

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



PASTOR'S CORNER



It is often said that at any age laughter or smile is the best medicine. So what do you laugh at when you are closer to the end than to the beginning of your life?

1. My doctor asked if anyone in my family suffered from mental illness. I said, "No, we all seem to enjoy it." It must be true, because my uncle used to say, "I love women best, whiskey next, my neighbour a little and God hardly at all."
2. I was told that love is the answer to many problems, but while you are waiting for this answer, lust raises some good questions. For we are all mortal until the first kiss and the second glass of wine.
3. The difference between men and boys is the price of their toys.
4. I thought growing older would take longer and I would be wiser. In other words, too soon old; too late smart. But now I find some comfort in the words of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta: "*God writes straight with crooked lines.*"
5. My bucket list: keep breathing...
6. Just once I want a username and password prompt to say, "Close enough."
7. Recently, I discovered that I am a multitasker: I can listen, ignore, and forget all at the same time.
8. My retirement to-do list: Wake Up... *Nailed it!*
9. Sometimes it takes me all day to get nothing done, because just as we humans have a miraculous gift for remembering, we have an equal and opposite talent for forgetting what we do not want to remember.
10. Common sense is not a gift; it is punishment because you have to deal with everyone else who doesn't have it. Perhaps this is why criticism is like a compliment; it is good information, but it is not the whole story.
11. I came. I saw. I forgot what I was doing. Retraced my steps. Got lost on the way back. Now I have no idea what's going on. It seems I am getting more and more perplexed without a clue about what to do.
12. I saw God the other day in my church. Do you think that I am getting crazy? No, I am not talking about my pastor (I wish!), although he made a good point last Sunday: Surviving is OK, but thriving is more elegant. Perhaps this is why people are like wine: Some turn to vinegar, but the best improve with age.
13. I have learned all kinds of things from my mistakes, but the only thing I never learned is to stop making them. So I often pray, "*Lord, when I am wrong, make me willing to change and when I am right, make me easy to live with.*"
14. What is eternity for me right now? Four blondes in four cars at a four way stop.
15. I know that sooner or later I will have to say the final AMEN, but I cannot help but wonder what this "sooner or later" really means, especially when I close my eyes to get some rest. Perhaps the eternal fascination of the present moment, for as Mother Theresa once said: "*God does not call me to be successful. He calls me to be faithful,*" because what make life interesting is trying to become the best version of myself in His eyes. This is why I always expect the best, plan for the worst and prepare to be surprised.

Fr. Slawek

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!

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.

DECEMBER 18, 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.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!

A silent Ignatian weekend retreat for men.

Friday, January 27 to Sunday, January 29, 2023
7 p.m. - 1 p.m.

As faithful, we are aware of the universal call to holiness. All Christians in any state or walk of life, are called to holiness. On this retreat we consider our own wholeness as we approach this call. Am I complete and harmonious within myself?

or am I somehow divided or lacking or even broken? Through praying with scripture and through entering into silence we begin to see the person whom God sees, and the person God desires us to be—the person God calls to holiness.

Facilitated by Fr. Jim Kelly, SJ. A
Suggested offering of \$245 per person.
Includes 2 nights' accommodation, meals, program and spiritual direction.

Manresa Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre
2325 Liverpool Rd., Pickering
REGISTER: <https://manresa-canada.ca/>
CONTACT: registration@manresa.ca



ARE YOU MOVING? OR HAVE YOU ALREADY MOVED?

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

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

MASS INTENTIONS



Tuesday, December 20

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Lo Mui req. by Angela Chan

Wednesday, December 21

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of John McKey req. by Jean llewlyn.

Thursday, December 22

9 a.m. Private Intentions

Friday, December 23

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Jin Lian Zhang req. by the Zhang family.

Saturday, December 24

6 p.m. CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

8 p.m. CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

Sunday, December 25

9 a.m. CHRISTMAS DAY MASS.

11 a.m. CHRISTMAS DAY MASS.

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH OFFERING DECEMBER

DECEMBER 4, 2022

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

DECEMBER 11, 2022

Regular Envelope Offering \$ 4,090.00
Building Fund Offering \$ 1,332.00
Flower Offering \$ 80.00
Advent Retreat \$ 919.00

Thank you for your continued generosity

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