



**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*

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 17, 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, Third Sunday of Advent December 17, 2023

“We can understand why a commission of inquiry was sent to the Baptist. Some Jerusalem theologians expected a Messiah who would confer a baptism through which the Spirit would be poured out. Here is John, north of the Dead Sea, near the spot where Israel once crossed the Jordan to enter the Promised Land. He is conferring a water baptism, which signifies an acceptance of the call to repentance. Who then is this man who has the crowds running to him and who makes the great cry of the prophets ring out once more after three centuries of silence? John's reply to the commission is surprising in its humility. No, he is not the Messiah. He is not Elijah returned (Mal 3:23-24) nor the great prophet that is awaited (Deut 19:18). This wholly negative statement of his identity must have left the inquirers unsatisfied. It is preserved in the New Testament because some of his followers preached a baptism which competed with that of the primitive Church. He declared himself to be only the precursor, a simple witness, a lamp lit by God for his Christ, the voice of the Word.

We must also recognize our role as “Christ-bearers”, called to refer by our lives to Jesus. This humble and self effacing role is in no way a negligible one. It is no small thing to ask us to prepare other's road to the Lord.



Parish Christmas Décor Volunteer Schedule

9-11 am 11-1pm

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

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Dec 17</i>	<i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>9:00 am 11:00 am 4:00 pm</i>	<i>Parishioners</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Dec 18</i>	<i>O Sacred Lord</i>	<i>8:00 am</i>	<i>Andre Lalonde+</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Dec 19</i>	<i>O Root of Jesse</i>	<i>4pm</i>	<i>Fr. John Horgan+</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Dec 20</i>	<i>O Key of David</i>	<i>8:00 am</i>	<i>Margaret M. Dunn+</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Dec 21</i>	<i>O Radiant Dawn</i>	<i>8:00 am</i>	<i>Kay Gray+</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>Dec 22</i>	<i>O King of All Nations</i>	<i>8:00 am</i>	<i>Rina Vallani+</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Dec 23</i>	<i>O Emmanuel Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>9:00 am 5:00pm</i>	<i>Flo Mikkelsen+ Luigi Chies +</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

Praying The “O” Antiphons

From December 17 to 23, the Church observes the ancient custom of praying each day one of the seven “O” Antiphons, so called because each one addresses the God who comes in Christ with a different biblical title, beginning with the innovation “O.” In Latin, the first letters of the titles, read in reverse order, form the acrostic “Ero cras” which translates as “I will be with you tomorrow.” These texts traced back seven-century Europe, are drenched in biblical allusions offering a rich source for personal prayer and reflection during these final days of preparation of Christmas.

Dec 17: O Sapientia (Wisdom)

Dec 18: O Adonai (Lord)

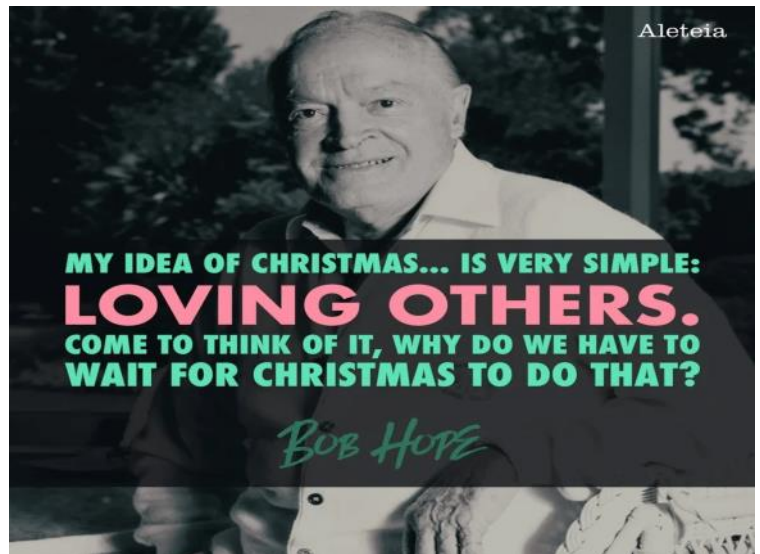
Dec 19: O Radix Jesse (Root of Jesse)

Dec 20: O Clavis Davidica (Key of David)

Dec 21: O Oriens (Dayspring)

Dec 22: O Rex Gentium (King of Nations)

Dec - 23: O Emmanuel (God –With Us)



Pulpit: For our Centenary, by a donor, the Parish has obtained a Pulpit of the Era of our Church’s High Altar.

Solemn Sung Vespers & Benediction
Sunday at 3:30pm
Dec 17: Jan 14: Jan 21: Jan 28...

12 SAINTS' QUOTES ABOUT THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

While the saints offer unique insights into Christmas, they also touch on similar themes: hope, joy, and the unconditional love of God for each and every person. In celebration of Baby Jesus' birth, here are 12 saints' quotes on which to reflect:

1. St. Thérèse of Lisieux: "A God who became so small could only be mercy and love."
2. St. Paul VI: "We consider Christmas as the encounter, the great encounter, the historical encounter, the decisive encounter, between God and mankind. He who has faith knows this truly; let him rejoice."
3. St. Alphonsus Liguori: "Arise, all ye nobles and peasants; Mary invites all, rich and poor, just and sinners, to enter the cave of Bethlehem, to adore and to kiss the feet of her new-born Son...Let us enter; let us not be afraid."
4. St. Augustine: "Awake, mankind! For your sake God has become man...I tell you again: for your sake, God became man."
5. St. John Paul II: "If we celebrate with such solemnity the birth of Jesus, it is to bear witness that every human being [is] somebody unique and unrepeatable...somebody thought of and chosen from eternity, some[one] called and identified by his own name. It is as it was with the first man, Adam. It is as it was with the new Adam, born of the Virgin Mary in the cave at Bethlehem: 'You shall call his name Jesus.'"
6. St. John Chrysostom: "This day He Who Is, is born; and He Who Is becomes what He was not."
7. Venerable Fulton Sheen: "The world might have expected the Son of God to be born—if He was to be born at all—in an inn. A stable would be the last place in the world where one would have looked for Him. Divinity is always where one least expects to find it."
8. St. Peter Chrysologus: "That the Creator is in his creature and God is in the flesh brings dignity to man without dishonour to him who made him. Why then, man, are you so worthless in your own eyes and yet so precious to God?"

9. St. Anthony of Padua: "O Father, in your Truth (that is to say, in your Son, humbled, needy and homeless) you have humbled me. He was humbled in the womb of the Virgin, needy in the manger of the sheep, and homeless on the wood of the Cross. Nothing so humbles the proud sinner as the humility of Jesus Christ's humanity."

10. St. Teresa of Calcutta: "My prayer for you is that when Christ comes to you in Christmas, He may find in you a warm home, warm love like that of a heartfelt love, like that of a simple shepherd who was the first one chosen to see Christ."

11. St. Leo the Great: "Sadness should have no place on the birthday of life. The fear of death has been swallowed up; life brings us joy with the promise of eternal happiness. No one is shut out from this joy; all share the same reason for rejoicing. Our Lord, victor over sin and death, finding no man free from sin, came to free us all."

12. St. John the Apostle: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the

2024 Sunday Offering Made Easy by Direct Deposit or Credit Card



Thank you for your interest in Sts. Peter & Paul Parish's Sunday Offering Plan. This plan allows you to give your Sunday Offering on a monthly basis by direct deposit or credit card.

It is the most convenient way to make your Sunday Offering. Your commitment to give this way also ensures that your Sunday Offering reach us even if you are away or not able to come to our Parish in person. Instead of giving weekly, your Sunday Offerings would be simplified to one monthly donation. For more information, take this brochure .



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



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 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 \$259..00
= \$3575.00

Sat/Sun Dec 9/10 from envelopes:

Sat. 5pm: \$465 from 16 = \$29.06 average

Sun. 9am: \$1931 from 50 = \$38.62

11am: \$660 from 24 = \$27.50

4pm: \$255 from 10 = \$25.50

Grand total: \$3311 from envelopes and loose \$372.00
=\$3683.00

Parish Office hours:

The Parish Office is closed from Friday, Dec 22 at 12 noon until Monday, Jan. 1st inclusive. As well the Church is closed (no 12-3 Adoration) these days..

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.



"Putting Baby Jesus in swaddling clothes was the first Christmas present wrapping."