

# December 16, 2018 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

## ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today's Gospel: Luke 3:10-18** And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

**Vangelo di Oggi: Luca 3,10-18** In quel tempo, le folle interrogavano Giovanni, dicendo: «Che cosa dobbiamo fare?». Rispondeva loro: «Chi ha due tuniche, ne dia a chi non ne ha, e chi ha da mangiare, faccia altrettanto». Vennero anche dei pubblicani a farsi battezzare e gli chiesero: «Maestro, che cosa dobbiamo fare?». Ed egli disse loro: «Non esigete nulla di più di quanto vi è stato fissato». Lo interrogavano anche alcuni soldati: «E noi, che cosa dobbiamo fare?». Rispose loro: «Non maltrattate e non estorcete niente a nessuno; accontentatevi delle vostre paghe». Poiché il popolo era in attesa e tutti, riguardo a Giovanni, si domandavano in cuor loro se non fosse lui il Cristo, Giovanni rispose a tutti dicendo: «Io vi battezzo con acqua; ma viene colui che è più forte di me, a cui non sono degno di slegare i lacci dei sandali. Egli vi battezzerà in Spirito Santo e fuoco. Tiene in mano la pala per pulire la sua aia e per raccogliere il frumento nel suo granaio; ma brucerà la paglia con un fuoco inestinguibile». Con molte altre esortazioni Giovanni evangelizzava il popolo.

**St Mary's Padre Pio Prayer Group** While Padre Pio was being investigated by the Holy Office, the pain inflicted by the various condemnations and restrictive measures was compounded by the death of his mother. Padre Pio was overcome with a deep sorrow. The rest of the story will be presented at the prayer meeting on Saturday, Jan 5 at 9:30 am at St Mary's Parish, Vancouver, in the church basement. We will commence with Mass at 8:30 am. St Mary's welcome all who are called to stand in the gap to pray for others with the intercession of St Padre Pio. More info contact Lucy Rodjito at [lucy.rodjito@yahoo.ca](mailto:lucy.rodjito@yahoo.ca) <https://rcav.org/event/st-marys-padre-pio-prayer-group-16>.



### *What should we do?*

Three times we hear this same question raised to John the Baptist, "what should we do?". It's first asked by the crowd, then by the tax collectors, and finally, by the soldiers. John's response relates repentance with action rather than simply having deep feelings of regret. This message is for us as well, so we may also understand that we have to do some preparation for our Lord's coming. We need to wash ourselves clean of sin. We can repent through our actions, such as praying and giving more and by practicing justice, generosity and compassion. The goal is to make our hearts a worthy dwelling place for our Lord in every way.

**Advent Penitential Services** The Advent Penitential Service at SFA will be held on Friday, Dec 21 at 7 pm. Come for this beautiful sacrament in preparation of Christmas. Nearby Penitential Services are listed below. For services in other languages or other areas of Metro Vancouver, please visit [rcav.org/advent-penitential-services/](http://rcav.org/advent-penitential-services/)

Everyday		Our Lady of Hungary	Van	8:45 am
All Advent		Immac Heart/ Mary	Van	7:00 pm
Every Wed		Holy Family	Van	6:00 pm
Tues	Dec 18	St Theresa	Van	7:00 pm
Tues	Dec 18	St Casimir	Van	7:00 pm
Tues	Dec 18	St Mary	Van	7:00 pm
Wed	Dec 19	Corpus Christi	Van	7:00 pm
Thurs	Dec 20	Our Lady of Fatima	Van	7:00 pm
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Dec 21</b>	<b>St Francis of Assisi</b>	<b>Van</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>



**Offering Envelopes for 2019** The Offering Envelopes for 2019 are located on a table near the elevator and are arranged alphabetically. Please be sure to take your own envelopes only. If you don't have envelopes and would like some, please call the Office at 604-255-8855.

**Christmas and New Year's Mass Times** The Mass times for Christmas and New Year's are listed below. The weekday Masses will follow the regular schedule over the holidays.

Dec 24 5 pm, 9 pm, Midnight  
 Dec 25 9 am (Italian), 10:30 am  
 Dec 31 8 am (weekday), 5 pm (anticipated)  
 Jan 1 9 am (Italian), 10:30 am, 5 pm



**Christmas Giving Tree** Thank you to everyone who has purchased food or toy for those in need in our community. A friendly reminder that the deadline to drop off your item(s) is Monday, Dec 17 by 4 pm.

**Little Friends Walkabout** The next Little Friends walk-about will be on Thursday, Dec 20. Everyone is welcome to come and help distribute food and drink to the poor. Thank you to those who have donated food, socks, hats, money and other items to assist those in need.

**Lasagna Sales** Many thanks to everyone who purchased a lasagna at our recent Lasagna Sale. A big thank you to the Pompei group for all their hard work in planning and making them. The sale was a big success with 55 lasagnas sold! All proceeds went to the SFA school building fund.



**Coffee and Goodies Next Week** Come and enjoy some hot coffee and delicious goodies just before Christmas. This casual gathering gives you an opportunity to chat with fellow parishioners after the 10:30 am Mass and put a name to a face you see every week.

**New School Building Community Update** As we work towards building a new school, we are committed to the success of this important project for our students and families. We await a meeting in January with the new City of Vancouver administration with regard to the rezoning and sale of the parish property. We hope to launch the public Capital Campaign in late spring of 2019. #BuildSFA. There are many opportunities to get involved. Anything from crafts, community connections, fundraising and with donor recognition. If you are interested in helping, please email [BuildSFA@school.ca](mailto:BuildSFA@school.ca) Thank you all for your prayers and continued support.



**Poinsettias Requested** We will be decorating the church with poinsettias for Christmas and are gratefully accepting donations of red poinsettia plants by Friday, Dec 21. Please drop them off at the parish office or at the back of the church.

**Archbishop's Annual Mass for Life** Join us as we celebrate life on Friday, Dec 28, at Holy Rosary Cathedral, Vancouver. Rosary begins at 11:30 am and Mass is at 12:10 pm.

**Archdiocesan Winter Institute** The Winter Institute is a day of faith-based courses open to all. Course offerings include: Addressing the Clerical Sexual Abuse; Basics of the Faith II; Discovering the Gospels. Saturday, Jan 19, from 10 am to 4 pm at Notre Dame Secondary. Registration is \$40 before Jan 14. For more course info, visit [rcav.org/oc-winter-institute](http://rcav.org/oc-winter-institute)

Mass Intentions and Parish Activities		
Sat Dec 15	5:00 pm	† Serafina Audia † Moreau family
Sun Dec 16 3rd Sunday of Advent	9:00 am	† Michelina Paqliuso † Rimondo & Michelina Milone
	10:30 am	All Parishioners
	5:00 pm	† Lepore family † Carmela Astorino
Mon Dec 17	8:00 am	Doug Loo & family Leo Strong
	6:30 pm	PREP
	6:30 pm	Symbolon faith study
Tue Dec 18	6:30 pm	Rosary
	7:00 pm	Perpetual Novena - St Francis
	8:00 pm	Knights meeting
Wed Dec 19	8:00 am	† Luigi & Angelina Capolongo
	7:00 pm	RCIA
	7:00 pm	Choir Practice - Sat 5 pm
Thu Dec 20	8:00 am	† Silvio & Ida Bevacqua
	9:30 am	Preschool Christmas party
	11:00 am	† Carmine & Elena La Rosa † Bosa family
	5:15 pm	Legion of Mary meeting
	6:30 pm	Little Friends walkabout
Fri Dec 21	8:00 am	† Pietro Sudiro
	9:00 am	School Mass
	6:00 pm	Choir Practice - Sun 10:30
	7:00 pm	Penitential Service
	8:00 pm	Prayer for the Church
Sat Dec 22	9:00 am	† Carmela La Montagna † Enrico Torrelli
	9:30 am	Confession
	9:30 am	Rosary
	5:00 pm	† Pietro Sudiro † Pasquale Faugno
	Sun Dec 23 4th Sunday of Advent	9:00 am
10:30 am		† Rosa Basile
11:30 am		Coffee & Goodies
12:00 pm		Baptism - Welcome to Manuel Zimmerman
5:00 pm		† All deceased parishioners

**Baptisms** Baptisms are scheduled at noon on Sundays. Parents, please call the Parish Office to arrange a date for an appointment with Fr Eugenio.

**Weddings** Arrangements for weddings must be made at least six months in advance. Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation classes are mandatory. Please call the parish office for more information at 604-255-8855.

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