



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

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: ELIZABETH WONG

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

ARCHDIOCESAN WEBSITE: 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 regular Office Hours not by Email. As the Parish Office receives dozens of emails daily, phoning is important in order that your request is received. Thank-You.

ST. MICHAEL'S PRAYER
Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defence 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 the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 10, 2023

Holy Mass: Saturday: 5:00pm Sunday: 9:00am, 11:00am 4:00pm
(Solemn Sung Vespers & Benediction every Sunday at 3:30pm)

Weekdays: Monday 8:00AM; Tuesday 4:00PM; Wednesday – Friday 8:00AM; Saturday 9:00am

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.

Sunday's Reading, Second Sunday of Advent December 10, 2023

“Today’s readings proclaim the great promise of Advent: Lord will come. The message is double-edged. It offers both threat & comfort. The second Letter of Peter foresees a terrible holocaust. When the Lord comes, the earth will be swallowed up in fire. Deutero-Isaiah envisions a glorious return from exile. When the Lord comes, the earth will be renewed. John the Baptist holds the key to the paradox. When the Lord comes, he will pour out upon the earth the baptism of the Holy Spirit. In the purifying fire of conversion the world as we have known it in its sin passes away: from the ashes of its evil emerge the new heavens and the new earth, the promised kingdom of God. We are right to anticipate its coming with joy and yet with dread. We are the world to be transformed in the fire of the Spirit. Yes the Lord whom we anticipate has already come among us. The power of the Spirit has been unleashed upon the world. The waters of baptism are being poured out. The work of transformation is at hand. It commits us both to exile & to promise. We must continually leave behind the former earth, the former society, the former self marked by sin, dear though they may be in their familiarity. We must continually look forward to the kingdom “where the justice of God will reside.” as it comes into being to fulfill our every hope.

It is uncomfortable to be an Advent people, caught between world that is dying & a world being born. Yet we may not stand the idle between history & promise. We have work to do. There are valleys of want to be filled in, mountains of injustice to be brought low. We have a highway to build for our God through the wilderness of our hearts & our societies. To us it is given to make ready the new heavens & the new earth so that the message of the Lord’s coming may indeed be good news to all the world.



**“Advent Penance Service here at St. Peter & Paul:
Tuesday, Dec 12th at 7pm”**

“Let every heart prepare Him room.”

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Dec 10</i>	<i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>9:00 am 11:00 am 4:00 pm</i>	<i>Parishioners</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Dec 11</i>	<i>Advent Ferial</i>	<i>8:00am</i>	<i>John Berham+</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Dec 12</i>	<i>Feast: Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>	<i>4pm</i>	<i>B. Caviezel</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Dec 13</i>	<i>St. Lucy +304</i>	<i>8:00 am</i>	<i>Margaret Mackay-Dunn+</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Dec 14</i>	<i>St John of the Cross +1591</i>	<i>8:00 am</i>	<i>Ella Q Romano+</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>Dec 15</i>	<i>Advent Ferial</i>	<i>8:00 am</i>	<i>The unborn in MacKay-Dunn family</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Dec 16</i>	<i>Advent Ferial Third Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>9:00 am 5:00pm</i>	<i>Charles H Dunn+ Parishioners</i>



HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

Along with the 52 Sundays of the Year, in Canada, we have 2 other Holy Days of Obligation: Christmas and New Year (Mother of God).

Consequently this year, there are 4 days of Obligation within a span of 9 days: 4th Sunday of Advent, Christmas, Holy Family Sunday and Mother of God (New Year).

Here at Sts. Peter & Paul are these Masses:

Sat/Sun Dec 23/24 (4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT)
Dec 23rd—5pm
Dec 24th—9am and 11am

Sun/Mon Dec 24/25 (CHRISTMAS)
Dec 24th—4pm and 6pm
Dec 25th—9am and 11am

Sat/Sun Dec 30/31 (HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY)
Dec 30—5pm
Dec 31—9am and 11am

Sun/Mon Dec 31/Jan 1st (MOTHER OF GOD NEW YEAR)
Dec 31—4pm
{Holy Hour 11pm-12midnight}
Jan 1st—9am and 11am

This 17th-century Carmelite's trick can help you think of Jesus

By Tom Hoopes

The spirit of Advent can permeate even our busy holiday preparations. Let these sights and sounds become "triggers" to remember the presence of God.

How do you keep the spirit of Advent when the whole world is prematurely celebrating Christmas?

The 17th-century Carmelite [Brother Lawrence](#) might be able to help. His practice of the continual presence of God was a [prayer method](#), but he also had a trick for remembering Jesus out in the world. When he saw thorns, he would think of the crown of thorns. When he saw a bare winter tree, he remembered that his life, too, was passing.

December is a great time to start this practice in our own life, because there is so much material to use to remember Jesus. It also serves as a handy way to turn the trappings of the "Secular Christmas Season" into Advent helps.

When you see (or hear) Christmas bells, pray, "Thank you, Jesus, for dispelling evil with joy."

From the time of Moses, [bells](#) have been used liturgically to indicate the joy of God's presence. Since the Middle Ages, priests have blessed bells to exorcise evil spirits. Christmas bells remind us of how God defeats evil: With joy.

When you see snowmen (or nutcrackers or gingerbread men or even Rudolph) pray, "Thank you, Jesus, for giving us immortal souls."

The fanciful stories of various non-human creatures coming to life have a serious lesson: To be human is to be different in kind from the rest of creation. God becoming man in the baby Jesus is the ultimate expression of this lesson.

When you see Santas, pray, "Thank you, Lord Jesus, for your love, alive in your saints." St. John Paul II said that, as a child, St. Nicholas traditions taught him about God. "Like every other child, I looked forward to the gifts he would bring me," he said, "but this expectation had a religious dimension ... toward this saint who unselfishly lavished gifts on the people."

When you see a candle, pray, "Thank you, Jesus, for conquering the darkness."

Candles are symbols of Jesus, the [light of the world](#) who dispels the darkness: The wax is his humanity, the flame his divinity.

When you see Christmas lights (or Christmas angels), pray, "Thank you, Jesus for your hosRed and green have meant various things throughout history, but we have always equated red with Christ's blood and green (especially evergreens) with life. It's a special time, when the whole world admits (whether they realize it or not) that Jesus Christ is worth celebrating with everything we have.



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. **Our Project Advance funds also goes to this.**

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

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

An update on our New Parish Centre Project to be built on the west side of the Church: (1450 W 38th and 1449 W 39th and the lane in between these): Virtually, the city has given necessary approval to move ahead. Our challenge now is to finance this. The total construction cost is estimated at 14.5 Million. We have an offer to purchase Cartier Hall for 8.5 Million. This means that we still need to raise 6.5 Million to pay for this project. Our present parish cash flow only covers operating expenses. Extra donations are required; including by contributions to the Parish Building Fund & Project Advance. An overview of the entire New Centre Building (one long one going from 38th to 39th): the 38th side (2 stories) would be the Great Parish Hall (named after Sts. Peter & Paul) with a connecting kitchen (named after St. Andrew the hospitality apostle). Nearby (on the Church side) would be the Conference Hall (named after St. James the Great) towards 39th would be the Adoration Chapel (named after St. John the Beloved). West of these (towards the neighbour: 1459 W 39th) would be the Office Wing (named after St. Matthew the tax collector). Upstairs on the 39th side would be more meeting rooms (named after all the other Apostles). Below all this would be underground parking and elevators throughout. These 12 rooms would be dedicated by the donor as they so pleased. If you might be interested in doing this, please let me know. I can't help but to remember that this Centre was Fr. John Horgan's dream; thus the Chapel of Adoration will be named after his patron. In the meantime, also, our Project Advance campaign for 2023 continues to assist this project, pledge forms for this are next to the bulletin. Our gratitude for your kind consideration in these matters that can bring about the needed growth to our parish life.

Blessings to you and yours!
Fr. Ron Thompson, Pastor

THE 2024 ENVELOPE BOXES ARE

Available for pick up. If you would like envelope, sign the blue binder next to the font and they will be put out next week



For quiet contemplation time



Church is open for pray-
ers
Wednesdays—Fridays
12 noon—3:00pm

Parish Christmas Décor Volunteer Schedule



Tuesday Dec 19th Light Sorting
Wednesday, Dec 20th—Trees up
Thursday, Dec 21st—Christmas Crib

Friday, Dec 22nd—Flowers

Please sign up at the vestibule podium



Vancouver West Deanery Advent Penitential Services 2023

"Let every heart prepare Him room"

St. Mark's Parish

Sunday, Dec 10th at 2:30pm

Saints Peter & Paul Parish

Tuesday, Dec 12th at 7:00pm

Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, Dec 13th at 7:00pm

Saint Augustine's Parish

Wednesday, Dec 13th at 7:00pm

Saint John the Apostle Parish

Wednesday, Dec 13th at 7:00pm

Holy Name of Jesus Parish

Thursday, Dec 14th at 7:00pm

Immaculate Conception Parish

Thursday, Dec 14th at 7:00pm

Saint Anthony of Padua Parish

Sunday, Dec 17th at 6:30pm



Sunday Offering:

Our gratitude for parishioners' contributions for the upkeep & advancement of the parish.

Some give online (by Debit or Credit) regularly: see blue/white folder next to the bulletin.

Otherwise, the collection is taken up at each Mass. From this we received:

Sat/Sun Nov 25-26 from envelopes:

Sat. 5pm: \$565 from 24 = \$23.54 average

Sun. 9am: \$1132 from 32 = \$35.38

11am: \$565 from 24 = \$23.54

4pm: \$250 from 13 = \$36.15

- Grand total: \$ from envelopes and loose \$259.00
= \$2771.00

Sat/Sun Dec 2/3 from envelopes:

Sat. 5pm: \$550 from 25 = \$22.00 average

Sun. 9am: \$826 from 33 = \$25.03

11am: \$1470 from 28 = \$52.50

4pm: \$470 from 13 = \$20.83

- Grand total: \$3316 from envelopes and loose 290.00
= \$3606.00

If you would like envelopes, please sign the blue binder by the font and they will be put out next week.

NEW TO THE PARISH?

If you are new to the Parish, please fill out a Registration Form available in the vestibule 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 an 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.



READERS FOR MASS

We are looking for more readers for our Masses. If you can help, simply phone the parish office. Thank-you for your assistance.

Solemn Sung Vespers & Benediction every Sunday at 3:30pm

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.

THE ORDER OF MALTA REQUEST FOR CLOTHING & NON-PERISHABLE FOOD



The Order of Malta is organizing Blue Drop Boxes in the back of the parish vestibule for the "Door is Open" Catholic charity.

If you have surplus of blankets, sleeping bags, sheets & towels, as Christmas nights & seasonal cold evenings close in helping our fellow Vancouverites stay warm & feel appreciated.

Dec 9-10

To find out more about help our community: how your donations

<https://www.thedoorisopen.ca/>

Please ensure that any donations and ONLY on the days provided moved.

are placed in the Blue Box Provided above, otherwise they will be re-



"... When the shepherds came they had a place to park their sheep."