



# ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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Archdiocesan Webpage: [rcsj.org](http://rcsj.org)

*Father Earl Smith, SJ (Pastor and Superior of St. John's Jesuits)*

*Father Wayne Bolton, S.J. (Associate Pastor)*

*Father William Browne, S.J. (Assistant Priest in Residence)*

*Father Joseph Schuck, S.J. (Ministry at St. Bonaventure's College)*

*Father Joe Mroz, SJ (Archdiocesan Chaplain at Memorial University)*

*Father Gregory Carruthers, S.J.*

*(Spiritual Formation in the Archdiocese of St. John's)*

*Brother Joe Frechette, SJ (Ministry at St. Bonaventure's College)*

*Maria R. Kelsey (Pastoral Assistant and Religious Education Coordinator)*

## 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 11, 2016

### THE TWO PARTS OF ADVENT

#### **Part 1: Up until December 16**

While most liturgical seasons have the gospel as their main focus, during the first weeks of Advent, the Church gives us daily readings from the prophet Isaiah. With the eyes of faith, these foretell the coming of the Messiah. Rather than a continuous gospel narrative familiar to us for most of the year, this part of Advent offers a wide variety of gospel readings that support the first reading of the day. After almost two weeks of Isaiah readings, we hear the foretelling of a Messiah from other prophets from the Hebrew scriptures - in Sirach, Numbers, Zephaniah and returning to Isaiah. With each passing week, the prophets speak more clearly of the coming of a Savior. So, in reading the first reading, for the first part of Advent, we listen to the anticipation, expectation, hope and promise. In listening to the second reading, we listen for the fulfillment or connection with the gospel.

#### **Part 2: December 17 - 24**

In these last eight days before Christmas, the relationship between the readings changes. Now the gospel brings us to our celebration of Christmas. The gospels are taken from the infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke. Each of these days, the first reading is taken from the Hebrew scriptures, and chosen to match the gospel. In many cases we can imagine Matthew or Luke having the first reading open on their desks while they wrote the gospel. So, we can read the gospel first and then read the first reading. The sense of anticipation and fulfillment builds as we read the story of the preparation for Jesus' first coming into this world for us.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS  
FOR NEXT SUNDAY  
December 18**

*You could read/discuss/pray with your family, with friends or by yourself.*

**First Reading:** Isaiah 7:10-14  
**Second Reading:** Romans 1:1-7  
**Psalm:** 24  
**Gospel:** Matthew 1:18-24

**FR. EARL DREAMS**

The results of the Archdiocesan Survey that was conducted the spring/summer of 2015 has been released as a full report. Copies (yellow in colour) of it are available at the Church and Chapel entrances. It can also be found on the Archdiocesan website. Dr. Tim Seifert from Memorial University is its author. Themes and comments recorded in it favourably reflect many opinions given this year as part of our parish-wide consult on parish planning.

**SAINTS SPEAK**

Insignificant man, escape from your everyday business for a short while, hide for a moment from your restless thoughts. Break off from your cares and troubles and be less concerned about your tasks and labors. Make a little time for God and rest a while in him. Enter into your mind's inner chamber. Shut out everything but God and whatever helps you to seek him; and when you have shut the door, look for him. Speak now to God and say with your whole heart: I seek your face, your face, Lord I desire.

Lord, my God, teach my heart where and how to seek you, where and how to find you.

**(Saint Anselm)**, 1033-1109, Bishop of Canterbury, The Proslogion.

Oh, how few find time for prayer! There is time for everything else, time to sleep and time to eat, time to read the newspaper and the novel, time to visit friends, time for everything else under the sun, but - no time for prayer, the most important of all things, the one great essential!

**(Oswald J. Smith)**, (1889-1986), Canadian, Christian pastor and missions advocate

Whenever I am conscious of Satan's presence, I try to follow the formula once offered by a little girl: "When Satan knocks, I just send Christ to the door."  
**(Billy Graham)**, (b.1918), Christian evangelist

**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

Everyone is invited to a special Mass, **Monday, December 12, 2016** at 7:30 pm, as we celebrate the Feast Day of **Our Lady of Guadalupe**, Patroness of the Americas. We will be blessing an icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe which will be permanently placed in our Chapel.

**ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE**

St. Pius X Parish will have its **Advent Penitential Service** on **Wednesday, December 14, 2016, 7 pm** in the Church. Several clergy will be available for individual confession.

**OUR 'PIUS' SMILE**

My parents divorced when I was two but remained friends. So much so that on my wedding day, Dad toasted my husband and me by saying, "I hope y'all are as happy together as you mother and I are apart."  
**Laughter Still Is The Best Medicine, Readers Digest, 2014, page 25**

**JESUIT NEWS**

Our parishioners gave \$300 to Nepal Region of Canadian Jesuits International last week and \$110.00 to the Hurricane Matthew Relief Fund.

The Society of Jesus (English speaking) is sponsoring a Canadian Canoe Pilgrimage, next summer, July 20, 2017 to August 15, 2017, paddling a 900 km water route from Midland, Ontario to Montreal, Quebec. Participants will include Jesuits, lay collaborators, and indigenous partners, hopefully allowing all "paddlers" to encounter each other's unique cultural traditions. If you would like to participate or to find out more, please check out [www.canoepilgrimage.com](http://www.canoepilgrimage.com)

**VOCATIONS EVENING**

The Archdiocesan Vocation Committee is inviting anyone interested in praying for vocations to the Priesthood or Religious Life to join us for an hour of prayer. The Service will be held at **Corpus Christi Church** on **Wednesday, December 14, 2016, 7 pm**. This will be an opportunity for us to have a special time of prayer for our local Church. In particular, we invite anyone considering the possibility of a vocation to the Priesthood or Religious Life to attend the Service.

## ADVENT ACTIVITIES FOR EVERYONE

### Advent Prayer - Taste and See

Everyone is invited to come to (or "taste and see") two Advent Prayer sessions such as Saint Ignatius Loyola would have offered.

### **The Nativity:**

Tuesday, December 13 at 3:30 pm OR 8 pm, immediately following Mass.

The evening session is a repeat of the afternoon session. Both sessions will be held in the Chapel.

## ATTENTION PARENTS: CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Next *Sunday, December 18, 2016* will be our last *Children's Liturgy of the Word and Sacramental Preparation programs* for this year, 2016.

All programs will resume on *Sunday, January 8, 2017* at the *11 am Mass*.

## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

The Parish will be accepting donations of flowers and plants to decorate the Church for Christmas. Parishioners are invited to make a donation in memory of a loved one. Donations of flowers and plants are welcome. Monetary donations can be placed in the collection and marked **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**, or dropped off at the Parish Office. Envelopes for these donations are available from the tables at the Church and Chapel entrances.

## MUN CHAPLAINCY NEWS

The Sunday, 7 pm evening Mass at St. John's College Chapel ends this Sunday, December 11, 2016. We will resume *Sunday evening 7 pm Mass in January, 2017*.

## PARISH SKATING PARTY

The St. Pius X Parish Skating Party will be held *Monday, December 26, 2016, from 1 - 2 pm at Bussey Arena, 45 Bonaventure Avenue*.

The smell of the freshly Zambonied ice, the feel of new skates being laced up, the aroma of gourmet hot chocolate and Timbits. Do something good for your body and burn off approximately 750 calories of turkey! All parishioners and friends invited. No hockey sticks, please. This is an annual tradition since St. Pius X was a boy.

## VIGIL: TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO DIED BY SUICIDE

This Vigil will be held *Sunday, December 11, 2016, 3 pm* at *St. Patrick's Church (6 Patrick Street)*.

This vigil is held to support family and friends who have lost loved ones to suicide. Share in music, poems, prayers and candle lighting. Everyone is invited to bring a framed photograph of their loved one to be displayed during the vigil. Music is provided by Shelley Neville, Peter Halley, Randy Crane and Dan Dillon. Individuals are invited to bring along cookies/cake for tea following the vigil. All are welcome!

Parking Convent Square and St. Patrick's Parking Lot.

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

Congratulations to *Edward and Agnes Nugent* who recently celebrated their *50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary*.

Congratulations also to *Edwin and Carmel Noseworthy* who recently celebrated their *65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary*.

## DONATIONS

Christmas is the time of year many parishioners consider which charities they wish to support. As most of you know the Parish does support both local and international charities.

*Donations received before December 31, 2016 will be issued an income tax receipt for the 2016 tax year* which can be used to reduce your taxes.

Donations may be directed towards any parish charity of your choice.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

## EARLY BIRD NOTICE: MICHAEL J. WARD BRUNCH

The *Michael J. Ward Brunch* will now be held on *Epiphany - January 8, 2017* in the *Parish Hall immediately following the 11 am Mass (approximately 12 noon)*.

## OFFERTORY COLLECTION

**November 26 and 27:** \$3,625.25

**December 3 and 4:** \$3,530.10

*Thank you for your continued generous support.*

## Calendar of Services, Mass Intentions and Activities

Sun.	Dec. 11	8:30 am	Mass	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent
		11:00 am	Mass	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent
		<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>MUN Roman Catholic Chaplaincy Mass</b> <b>- St. John's College Chapel</b>	
Mon.	Dec. 12	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Funeral Mass: Maureen Campbell</b>	
		<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - Chapel</b>	
		7:30 pm	Mass	Dominic Family
<b>Feast Day: Our Lady of Guadalupe</b>				
Tues.	Dec. 13	9:30 am	Mass	Hughie Coady; Holden and Coady Families
		<b>3:30 pm</b>	<b>Advent Prayer: The Nativity - Chapel</b>	
		7:30 pm	Mass	Ted and Nellie Cahill; Ted Cahill, Jr.
		<b>8:00 pm</b>	<b>Advent Prayer: The Nativity - Chapel</b>	
Wed.	Dec. 14	9:30 am	Mass	Thomas, Josephine and Francis Finn
		<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Advent Penitential Service - Church</b>	
Thurs.	Dec. 15	9:30 am	Mass	Kathleen and Leo Henry Roche
		<b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>Choir Practice - Church</b>	
Fri.	Dec. 16	9:30 am	Mass	Thistle and Hannaford Families
Sat.	Dec. 17	9:30 am	Mass	Michael Maguire
		4:45 pm	Mass	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent
Sun.	Dec. 18	8:30 am	Mass	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent
		11:00 am	Mass	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

**WEBSITES:** Three to recommend are:

[www.jesuits.ca](http://www.jesuits.ca)   [www.ignatianspirituality.com](http://www.ignatianspirituality.com)   [www.jesuitresources.org](http://www.jesuitresources.org)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Saturday: 3:30 - 4:20 pm  
Tuesday: 6:40 - 7:20 pm

**TIMES OF MASSES:** Monday and Tuesday: 9:30 am and 7:30 pm  
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 9:30 am  
Saturday: 9:30 am and 4:45 pm; Sunday: 8:30 and 11 am

**BAPTISMS:** *Second Sunday* of the month. Time: 1 pm in the Church  
Please call the Parish Office (754-0170) **ONE MONTH** in advance  
*A copy of the child's birth certificate must be provided before the baptism*  
**PRE-BAPTISMAL COURSE:** *Call the Parish Office for more details*

**MARRIAGES:** By appointment **SIX MONTHS** in advance.  
*Marriage Preparation Course required*

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday - Friday, 9 am - 12 noon and 12:30 - 4:30 pm;  
**TELEPHONE:** 754-0170   **E-MAIL:** [stpiusx@nl.rogers.com](mailto:stpiusx@nl.rogers.com)

**CHAIRPERSON OF PARISH COUNCIL:** 726-7236  
**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:** 747-5874 or 753-6997