



# SAINTS PETER & PAUL PARISH

**PASTOR: FATHER RON THOMPSON**

**CHURCH LOCATION:** 1430 WEST 38TH AVENUE **RECTORY/MAILING:** 1425 WEST 39TH AVENUE, VANCOUVER, B.C. V6M 1T2

**RECTORY PHONE:** 604-261-3535 **E-MAIL:** parish.sspp@rcav.org

**PARISH SECRETARY:** JACKSON WONG

**PARISH WEBSITE:** [HTTPS://SSPETERPAUL.CA/](https://sspeterpaul.ca/)

**ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER**  
Archbishop: Most Rev  
J. Michael Miller, CSB

**ARCHDIOCESAN WEBSITE:** [WWW.RCAV.ORG](http://WWW.RCAV.ORG) **JOHN PAUL II PASTORAL CENTER:** 4885 SAINT JOHN PAUL II WAY; TEL: 604-683-0281



*Welcome to visitors! New Parishioners! We are pleased to have you pray with us at Saints Peter and Paul. We hope you enjoy your visit to our beautiful Church. Please introduce yourself after Mass to Father Ron and parishioners; we would like to meet you!*



**FR. RON THOMPSON**

*Please Note:*

*All Request of the Pastor are kindly asked to be made by phone during Office Hours not by Email. Thank-You*

## CHANGE TO CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Although at the first Christmas there was "No room in the Inn", it is hoped that this extended schedule for Christmas, will have more room for all who come to our Church for Christmas.

How fitting is the name "Bethlehem" as it means "House of Bread": so as we journey to our "House of Bread" as did the shepherds, may we all come to adore Him this Christmas(s) at Saints Peter & Paul. - Fr Thompson

**ST. MICHAEL'S PRAYER**  
*Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who prowl through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.*

## 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 19 — DECEMBER 25, 2021

**Holy Mass: Saturday: 5:00pm Sunday: 9:00am, 11:00am**  
**(Vespers and Benediction: 3:30pm), 4:00pm**

**Weekdays: Monday 8:00AM; Tuesday 4:00PM; Wednesday – Friday 8:00AM**

**First Fridays: Adoration 12:00 noon– 6:45PM; Benediction 6:45PM; Second Mass 7:00pm**

**Saturdays and Civic Holidays: 9:00 am**

**Confessions: Wednesday—Friday; 8:30AM; Saturday: 9:30 am and 4:00-4:30 pm**

**Office Schedule: Tuesday—Friday: 9:00 am—3:00 pm**

**By Appointment; Marriage: Notify 8 Months in Advance.**

## UPCOMING

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

#### CHRISTMAS LITURGIES

*There will be no Morning Mass on Friday, December 24th, 2021*

**Masses of Christmas— Friday, December 24th, 2021—4:00 PM Proof of Vaccine Required at this Mass only, as we are expecting higher attendance at this Mass.**  
5:30 PM & 7:00 PM

**Saturday, December 25th, 2021—8:30 AM, 10:00AM & 11:30 AM**  
**(NO EVENING MASS)**

**Holy Family (Boxing Day): Sunday, December 26th, 2021—9:00 AM & 11:00 AM & 4:00 PM**

**Christmas Octave: Monday—Monday, December 27—31, 2021—9:00 AM**

**New Year's Masses (Solemnity of the Mother of God) Friday December 31st, 2021 —5:00 PM**  
**Saturday January 1st, 2022—9:00 AM & 11:00 AM (NO EVENING MASS)**

**EPIPHANY Sunday, January 2, 2022—9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 4:00 PM**

**EPIPHANYTIDE: Monday, January 3rd, 2022—8:00 AM**

**Tuesday, January 4th, 2022—4:00 PM**

**Wednesday—Thursday, January 5th—6th, 2022—8:00 AM**

**Friday, January 7th, 2022 - 7:00 PM only, No Adoration or Morning Mass**

**Saturday, January 8th, 2022—9:00 AM**

**Baptism of Our Lord, Saturday Masses, January 8th, 2022 —5:00 PM**

**Sunday, January 9th, 2022—9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 4:00 PM**

## 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT READINGS

Here is an event which is touching but ordinary: two pregnant women meet. Yet the children borne by these two women will play an extraordinary part in the unfolding of God's plan. In Mary's visitation to Elizabeth, life hastens to meet human hope. Mary's son, the one "whose origin is from of old, from ancient times", incarnates in humanity invisible divinity. Elizabeth's child will bring Israel's waiting to its highest intensity.

"Blessed is she who trusted that the Lord's word to her would be fulfilled!" In Elizabeth's cry, we catch an allusion to the annunciation through which Mary, overshadowed by the Spirit, became the Mother of God. The visitation completes and confirms the angels message. It bears witness to the dynamism of the Spirit who progressively permeates the protagonists of the infancy narrative. Mary undertakes with fervor the first apostolic journey in order to share her joy with her cousin. Elizabeth humbles herself before her visitor and blesses her among all women. John already leaps for joy, thus inaugurating his role as precursor. These many humble signs reveal that, from the conception of Jesus, the river of life flows out to water the whole earth.

The same gospel event is relived whenever Christians proclaim to each other in simplicity of heart God's presence in their lives, and whenever they celebrate in thanksgiving the wonders that the Lord has done for them.

## MASS INTENTIONS

|                  |   |  |  |
|------------------|---|--|--|
| <i>Sunday</i>    | <i>December 19th — Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>                      | <i>9:00 am<br/>11:00 am</i>              | <i>Parishioners</i>  |
| <i>Monday</i>    | <i>December 20th, "O Key of David"</i>                              | <i>8:00 am</i>                           | <i>Holy Souls †</i>  |
| <i>Tuesday</i>   | <i>December 21st, "O Radiant Dawn"</i>                              | <i>4:00 pm</i>                           | <i>Charles Tsang †</i>   |
| <i>Wednesday</i> | <i>December 22nd, "O King of all the nations"</i>                   | <i>8:00 am</i>                           | <i>Gabriel Von Heinrich †</i>  |
| <i>Thursday</i>  | <i>December 23rd, "O Emmanuel"</i>                                  | <i>8:00 am</i>                           | <i>Tomas Costales Jr.</i>  |
| <i>Friday</i>    | <i>December 24th, Christmas Eve</i>                                 | <i>4:00 pm<br/>5:30 pm<br/>7:00 pm</i>   | <i>Parishioners</i>  |
| <i>Saturday</i>  | <i>December 25th, Christmas Day</i>                                 | <i>8:30 am<br/>10:00 am<br/>11:30 am</i> | <i>Parishioners</i>  |
| <i>Sunday</i>    | <i>December 26th, Holy Family of Jesus</i>                          | <i>9:00 am<br/>11:00 am<br/>4:00 pm</i>  | <i>Parishioners</i>  |
| <i>Monday</i>    | <i>December 27th, St. John, Apostle, Evangelist †100 AD</i>         | <i>9:00 am</i>                           | <i>MA. Esperanza Regala †</i>  |
| <i>Tuesday</i>   | <i>December 28th, The Holy Innocents, Martyrs †</i>                 | <i>9:00 am</i>                           | <i>Luka Ereg Sr. †</i>   |
| <i>Wednesday</i> | <i>December 29th, Fifth Day within The Octave of the Nativity</i>   | <i>9:00 am</i>                           | <i>Pave Fook-Bo Cheung †</i>   |
| <i>Thursday</i>  | <i>December 30th, Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity</i>   | <i>9:00 am</i>                           | <i>Fr. John Horgan</i>   |
| <i>Friday</i>    | <i>December 31st, Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity</i> | <i>9:00 am<br/>5:00 pm</i>               | <i>Fr. Richard Peedle †<br/>Gratitude for Blessing- Huang Family</i> |
| <i>Saturday</i>  | <i>January 1st, The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God</i>   | <i>9:00 am<br/>11:00 am</i>              | <i>Parishioners</i>  |
| <i>Sunday</i>    | <i>January 2nd, The Epiphany of the Lord</i>                        | <i>9:00 am<br/>11:00 am<br/>4:00 pm</i>  | <i>Parishioners</i>  |

## CHANGE IN HEALTH MEASURES

As of the 1st of December 2021 there are new Health Measures from the Provincial Health Officer for Religious Ceremonies.

- A requirement that participants attending worship services, including choirs, must wear a face covering during worship services, including as participants come in to the place of worship and when they leave, until outside. Participants will be able to remove the face covering when consuming food or drink to allowed to speak without a mask, subject to distancing requirements or barrier to prevent transmission.

*"As we prepare our hearts for the celebration of the Birth of Jesus, let us emphasize unity and charity within the Body of Christ."*

- J. Michael Miller, CSB, Archbishop of Vancouver



Due to expectation that the **Friday, 24th December 2021 4:00 PM** Mass will be very popular and we would exceed the **50% allotment** in the Church, proof of vaccination with ID shown at the door will be mandatory for attendance

### MASS INTENTIONS:

Father cannot always grant the date of the Mass requested but the office will arrange as close to the date requested as possible.

Please note that all Mass Intentions are published on the Website and Parish Bulletin.



**ALTAR SERVERS:** There is a need for Altar servers at our Masses. Young men & boys (Grade 3 +) are invited to serve at the weekend Masses. Simply contact the parish office & Father will give them simple instructions. Thank you for stepping forward, saying "yes" and thus adding to the dignity of Holy Mass.

### NEW TO THE PARISH?

If you are new to the Parish, please fill out a Registration Form available in the foyer and drop it in the Collection Basket.

If you would like Donation Envelopes and/or the BC Catholic please remember to check the boxes on the registration form.

If you would like to Donate via Direct Deposit please complete a MONERIES form and return it back to the parish.

For those already registered, any changes such as your address, tel. #, etc., please contact the Parish Office at 604-261-3535.

**NB:** The Building Fund contributions are not taxed by the Diocese, whereas the regular Sunday contributions are taxed at 14%.



## **Building Fund**

We are moving forward with having our own Parish Centre, this massive project will take the efforts of many people to support. If you can please consider giving to the Building Fund, every cent of the Building Fund will go towards this Parish Goal.

**A big Thank-You to all parishioners for their support in this effort!**



**VOLUNTEERS FOR CHRISTMAS DECORATION:  
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP OUT DECORATE  
STS. PETER & PAUL PARISH  
TUESDAY, 21ST DECEMBER 2021 @ 9:00 AM**

### **PREP CLASSES:**

*Prep Classes for Elementary Students not attending Catholic School resumes: Tuesdays from 4:30-5:30pm.*

*Please register through the Parish office:*

*Tuesday- Friday 9:00am-3:00pm.*

**FR. RON IS LOOKING FOR DONATIONS OF AN OUT OF PRINT BOOK:**

**“CHRISTIAN PRAYER: THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS”  
PAULINE BOOKS & MEDIA BOSTON 1976**

**THANK-YOU**

## **TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS—ORIGIN OF “THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS”**

(<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/library/origin-of-the-twelve-days-of-christmas-10885>) - An Underground Catechism

You're all familiar with the Christmas song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas" I think. To most it's a delightful nonsense rhyme set to music. But it had a quite serious purpose when it was written.

It is a good deal more than just a repetitious melody with pretty phrases and a list of strange gifts.

Catholics in England during the period 1558 to 1829, when Parliament finally emancipated Catholics in England, were prohibited from ANY practice of their faith by law - private OR public. It was a crime to BE a Catholic.

"The Twelve Days of Christmas" was written in England as one of the "catechism songs" to help young Catholics learn the tenets of their faith - a memory aid, when to be caught with anything in \*writing\* indicating adherence to the Catholic faith could not only get you imprisoned, it could get you hanged, or shortened by a head - or hanged, drawn and quartered, a rather peculiar and ghastly punishment I'm not aware was ever practiced anywhere else. Hanging, drawing and quartering involved hanging a person by the neck until they had almost, but not quite, suffocated to death; then the party was taken down from the gallows, and disembowelled while still alive; and while the entrails were still lying on the street, where the executioners stomped all over them, the victim was tied to four large farm horses, and literally torn into five parts - one to each limb and the remaining torso.

The songs gifts are hidden meanings to the teachings of the faith. The "true love" mentioned in the song doesn't refer to an earthly suitor, it refers to God Himself. The "me" who receives the presents refers to every baptized person. The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. In the song, Christ is symbolically presented as a mother partridge which feigns injury to decoy predators from her helpless nestlings, much in memory of the expression of Christ's sadness over the fate of Jerusalem: "Jerusalem! Jerusalem! How often would I have sheltered thee under my wings, as a hen does her chicks, but thou wouldst not have it so..."

The other symbols mean the following:

2 Turtle Doves = The Old and New Testaments 3 French Hens = Faith, Hope and Charity, the Theological Virtues 4 Calling Birds = the Four Gospels and/or the Four Evangelists 5 Golden Rings = The first Five Books of the Old Testament, the "Pentateuch", which gives the history of man's fall from grace. 6 Geese A-laying = the six days of creation 7 Swans A-swimming = the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the seven sacraments 8 Maids A-milking = the eight beatitudes 9 Ladies Dancing = the nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit 10 Lords A-leaping = the ten commandments 11 Pipers Piping = the eleven faithful apostles 12 Drummers Drumming = the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostle's Creed

--Fr. Hal Stockert, Fishnet

## **MAINTAINING A PRAYERFUL ENVIRONMENT**

***The General Instructions of the Roman Missal (GIRM):***

***# 147 of the official 'how to celebrate Holy Mass' states that the people wait during the Preparation of the Gifts for the Priest to complete his invitation: Pray Brethren that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the Almighty Father," before they stand and then say "May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands...." This also is spelled out in our St. Joseph Pew Sunday Missal on P.21 that we Stand only after the Priests says the whole invitation.***

***Prayerful Pause of 30 full seconds after the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:***

***The Lectionary Rubrics (Instructions) state: "A period of silence is observed after the reading."***

***At the Abbey in Mission this is for 2 minutes. Here, in parish life, it will be a full 30 seconds (time is an "Our Father).***





## 2021 Project Advance Campaign

Pledges are still continuing please drop your pledges into the Basket or you may drop them off at the Office during Office times.

To assist with your pledges to this year's campaign, the Parish portion will go towards funding our New Parish Centre.

We have already the Development Permit for this and are moving ahead with the few Civic changes, including the exterior to be more in harmony with the neighbourhood and mirroring the Church as the more important structure.

Our gratitude for all who have, in the past, assisted in this so needed project for our parish life and look forward for more parishioners to practically be engaged in supporting this, Our wholehearted thank you!

Also, in early November we will have a mail out to those who have contributed in the past, we value your support in this important time!

## PENITENTIAL SERVICES PARISHES IN VANCOUVER WEST

Sunday, 19 December 2021 at 6:00 pm  
St. Anthony of Padua Parish

Tuesday, 21 December 2021 at 10:30 am  
Immaculate Conception Parish

Wednesday, 22 December 2021 @ 7:00 pm  
Immaculate Conception Parish



### CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR SENIORS

Thank-you for those who assisted in this project this year, May the Lord bless you! Also there are still some unreturned gifts where cards were taken. As these are for real people, if you can still return the gifts now then they can be distributed. Thank-you!

## MONERIS (ONLINE GIVING) DEDICATED GIVING IS NOW AVAILABLE TO THE PARISH

To make Sunday giving as easy and effective as possible, our parish is now providing a new option for the weekly collection: Dedicated Giving through electronic payments. Regular Sunday contribution will be taken on the 1st of each month and the Building Fund is taken on the 15th of each month.

If you are interested please fill out a form and place it in a sealed Moneris Envelope and drop it off at the Parish Office or the Rectory Mail Slot.

### ADVANTAGES TO YOU

- Regular and consistent support to the parish
- Continued support if you are away
- Eliminates "catch-up" periods
- Convenience of not having to write weekly cheques

### ADVANTAGES TO THE PARISH

- Allows regular, dependable flow of contributions
- Enables effective planning of our parish resources.
- Reduces paperwork and bookkeeping

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE THE WEEKLY BULLETIN VIA EMAIL?

Sign up in the Red Binder in the Vestibule or send an email to the Parish Email with the Subject Line Weekly Bulletin.

The Parish Office will be closed for the Holidays from **Friday 24th December 2021 —Monday 3rd January 2022.** Sacramental Emergencies at any Time. Office will reopen **Tuesday 4th January 2022.**

ST PATRICK REGIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL PRESENTS:

## OPEN HOUSE 2022-23

MONDAY, JANUARY 10TH, 2022 | SCHOOL TOURS BEGIN AT 3:00PM, 5:00PM AND 7:00PM (MUST REGISTER)



## THE ORDER OF MALTA

Wishes to thank all the Parishioners of the Parish for the Splendidly Generous response to its appeal for non-perishable food and for clothing for distribution by the "Door is Open" Catholic Charity over the weekend of 10—12 December. It was a great Christmas response and much appreciated by the helpers at the "Door".

Information on the Ministry can be obtained as to how Financial Donations can be made through the Archdiocese website: [support.rav.org](http://support.rav.org) go to Catholic Charities & donate to "The Door is Open".

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

