

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## PASTOR'S CORNER



Over 60 years ago Pope John XXIII spoke of opening the windows to let some fresh air into the church. They were opened by Vatican Council II, but someone must have felt a draft. For Pope Francis seems interested not only in opening the windows but the doors also. He said, "The word 'Catholic' after all, means universal, all-embracing. This is why the church is the home of all, not a small chapel that can hold only a small group of selected people."

In light of this statement, we need to "read the signs of the times." By this I mean we are meant to look at the world with clear eyes, to see what is happening, to be attentive. But this attention is of a particular type. It is not the attention of the scientist or the philosopher or the politician, though it can include those. It is an attention to the things of God. It is quite important, because there are many who are still enthralled to a deist view of God, whereby God is a distant and aloof "first cause" of the universe, uninvolved with the world he has made. But St. Thomas Aquinas taught that God is in all things "by essence, presence, and power", and that God providentially cares for every aspect of his creation. Therefore, we should expect to see signs of his presence and activity in nature, in history, and in human affairs. And once we see, we are meant to speak!

In a way, followers of Jesus are not looking at the signs of the times for their own benefit, but rather that they might share their prophetic perspective with everyone else. So look around, look with attention, look with the eyes of faith! Otherwise we risk "losing the freshness and fragrance of the Gospel" as people may perceive the church only as a human institution which has locked itself up in small-minded rules. This is why the Holy Father recommends neither promotion nor aggression but dialogue. The truth can speak for itself; it has its own appeal, and it will find its own way to *penetrate between bone and marrow* in each person's heart, without any persuasion from either party. In the process of getting to know each other, listening to each other and improving our knowledge of the world around us, God's mysterious healing, and reconciling grace seeps into our hearts. All we need to do is love God and do unto others as we would have them do unto us.

*Fr. Slawek*



## MASS INTENTIONS

### Tuesday, December 13

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Dionisio & Pelagia Diapera req. by Anibilla Diapera

### Wednesday, December 14

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Julia Ciciretto req. by Toni Frattaroli

### Thursday, December 15

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Anna Rzeznicki req. the Rzeznicki family.

### Friday, December 16

9 a.m. Private Intentions.

### Saturday, December 17

4:30 p.m. Repose of the soul of Anthony llwellyn req. by Jean llwellyn.

### Sunday, December 18

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of deceased members of the Glynn family req. by Sharon DaCosta.

11 a.m. Intentions of all Parishioners.

## 2023 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Assigned envelopes are available for pick up at the back table in the church. New envelope can be pick up from the Parish office during office hours.

**Please use 2023 envelopes starting Jan. 1.** Print your full name, address, phone number and donation clearly on the envelope for the month so the Parish office can record the number to your name.

If you have a change of address please list it on your envelope or notify the office.

*A day of worry is more exhausting than a week of work. ~John Lubbock*

**DECEMBER 11, 2022**



**Society of Saint Vincent de Paul**

**Christmas Assistance Program 2022**



Christmas is a time of giving and a time of sharing. As we prepare to celebrate the birthday of Baby Jesus, to live the Joy of Christmas, let us remember our neighbor-in-need. The SSVP Christmas donation envelopes are available at the back of the Church. We would appreciate your special gift to make Christmas more joyful for our neighbor-in-need.

We greatly appreciate your support in helping those in need in our community.

THANK YOU for sharing your love, generosity and blessings with our neighbours-in -need and making them feel special. May the Good Lord Jesus, bless you and your family abundantly.

**YOUR HEALTH :** As cold and flu season approaches, to ensure the health of the entire community, parishioners are encouraged to stay home from Mass and parish functions if they are experiencing symptoms of the flu virus, colds, etc. Respect and concern for the common good takes precedence. Thank you for your cooperation! To minimize risks please use the hand sanitizers that are located at each entrance!

**CHURCH BULLETIN  
ADVERTISING**

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the advertisements for our church bulletin. The advertising will begin in January 2023 & support the bulletin service. Please support the bulletin and advertise your product or service.

Call Liturgical Publications at 905-624-4422



**ARE YOU MOVING? OR HAVE YOU ALREADY MOVED?**

Please contact the parish office so your records can be updated. Thank you.

**ATTENTION  
ALL PARISHIONERS**

**Reception of Holy Communion**

It has come to my attention that some people, receiving on the hand, carry the Sacred Host back to their seats. This is forbidden. Please be sure to consume Jesus, truly present in the Sacred Host, right after you receive Him. You must consume the Host in the front of the church, right after receiving. There are people who wish to steal consecrated Hosts for the sake of rituals. If you see anyone walking away without having consumed the Sacred Host please alert one of the Ushers, the Sacristan—Anthony or Fr. Slawek.

**HOLY SPIRIT PARISH OFFERING  
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER**

**NOVEMBER 13, 2022**

Regular Envelope Offering	\$ 3,045.00
Shepherds' Trust Offering	\$ 3,142.00
Building Fund	\$ 407.00

**NOVEMBER 20, 2022**

Regular Envelope Offering	\$ 2,717.00
Shepherds' Trust	\$ 1,487.00
Building Fund Offering	\$ 160.00

**NOVEMBER 27, 2022**

Regular Envelope Offering	\$ 3,907.00
Building Fund Offering	\$ 513.35
Shepherds' Trust	\$ 237.00

**DECEMBER 4, 2022**

Regular Envelope Offering	\$ 6715.80
Flower Offering	\$ 1,040.00

*Thank you for you continued generosity*

**SUNDAY MISSAL**

Are available for purchase from the parish office. Cost \$ 6.00

Monday -Thursday  
8:30 a.m.—1 p.m.

Limited quantity available