

December 2023



Sacred Heart Parish
525 Campbell Avenue
Vancouver, BC
V6A 3K5

Mass: Sunday at 9:30am

Contact information:

www.sacredheartvancouver.com

Father Nestor Silva, o.m.i.

Parish.shv@rcav.org

St. Tekakwitha Centre: 887 Keefer Street

Mass: Weekdays at 10am

St. Paul's Parish: 381 East Cordova Street

Mass: Sunday at 11:30am

The month of December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception.

The liturgy of Advent focuses on remembering Christ's first coming at Bethlehem which then directs our mind to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. The readings focus on the people of the Old Testament awaiting the Messiah, John the Baptist, heralding the way for Christ and the Blessed Virgin Mary and her maternal preparations.

Christmastide begins with the First Vespers (Evening Prayer) of Christmas on December 24th and ends on the Sunday after Epiphany, which is transferred to January 7.

The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of December 2023

For persons with disabilities: We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Project Advance 2023: Empowering our Parish Vision

Your support of Project Advance will help grow your parish and expand the reach of Christ's love to those who need it most. It will fund initiatives such as pastoral formation, youth and young adult ministries, outreach programs for the vulnerable and in need, and the construction of new Catholic schools.

Tax-deductible donations can be made in person at our parish or online. Legacy gifts are also appreciated. Learn more and donate at projectadvance.ca.

Please consider making a gift to Project Advance 2023. Every gift, regardless of its size, makes a difference.

ALL ABOUT THE Advent Wreath



Usually made up of evergreen branches or boughs placed in a circle, topped with four candles

Used as a prayerful way to reflect the passage of the Advent season

The wreath is blessed and one candle is lit on the first Sunday of Advent; another candle is lit every Sunday until all four candles are burning brightly

The **EVERGREENS** remind us of the everlasting life promised to us by the gift of Jesus Christ, who came among us to save us from sin and death

PURPLE CANDLES symbolize our waiting, hoping, longing expectation for the arrival of Christ

A **PINK CANDLE** for the third Sunday reminds us that the time of Christ's arrival is fast approaching and we must prepare

The act of **LIGHTING THE CANDLES** banishes the darkness: a reminder of Jesus Christ, the Light who has come into the world through his birth, and who continues to shine brightly through his Church

PRAYER:

O God, as light comes from this candle, may the blessing of Jesus Christ come to us, warming our hearts and brightening our way. May Christ our Saviour bring life into the darkness of this world, and to us, as we wait for his coming. Amen.



Wonderful people to remember in your prayers:

Amelia & Pietro Morlin, Anastasia Estropia & Family, Angela Calogero, Angelina Ciotti, Audrey Breaker, Darryl Halisky, Francesco (Antonella's father), George Macri, Irene Lapierre, Iolanda Minicucci, Jacob Legoff, James B., Lena Record, Maria Dos Santos, Mateo Carelse-Borzel, Mimi Yeung and her Mother, Raymond LaBoucane, Tessie Chin's Husband, the husband of Ursula, the family of Gloria, the mother of Jim.

Happy Birthday & Anniversary to all celebrating a special day in December!

**Sacred Heart Mass Intentions
for December 2023**

December 3rd - Birthday-Sean Michael M. Isic

requested by Lurlene

December 8th - Birthday-King Ayden Baltazar

requested by Lurlene

December 10th - Vicente Garcia & Maria Consuelo

Garcia requested by Lurlene

December 11th -16th - Antoine and Health of

Iolanda requested by Iolanda Minicucci

December 17th - Birthday-Queen Naomi Baltazar

requested by Lurlene & Lorenzo Crema by

requested Larry Crema

December 22nd - Birthday-Mary Joy Baltazar

requested by Lurlene

December 25th - Gino & Teresa Pettovello

requested by Sestilia Pettovello

December 26th - Mary McMahon

requested by Sheila Bishop

December 31st - Fr. Bob Douglas

requested by Sestilia Pettovello

All Masses will be for the Intention of the People of God, unless otherwise indicated in the above.

Every Sunday at 11am you are welcome to pray with the Legion of Mary at Kateri Centre basement.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 30 minutes before Mass.

Starting December 1st - Monday to Friday masses (10am) and the Saturday (430pm) will be in St. Kateri Centre- Chapel (in the Basement Room).

The Lay Carmelites 3rd Order Mass is every First Saturday of the Month in St. Kateri Centre- Chapel (in the Basement Room)

Every Wednesday after the 10am Mass, those who attended the Mass gather for snacks and a little sharing of reflections on the reading or any other topic of interest. You may bring a little snack that you wish to share with the group. This is a very informal gathering.

1st Friday of the month after the 10am Mass we have a Holy Hour with Benediction, all other Fridays the Stations of the Cross after the 10am Mass.

Sacred Heart Parish News

- **Parish Council Meeting for December 10th at 10:30am in the St. Kateri Centre - Main Floor**
- **December 31st - Birthdays and Anniversaries Greetings/Blessing and Snacks will take place after the raffle.** Please sign up at the back of the church if you can bring something.
- **Sunday collections:**
 - November 12th = \$1,494.95
 - November 19th = \$555.00
 - November 26th = \$1,802.00
- **Fr. Al is staying in the OMI Pandosy House near St. Augustine Church to recuperate.** If you wish to call him: 778-868-7120

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

- **Mass Schedule**
 - **Dec. 17th - 9:30am joined Mass for both parishes at Sacred Heart for Prayer/Blessing of Parish Ministry Commitment followed by Potluck in Kateri Centre**
 - **Dec. 24th - 9:30am Sacred Heart Mass**
 - 11:30am St. Paul's Mass
 - 7:00pm Christmas Eve joined Mass for both parishes at Sacred Heart
 - **Dec. 25th - 10:00am Christmas Day joined Mass for both parishes at Sacred Heart**
 - **Dec. 31st - 9:30am Sacred Heart Mass**
 - 11:30am St. Paul's Mass
 - 7:00pm New Year's Eve joined Mass for both parishes at Sacred Heart
 - **Jan. 1st, 2024 – 10:00am New Year's Day joined Mass for both parishes at Sacred Heart**
- **Christmas Poinsettias** – Would you like to place a Poinsettia in the church in the honour of your loved ones? You may simply give Vilma or Silvana an envelope with the names of those whom you would like to honour along with your donation. Thank you for helping with the Christmas preparations.
- **December 17th – Christmas Bake Sale** – Baked items required and must be priced and dropped off at the back of the church.
- **December 31st – Christmas Raffle** Looking for donations. Please bring your raffle item and give it to Silvana or Vilma. Ticket sales will begin December 10th. Ticket prices are 1 for \$2, 3 for \$5, 7 for \$10 and you must be present to win.

Archdiocese News

December 2023 Events - To view more about these and many more upcoming events, visit beholdvancouver.org/events

- [Archbishop Miller's Message for Advent](#)
- [Annual Report 2022/2023](#)
- **Holiness in Advent: A Time of Adoration with the Jesuit Saints - December 5 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Parish at UBC.** Please register at beholdvancouver.org/events
- [Married Couples Date Night - December 7, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at St. Matthew's Parish in Surrey. Registration deadline: November 30.](#)
- **Following Yonder Star - Advent Retreat - Saturday, December 9 from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm online.** Register online at beholdvancouver.org/events.
- **Archbishop's Annual Mass for Life - Holy Rosary Cathedral on December 16 at 12:00 pm**
- [Pilgrimage to the Holy Land - June 28 to July 7, 2024.](#) Secure your seat by contacting at amerguide@gmail.com or calling +972-52-6903169 (Please note that Israel is +10 hours ahead of Pacific Time).
- **ALPHA FOR MEN – STARTING JANUARY 12 at 6:30 pm.** If you are a man aged 30 to 55, you are invited to join Alpha for Men at Holy Cross – for weekly evening gatherings that will explore the meaning of life, learn more about what it means to follow Jesus or grow in your faith. Each gathering consists of dinner followed by a short video and small group discussion. To get a taste of what Alpha is about, watch this [short video](#) on how Alpha transformed a parish in Montreal. [Sign up here.](#)

For the first time ever, The Chosen's Christmas special is crossing the border. **CHRISTMAS WITH THE CHOSEN: HOLY NIGHT** is coming to a local theatre near you on December 12-17, with tickets on sale now. [BUY TICKETS NOW](#)

Support for Displaced Ukrainians Settling in the Lower Mainland - Arrange to drop off donations at the nearest Ukrainian Catholic Church or contact: uahelp.ca

Blessing Christmas reveals the immense love of God for humanity. From that flows also the enthusiasm, the hope of us Christians, that in our poverty we know that we are loved, we are visited, accompanied by God". *Pope Francis*