

Reflection on Advent:
Now is the Time for Conversion to Peace



In the last nine days before Christmas the Church calls us in the Novena to prepare more deeply and intensely for the great feast of the Birth of our Saviour. The Liturgy sets forth a wise programme to prepare us to meet the Lord who comes; each day we have points for prayer and reflection. The Church invites us to conversion and to the docile acceptance of the mystery of Christmas.

In the Old Testament the prophets foretold the coming of the Messiah and kept alive the Chosen People's expectation. We are invited to live this time in a similar way so that we can savour the joy of the impending Christmas celebrations.

As the Liturgy of Advent suggests, let us ask the Lord for the gift of "preparing ourselves with joy for the mystery of his Birth" so that the Birth of the Lord might find us "watchful in prayer and exultant in his praise" (*Second Preface for Advent*). Only then will Christmas be a feast of joy and a meeting with the Lord who gives us peace.

Isn't this the best thing that we can make for the coming Christmas celebrations? To that end in this week let us make our prayer more intense and more persistent. "*Christus est pax nostra - Christ is our peace*". May his peace renew every angle of our daily lives. May he fill our hearts so that they will be open to the transforming action of his grace; may he pervade families so that, gathered before the crib or around the Christmas tree, they may reinforce their faithful communion; may his peace reign in cities, in nations and in the international community and spread to every corner of the globe.

As the shepherds did on the night of Bethlehem, let us make haste to go to Bethlehem. There we will contemplate in the silence of the Holy Night the holy "infant wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger", along with Mary and Joseph (Lk 2,12.16). May She, who received the Word of God in her virginal womb and held him tight in her motherly arms, help us to live more intensely this last segment of the liturgical journey of Advent. – *Saint John Paul II*

ANNOUNCED MASSES
December 19th – December 27th, 2015

Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Dec. 19th	Weekday Harry Caragianis – RIP – by Jeannine Rolland
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Dec. 20th	Fourth Sunday of Advent Brendan Lacroix – Birthday Blessings – by Mom and family Adrian de Souza – RIP – by the family
Monday	Dec. 21st	NO MASS
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Dec. 22nd	Weekday Felix O. Manzanal – RIP – by Jerry & Ofelia Roy
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 23rd	Saint John of Kanty Laverne Moran – RIP – by the family
Thursday 9:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m.	Dec. 24th	Christmas Eve For Souls in Purgatory For the People (<i>Pro Populo</i>) For the People (<i>Pro Populo</i>)
Friday 11:00 a.m.	Dec. 25th	Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day) For the People (<i>Pro Populo</i>)
Saturday 10:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m.	Dec. 26th	Saint Stephen Jeon Matthew – RIP – by the Ching family Leo, Rosa Maria & Anthony Borges – RIP – by Anne Marie
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Dec. 27th	Holy Family Bruna Alesi –RIP – by her parents Thanksgiving by Allyssa Mae Villahermosa

Collection: December 13, 2015 - \$6, 255.50
...Thank you for your generosity.

Holy Days of Obligation

Holy Days of Obligation are special feasts on which Catholics are obliged to attend Mass and avoid unnecessary work. Each Sunday, commemorating the Lord's Resurrection, is always such a day. The other two observed in Canada are both at this season: Christmas Day and New Year's Day (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God).

Christmas Flower Donations

If you would like to donate money for Christmas flowers to beautify our Church, you can place the money in an envelope (marked Christmas flowers) and put it in the collection basket with your name and envelope number (for your income tax receipt at year end). Thank you for your generosity.



Schedule of Masses

December 24 th (Regular Mass)	- 9:00am
December 24 th (Christmas Eve)	- 8:00pm and 10:00pm
December 25 th (Christmas Day)	- 11:00am
December 26 th (Saturday)	- 10:00am and 4:30pm
December 27 th (Regular Mass)	- 9:00am and 11:00am
December 28 th (Monday)	- 9:00am
December 29 th (Regular Mass)	- 7:00pm
December 30 th (Regular Mass)	- 9:00am
December 31 st (Regular Mass)	- 9:00am
December 31 st (New Year's Eve)	- 4:30pm
January 1 st , 2016 (New Year's Day)	- 9:00am and 11:00am

Be My Disciples News

Be My Disciples classes will take place on Sunday, December 20th, as usual.



Thank you to everyone who took part in our Christmas Pageant: the

children, their parents and families, all those who contributed their help, the parishioners, and most especially all our Catechists and Assistants, for their love and patience at this time and throughout the year. May God bless you abundantly!



Advent Christmas Tree – During Advent we will continue to sell the Advent “Christmas tree ornaments” for \$2.00 each to benefit CHALICE and their many good works in various developing countries. During the week, there will be a basket at the front of the church, near Our Lady of Fatima altar. Please take an ornament and

leave your donation. This year, you may take your ornament home with you and hang it up on your own tree. Thank you for your great generosity and support!

Envelopes for 2016 Sunday Offerings

Envelopes for 2016 Sunday offerings are at the front of the Church. **PLEASE TAKE ONLY THE BOX WITH YOUR NAME AND NUMBER ON IT.** If you have never used the envelopes and wish to start, please ask for a new box at the Rectory or call (514) 747-4226 during office hours (8:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.) to register. **We request all users to please put your name and address on the first few envelopes for the New Year to ensure proper recording.** Thank you.