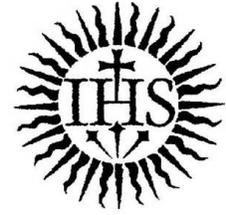




# ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

16 Smithville Crescent, St. John's, Newfoundland & Labrador  
A1B 2V2  
Tel.# 709-754-0170



E-mail: [stpiusx@nl.rogers.com](mailto:stpiusx@nl.rogers.com)  
Webpage: [www.spx.ca](http://www.spx.ca)  
Pastor: [earlsmithsj@gmail.com](mailto:earlsmithsj@gmail.com)  
Archdiocesan Webpage: [rcsj.org](http://rcsj.org)

*Fr. Earl Smith, SJ (Pastor and Superior of St. John's Jesuits)*  
*Fr. Wayne Bolton, S.J. (Associate Pastor)*  
*Fr. William Browne, S.J. (Assistant Priest in Residence)*  
*Fr. Joseph Schuck, S.J. (Ministry at St. Bonaventure's College)*  
*Father Joe Mroz, SJ (Archdiocesan Chaplain at Memorial University)*  
*Br. Joe Frechette, SJ (Ministry at St. Bonaventure's College)*  
*Raj Vijayakumar, SJ (Ministry at St. Bonaventure's College)*  
*Maria R. Kelsey (Pastoral Assistant and Religious Education Coordinator)*

**2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**December 10, 2017**

## ADVENT LONGINGS

*November 28th, 2016 Posted in Uncategorized*

The Rolling Stones sang, "You can't always get what you want . . . but if you try sometimes well you just might find you get what you need." A lot of Advent is about naming what we want and, more importantly, becoming aware of what we need.

Wants and needs aren't the same, of course, for what I truly need is on a deeper level than what I might want. I may want a comfortable home in a quiet neighborhood, but I can live without it. I can live without eating meat, but I can't live very well without protein. I may want to be married but whether I'm married or single I definitely need relationships in which I can both give love and receive it.

In December, we often ask children, "What do you want Santa to bring you for Christmas?" In Advent the Church poses to us a deeper question: "What are the deep needs and longings of your life, which only God can fill?" Paying attention to these and presenting them to God is very important because, as St. Augustine and others tell us, frequently presenting our longings to God actually prepares us to receive God's fulfillment of them.

In a few short weeks, we will celebrate the coming of God's once and final answer to all human longings and desires — Christ. As we prepare to receive Christ with the joy and gratitude his coming deserves, let us be bold in presenting ourselves, our needs and our longings to God. We might indeed find that we will get what we need.

SOURCE: [www.FrankMajka.com](http://www.FrankMajka.com)

SCRIPTURE READINGS  
FOR NEXT SUNDAY  
December 17, 2017

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

**First Reading:** Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11  
**Second Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
**Psalms:** CBW 24  
**Gospel:** John 1:6-8, 19-28

FR. EARL DREAMS

This year's Christmas Season Mass schedule indicates a significant change from last year. Christmas is a Monday, but of course its Vigil, Christmas Eve is when many, if not most of us, begin to celebrate the Season. Our Archdiocesan priests cannot be everywhere at once to provide liturgies for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent and Christmas the next day. Also, time and focused energy is required to allow for preparations for this feast. It is with this kind of awareness – and after consultation with his Priests' Council that Archbishop Martin Currie has chosen to limit liturgies for the 4<sup>th</sup> *Sunday of Advent* to *Saturday evening, December 23<sup>rd</sup>*. This means that the *only Mass* for the 4<sup>th</sup> *Sunday of Advent* in our parish will be the anticipated Mass on *Saturday* at *4:45 pm*. *There will be NO Sunday Masses at 8:30 am and 11:00 am here in our parish.*

The Archbishop has also directed that the earliest time for Christmas Eve Masses (December 24<sup>th</sup>) will be 7:00 pm in the city. Therefore, our *Christmas Eve Masses* will be *7:00 pm* which has a strong *family focus*, and our *11:00 pm (Midnight Mass) with the choir*. After much consultation, it has been decided that we will have only *one Mass* on *Christmas morning* at *10:30 am*.

Everyone is strongly encouraged to pay special attention to this year's *Holiday Mass Schedule* that will be inserted with next weekend's bulletin and will also be available on our parish web page. This will help all of us, our families, friends and neighbours, to make plans to join us at St. Pius X Church in celebration of the Lord's Nativity; God, who is Emmanuel, God-with-us!



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S  
LEAGUE NOTES

Advent Dinner

All parishioners are invited to attend the *Advent Dinner and Prayer Service* on *Thursday, December 14, 2017 (5:30 for 6 pm)* in the *Parish Hall*.

*Turkey Dinner* will be served. *Tickets, \$25.00* each, are available from *Cecilia Fitzpatrick 722-2648* or any member of the CWL Executive or the *Parish Office - 754-0170*.

Spouses, families and friends are welcomed with a dinner ticket purchase.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER

Christmas Hamper Donations

Our Parish is now preparing for the Christmas Hampers. Last year we distributed approximately 130 hampers and we expect a similar number of requests this year. If you are considering financially supporting this activity, it would be very much appreciated. Please mark an envelope **CHRISTMAS HAMPER**. *Please include your name, address and envelope number.*

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. *Please include your name, address and envelope number.*

RECONCILIATION NEWS

An *Advent Reconciliation Service* is scheduled at *The Basilica* on *Monday, December 11, 2017* at *7:30 pm*.

Our Parish will join Mary Queen of Peace, St. Paul's and St. Francis of Assisi Parishes for *Reconciliation* on *Wednesday, December 13, 2017, 7:30 pm* at *Mary Queen of Peace Church* on *Torbay Bay Road*. Members of your Jesuit Community will provide their participation at this event.

## SAINTS SPEAK

During Advent we are made aware that God is in action and that when the circumstances are ready, when others are in the right place, and when our hearts are prepared, he will call us into action. Waiting in prayer is a disciplined refusal to act before God acts.

**Eugene Peterson**, (b.1932)  
American clergyman

*Unnatural, frantic, anxious work, work done under pressure of greed or fear or any other inordinate passion, cannot properly speak be dedicated to God, because God never wills such work directly. He may permit that through no fault of our own we may have to work madly and distractedly, due to our sins, and to the sins of the society in which we live. In that case we must tolerate it and make the best of what we cannot avoid. But let us not be blind to the distinction between sound, healthy work and unnatural toil.*

**Thomas Merton**, (1915-1968)  
*Seeds of Contemplation*

One way to recall the mind easily in the time of prayer, and preserve it more in tranquility, is not to let it wander too far at other times. You should keep it strictly in the Presence of God; and, being accustomed to think of Him often, you will find it easy to keep your mind calm in the time of prayer, or at least to recall it from its wanderings.

**Brother Lawrence of the Resurrection**, (1614-91)  
*Letters*, French Carmelite

## RELIGIOUS ARTICLES

Christmas cards, calendars and 2017-2018 missals (blue in colour) are available for sale in the Chapel area.

## AWAY IN A MANGER NATIVITIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

This exhibit will be held at the *Basilica Museum* (immediately west of the Basilica) until **December 23, 2017**. It is open *every day from 1 - 4 pm*, and *evenings by request*. Admission is a gift for a needy child. The gifts can be left under the Christmas tree.

## OFFERTORY COLLECTION

**November 25 and 26:** \$4,124.61

**December 2 and 3:** \$4,525.50

*Thank you for your continued generous support.*

## 2017 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IN SOLIDARITY WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN CANADA

Since 1980, over 1000 Indigenous women and girls have been murdered in Canada. While Indigenous women make up only 4% of Canada's female population, 16% of all women murdered in Canada between 1980 and 2012 were Indigenous.

On this *Day of Prayer, December 12, 2017*, the *Canadian Catholic Aboriginal Council*, call on all Catholics to pray to the Creator for hope and justice for the victims and their families and for communities, parishes, and individuals to support the national inquiry in any way they can.

## MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

This *Sunday, December 10, 2017* will be the last evening Mass at *St. John's College Chapel* for the Christmas holidays. Masses will resume *Sunday, January 7, 2018* at 7 pm.

## OUR 'PIUS' SMILE

The irate customer calling the newspaper office, loudly demanded to know where her Sunday edition was. *Ma'am, said the employee, today is Saturday*. The Sunday paper is not delivered until Sunday. There was a long pause on the other end of the phone, followed by a ray of recognition. *"I'll bet that's why no one was in church today too."*

## ST. FRANCIS XAVIER RELIC PILGRIMAGE

A major *Relic of St. Francis Xavier* is coming to Canada from Rome. There will be opportunities to venerate the relic on *Friday, January 5, 2018* at the *Basilica of St. John the Baptist*.

Schedule of events at the Basilica will include: 12:10 pm Mass, with the relic present all afternoon. A *prayer service* opened to the public is scheduled for 7 pm. It includes Confessions and the Veneration of the Relic.

*Who was St. Francis Xavier?* St. Francis Xavier was a famous Jesuit missionary to India and Japan, bringing hundreds of thousands of people to faith. It is said that he was the greatest missionary since St. Paul the Apostle. The major relic that will be venerated during the pilgrimage is his right arm, usually found at the Gesu Jesuit church in Rome. It is rare that this relic leaves its usual home. This is a unique opportunity to thank God for the work of this great missionary, and for the gift of faith.

## ADVENT ACTIVITIES FOR EVERYONE

### ADVENT GIVING - SOCKS AND UNDERWEAR

In previous years, we have suggested two or three options for *Advent Giving*. This year we hope to concentrate on one suggestion - *new socks and underwear* for *guests* of *The Gathering Place*. When making a donation of used clothing, it is understandable that these items are not given, but they are desperately needed.

You can place these *new* items in *special gift boxes* at the *Church and Chapel entrances* or place a monetary donation in the collection marked **SOCKS AND UNDERWEAR**. *Please include your name, address and envelope number.*

### ADVENT REFLECTION

Advent is a time of waiting, watching and preparing our hearts so that the first spark of God's love, the love which ignited the Big Bang and became visible in Christ Jesus, may birth in us a new consciousness. You are invited to come aside from your busy schedule. Relax, reflect and discover new ways of engaging your faith for the creation of a better society through the Living out of *Laudato Si'*.

**Where:** Mercy Centre for Ecology and Justice, 101 Mount Scio Road  
(next to Rainbow Riders and across from the Savory Farm)

**When:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017

**Time:** 2:00 pm – 3:30pm or 7:00pm – 8:30pm  
(Please register for one of these times on each of the above dates.)

To register please call 722-0082 or email [teersm@hotmail.com](mailto:teersm@hotmail.com)

**Registration is required as space is limited.** Light refreshments will be served.

### AN ADVENT DAY OF AWARENESS

What are we waiting for? Come and spend some time reflecting on hopeful expectancy and patient unknowing as we once again prepare for the celebration of Incarnation – God committing totally to human flesh.

**Where:** Mercy Centre for Ecology and Justice, 101 Mount Scio Road  
(next to Rainbow Riders and across from the Savory Farm)

**When:** Saturday, December 16, 2017

**Time:** 10 am – 2:00 pm

#### Together, let us ponder:

God's great self-giving in Jesus

What self-giving means in a culture that substitutes the giving of stuff for the giving of self.

How we can continue that Divine self-giving in our personal, family, and community/church settings?

To register, please call 722-0082 or email [teersm@hotmail.com](mailto:teersm@hotmail.com)

**Registration is required as space is limited.** Light refreshments will be served.

### INVITATION TO ADVENT REFLECTION

All are welcome to come join us for *Advent Sunday Reflections* on *December 10 and 17, 2017* from *4:00 – 5:00 pm* at *Presentation Retreat House* (47 Parsonage Drive).

The *Theme* is "*Who Do People Say I Am? Who Do We Say Jesus Is? What New Insights Are Emerging for Us Today to Reflect on and Contemplate?*". The *Facilitators* are *Gerard Whitty and Philip Lewis*.

To register and/or for more information, please call 754-1582.

## Calendar of Services, Mass Intentions and Activities

Sun.	Dec. 10	8:30 am 11:00 am <b>1:00 pm</b> <b>7:00 pm</b>	Mass Mass <b>Baptisms - Church</b> <b>MUN Roman Catholic Chaplaincy Mass</b> <b>- St. John's College Chapel</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent
Mon.	Dec. 11	9:30 am <b>1:00 pm</b> 7:30 pm	Mass <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - Chapel</b> Mass	Hanton and Walsh Families Theresa Houlihan
Tues.	Dec. 12	9:30 am 7:30 pm	Mass Mass	Shannon Ryan Barry Walters; William and Marion Carroll
Wed.	Dec. 13	9:30 am <b>7:30 pm</b>	Mass <b>Reconciliation Service - Mary Queen of Peace Church</b>	Janet Nolan
Thurs.	Dec. 14	9:30 am <b>7:30 pm</b>	Mass <b>Choir Practice - Church</b>	Cyril O'Driscoll
Fri.	Dec. 15	9:30 am	Mass	Mary Dominic
Sat.	Dec. 16	9:30 am 4:45 pm	Mass Mass	Dawson Family 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent
Sun.	Dec. 17	8:30 am 11:00 am	Mass Mass	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent 3 <sup>rd</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 and 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:** 739-5780  
**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:** 233-0302 or 753-6997