

Pastor: Father Gerald
Associate Pastor: Father Salomon

PARISH OFFICE

Secretary: Pat Robinson
Parish Office Hours: The office is now open to the public. Masks must be worn
Bulletin Announcements by noon on Thursday
email: wandawirth@telus.net

MASSES

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 pm
Live-Stream and 88.1 FM Available

Sunday: 9:00 am

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday through Friday at 10:00 am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday at 4:30 pm or by appointment

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Noreen Dunn: 250-766-3303

MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Altar Society: Constance Gregory (250) 765-2879
Benevolent Fund: Bob Sellinger, 250-766-5990
Greeters and Ushers: Larry Girard
lauriergirard60@gmail.com
Lectors (Readers): Sue Taylor jaytaylor@telus.net
Eucharistic Ministers: June Bot
bot.june@icloud.com
Music Ministry: Vera Gervais, 250-766-2250
Outreach: Shelly Twerdochlib, 250-766-0202
Sacristans: Lily Oddleifson (250) 766-4390

PARISH COMMITTEES

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)
Chair:
Parish Finance Committee (PFC)
Chair: Joe Pereira George
Liturgy Coordinator
Constance Gregory, 250-765-2879
Grounds and Building
Clive Halston, 250-878-4612

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

CWL
Marian Podgornik, 778-480-6444
St. Edward's Men's Association
Gordon Joyce, (250) 766-8191
Development & Peace
George and Karen Willoner, 250-215-5134

ST. EDWARD ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
11123 Okanagan Centre Road East, Lake Country, BC V4V 1H3
Phone 250-766-3146 Fax 250-766-3191
Website <http://www.stedwardsparish.ca>
Email st.edwards@shaw.ca

December 12, 2021
Third Sunday of Advent



ZEP 3:14-18A; IS 12:2-6; PHIL 4:4-7; LK 3:10-18

We have arrived at Gaudete Sunday (Gaudete is the Latin word for “rejoice”) this Third Week of Advent, and the Scriptures take on a joyful tone as we continue our preparations for the feast of our Savior’s birth.

Our Second Reading gives us cause for joy as St Paul reminds us, “The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all....” Then he gives us a prescription for maintaining this peace: “In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” Paul’s instructions for obtaining peace come as an early Christmas gift. They remind us that we can and should go to God with all our needs and present them to Him along with our thanks. This guidance calls to mind a vital aspect of a stewardship way of life: gratitude to God in response to His great love and countless gifts to us.

The Gospel passage, from Luke, shows us how to live out this sense of thankfulness, making our lives a “Christmas gift” to Christ in joyful response to His love for us. When the crowds hear John the Baptist’s message that their Savior is coming, they ask him what they should do to prepare. He responds, “Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do the same.” He tells tax collectors to stop collecting more than is prescribed and soldiers, to be satisfied with their wages. In other words, he tells them to be good and generous stewards of all God’s gifts to them!

As the great feast of Christmas draws near, let us rejoice in Christ’s extravagant love. Let’s avail ourselves of the peace He longs to give us. And let’s look carefully at our lives to make sure we are indeed making of them a gift fitting for Him.

PARISHIONERS OFFERINGS

*Thank you for your generous support of
St. Edwards Parish*

*Stewardship (Pre) Authorized Giving (SAG) – once a month direct debit of your regular Sunday offering is offered for your convenience. The SAG form is posted on our website.

*Interac/etransfers donations

We now have our own email address for Interac/etransfer donations to St. Edwards Parish. When you are sending interac donations please send them to

etransfer.stedwardswinfield@nelsondiocese.org

Be sure to indicate clearly to which fund the donation is to be directed in the **message box** of the e-transfer. For example: Sunday Offering, Christmas, New Years, and/or one of the Ordered Collections, or if it is to be split between two or more of these. Donations will be automatically deposited directly in the St. Edwards Parish bank account when the transfer is made so a password is NOT required to make the transfer.

Prayer Requests

*Kris Durr, Christine Fraser, Elizabeth Sedmak,
Maria Teresa Medina, Jill Hockey, Bridget Keating*

***If you have a loved one who you would like to be on the prayer list or if you know of someone who no longer needs to be on, please contact the Parish office at 250-766-3146 or email at st.edwards@shaw.ca*

Mass Intentions

December 11- Philip Ng RIP
December 14- Louis Manuel D'Souza RIP
December 15- Mr. & Mrs. Hope Jyrwa RIP
December 16- Paul Meade RIP
December 17- Jochim Dias RIP
December 18- Germaine Pion RIP
December 21- Rosa Maria Serifina Dias Fernandez RIP
December 22- Irene Maria Dias RIP
December 23- Paul Meade RIP
December 28- Charles & Helen Poitras RIP
December 30- Mr. & Mrs. Chan Ksing RIP
December 31- Marcellino Fernandez RIP

2022 PARISH ENVELOPES

The 2022 Parish Envelopes will be issued soon. Please call the office if you have had a change of address or are new to the Parish and would like to register for envelopes.

PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH

Thank you to the families who have made a gift to this year's Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal. Our parish has currently raised **\$22,365.00**. The Campaign runs until the end of December for 2021. Remember that funds received over our Diocesan commitment of \$20,900.00 will be returned to us. Cheques should be made out to the Roman Catholic Bishop of Nelson. Thank you so much for generous donation!



Advent Reconciliation Rites at St. Edwards will be held this Tuesday, December 14th at 4:00 pm. There will be several priests available to hear your Confession.

CWL - CHRISTMAS PIES

Christmas is coming soon and our CWL ladies have made a variety of holiday pies for your eating pleasure. Available after Mass both Saturday and Sunday. (\$7.00 each or 3 for \$20.00)



DONATIONS OF POINSETTIAS

For those who wish to donate poinsettias, in honour of their departed loved ones, for Christmas, please deliver them by next weekend December 18 and 19. They can be placed on the tables in the church hall.



TURKEY DRIVE

Immaculata Regional High School is holding its annual Turkey Drive on Friday December 10th from 6 – 10:00 am at 1493 KLO Road. Donations of frozen turkeys or cash for the purchase of turkeys is being collected to support the Central Okanagan Food Bank Christmas Hamper program.



Immaculata Regional High School
1493 KLO Rd, Kelowna, BC, V1W 3N8
250-762-2730

SHORT TERM HOMESTAYS NEEDED

The Immaculata International Program is expecting some new students for Semester 2 (late January – June) as well as for short stays during Semester 2. If you have ever considered hosting an international student, a short term stay is a great way to give it a try! For more information, follow this link:

<https://www.immaculatakelowna.ca/homestays.php> or contact Shelley Brodeur irhs.ahc@cisnd.ca

Rachel's Corner

"In the inner stillness where meditation leads, the Spirit secretly anoints the soul and heals our deepest wounds."

- St John of the Cross- feast day December 14

After having suffered a loss due to an abortion decision, the deepest of wounds can be submerged in complete silence and shame. Join us on a Rachel's Vineyard® Retreat and allow the Spirit to anoint your soul and heal you of what has caused you such great pain.

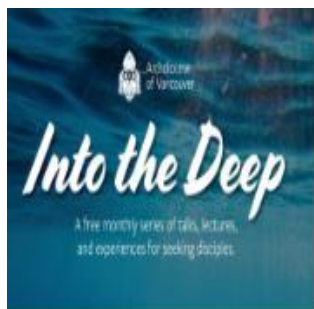
info@rachelsvineyardkelowna.com
www.rachelsvineyardkelowna.com

fb Rachel's Vineyard Kelowna
250-762-2273

CCO RISE UP CONFERENCE

January 6 – 8, 2022 Rise Up is a conference for young adults hosted by Catholic Christian Outreach, a Canadian university student movement. But Rise Up is more than a conference; it exists to motivate and inspire leaders for the renewal of the world. Registration is available through www.cco.ca/rise-up with early registration pricing until Nov. 30, 2021 (online and in-person options available).

INTO THE DEEP



The Archdiocese of Vancouver Presents Into the Deep, a free monthly series of talks, lectures, and experiences for seeking disciples. Next series will be held online, Friday, December

17th, 7:00 – 8:30 pm. Visit the Archdiocese of Vancouver website for more information.

JOURNEY THROUGH ADVENT: VIDEO SERIES

Each week, beginning on Sunday, 21 November 2021, the Solemnity of Christ the King, the CCCB will release a video recording of a Bishop reflecting on the Gospel Reading for each Sunday of Advent. This year's reflections were inspired by Indigenous Delegation travelling to Rome to meet with Pope Francis from 17-20 December 2021. Each reflection is based one of the five essential stages of reconciliation: examen, confession, repentance, reparation (making amends), and reconciliation. It is likewise hoped these reflections will assist the faithful, Indigenous and non-Indigenous alike, in preparing for Pope Francis' eventual apostolic journey to Canada. The videos were developed under the auspices of the Bishops Working Group on Coordinating Indigenous Initiatives, with the script being approved by the same, as agreed to by the Executive Committee at its Special Meeting on 12 November 2021.

The videos can be now accessed on the CCCB website at the following links:

In English: <https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-advent/>

In French: <https://www.cccb.ca/fr/evangelisation-catechese-et-education/ressources-video/cheminer-ensemble-durant-lavent/>

USHERS NEEDED AT ALL THE MASSES

We are down to four couples to handle both Saturday and Sunday Masses. We currently only have one couple to usher only one of the three Christmas Masses. If you know of anyone who might be able to help with this shortfall, please advise Larry Girard, lauriergirard60@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Mass is the central act of worship in the life of a Catholic. It is about spending time with God, offering ourselves to him, giving him thanks, and receiving his graces and blessings. We are currently in need of more volunteers for the various liturgical ministries. If you are at all interested in joining any of our groups and would like more information, we would encourage you to contact the individuals below:

Greeters and Ushers: Larry Girard

lauriergirard60@gmail.com

Altar Society: Constance Gregory (250) 765-2879

Lectors (Readers): Sue Taylor jaytaylor@telus.net

Eucharistic Ministers: June Bot bot.june@icloud.com

Sacristans: Lily Oddleifson (250) 766-4390

It is a tremendous blessing and very rewarding to serve in this way. Please prayerfully consider joining our teams.



CHRISTMAS EVE: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2021 - 5:30 pm and 7:30 pm

NOTE: Time may change pending availability of Fr Gerald

CHRISTMAS DAY: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2021 - 10:00 am

ADVENT RECONCILIATION RITES 2021

Parish	Day	Date	Time
St. Edward	Tuesday	December 14	4:00 pm
Corpus Christi	Tuesday	December 14	6:00 pm
St. Pius X	Wednesday	December 15	7:00 pm
Immaculate Conception Parish	Thursday	December 16	3:00-5:00 pm

This Christmas, reach out to the prisoners in our midst!

"I was in prison and you visited me." (Matthew 25:36)

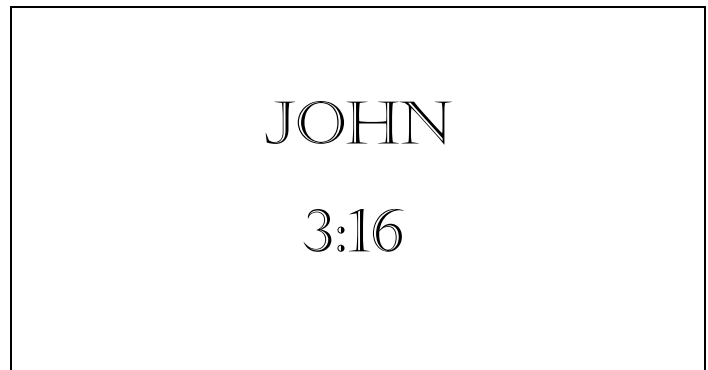
One of the seven Corporal Acts of Mercy is to visit or assist those in prison - whether they be shut-ins, the disabled, the hospitalized, or those actually serving time in jail. In Matthew 25, we find the story of the Judgement Day, when God separates the sheep from the goats. The sheep are those who showed love for God through their love for the hungry, the thirsty, the sick, the homeless, the naked and the imprisoned. Regardless of the sinfulness that characterizes every human being, there is a dignity and goodness inside each one of us.

"The king will reply; truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40).

Every Christmas at the Okanagan Correctional Centre, the Chaplains ask the broader community to assist in creating a "Christmas Treat Bag" for every incarcerated person to acknowledge that by their very creation, there is truly a goodness in them. Since this prison opened 5 years ago; students from St. Joseph's Catholic school have colored the bags that the treats go in. Their teachers instruct the children of Christ's ministry to the marginalized and the importance of remembering that Jesus and many of the Apostles and Saints experienced the degradation and humiliation of being imprisoned themselves. The children draw colorful Christmas themed pictures and messages on these bags, and this is one of the best parts of the gift for the inmates. Christmas cards with messages of hope are sent to us from the Archdiocese of Vancouver where Catholic school children are asked to minister in this special way. It is very humbling to read the wisdom and care in these messages of hope.

The treat bags also include chocolate bars, granola bars, hot chocolate, tea, etc. that are donated by people such as yourselves. If you feel called to donate towards this act of mercy, please place your monetary donation in the box provided at the entrance of the church. Thank you very much for your generosity. And please remember to pray for our imprisoned brothers and sisters this Christmas.

Donation deadline: December 12, 2021



Would you like to see your business advertised in our bulletin? Cost is \$100 per year or \$10 per month. Please contact the office.