmission of Faith**

*That people, who are involved in  
the service and transmission of  
faith, may find, in their dialogue  
with culture, a language suited  
to the conditions of the present  
time.*



### Thank You

to the school families who donated  
the beautiful poinsettias  
for our 3 churches  
**(you know who you are!)**  
Thank you for your generosity and  
for enhancing our worship  
atmosphere!

**Thank you** to all parishioners  
who purchased chocolate bars  
from the Holy Cross Music  
Students. It was a huge success  
and will help the students achieve  
their goal of going on the Spring  
Music trips to Banff (seniors) and  
Sun Peaks (juniors) to perform at  
the music festivals! We are very  
blessed to be part of such a  
generous and supportive  
community.



### Upcoming Seniors Events

**11am Mass with  
Anointing of  
the Sick** at Good



Shepherd Church on **Thursday,  
December 6th.** *Everyone is  
welcome.* Please note there will be  
NO 8AM Mass and NO 9AM Mass  
that day.

**Seniors & Friends**  
**CHRISTMAS Café**



**Friday, Dec. 7th**  
9:30am in the  
Star of the Sea Chambers  
(enter off Star of the Sea Church  
Parking Lot). Come along for  
coffee and delicious Christmas  
goodies and join in the Joy of the  
Season with Christmas Caroling  
led by Trudi.

**SENIORS LUNCHEON &  
CHRISTMAS PRESENTATION**

hosted by Star of the Sea School  
**Wednesday, Dec. 19th**  
Luncheon will be served by Grade  
7 students and parents at 12Noon  
in the welcoming area of Good  
Shepherd Church, followed by the  
Christmas Presentation in the  
School Gym. Tickets are \$5.00  
each and includes a delicious  
homemade lunch and the  
Christmas presentation ~ limited  
tickets available - please pick  
yours up early from the Parish  
Office to avoid disappointment.



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AVAILABLE at the Parish Office.

Coretta Scott King once said  
*"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."* This quote brought to mind the ladies of our CWL immediately. We would like to extend an invitation to the ladies of our parish to join us for our **Annual Christmas Dinner** on Tuesday, Dec. 4th, following the 6:30pm Mass. Please bring a dinner contribution (enough for you and a friend), a plate, cup, and cutlery. Coffee, tea, punch provided. We will be accepting donations baby items (such as bottles, formula, etc) and new or gently-used clothing (mostly men's clothes, but women's clothing is also needed). Membership forms will be available for both new and current members that evening. We look forward to welcoming you on Tuesday night!



**Enter into the**  
*Joy of Christmas*  
**around the Nativity**



**ALL CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS/GRANDPARENTS**

are invited to come gather around the Nativity at Good Shepherd Church for song, Advent reflections & prayers, followed by treats and refreshments

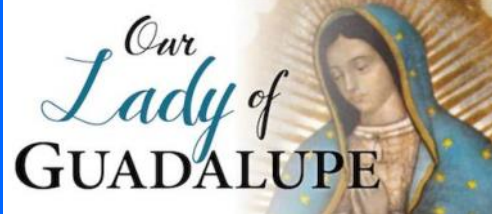
Next two **Saturdays**  
**December 8th & 15th**  
 11:15am - Noon  
 Good Shepherd Church

**YOUNG ADULTS GROUP**

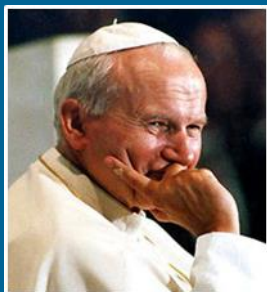
would like to welcome others 19-yrs -to-35years of age to join them in the following upcoming events:

- \* **Sts. Joachim and Ann's Parish Christmas Carolling & Ugly-Sweater Party on Fri. Dec. 7th.** We will be meeting in the Good Shepherd Church parking lot at 6:30pm to carpool to Aldergrove.
- \* Chris Tomlin's *"Holy Roar Tour"* ~ **Saturday, March 9th**, 7pm at the Abbotsford Centre.

Email [janiceh@starofthesea.ca](mailto:janiceh@starofthesea.ca) if you'd like to join us!



Everyone welcome to a special Mass to celebrate Our Lady's Feast Day ~ **Wednesday, Dec. 12th**, 9AM at Star of the Sea Church.



*Come and discover God's original design for us, our call to holiness, and our destiny with him in heaven.*

**ST. JOHN PAUL (THE GREAT)'S THEOLOGY OF THE BODY**

Using the three "words" of Christ on marriage, St. Pope John Paul (The Great) reveals our true human nature, in the image and likeness of God, as a "communion of persons, in the sincere gift of self," giving us the authentic meaning of our humanity now and in eternal life. He teaches us that holiness is intimately connected with human nature. He reveals how the Sacraments, particularly the Eucharist, restore and redeem human nature. Discover what this tells us about life now on earth and Eternal Life with God.

**WHEN:** Mondays  
 Jan. 8 - Mar. 26, 2019  
 (except Feb. 12)  
 7:00pm - 9:15pm

**WHERE:** Good Shepherd Church

**COST:** \$75 (BEFORE JAN.4TH)

**REGISTER:** Complete a registration form available from the Parish Office or register online at: [rcav.org/TOB](http://rcav.org/TOB)



Instructor:  
 Fr. Alan Boisclair, BA  
 MDiv, STL (Marriage and the Family)  
 email: [aboisclair@rcav.org](mailto:aboisclair@rcav.org)

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