

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 4TH, 2011



In the gospel we are admonished to prepare the “way of the Lord.” What is this “way of the Lord? It is a life of “holiness and godliness” (second reading), a life of “repentance” and “forgiveness” (gospel), and a life of hearing the “good tidings” of God’s salvation and announcing this “good news” (first reading) to the world. This is the way John the Baptist lived; this is the way of life into which Christ baptizes us with the Holy Spirit. Left to our own human limits, we cannot prepare for or bring ourselves to this kind of living. It is God who shepherds us, feeds us, gathers us, is faithful to divine promises, and baptizes us with the Holy Spirit. The work of salvation is God’s. Our preparation is openness to divine initiative.

The “way of the Lord” announced by Isaiah and John will only be fully realized when Christ’s second coming ushers in a “new heaven and a new earth” (second reading). What we do now—how we prepare for the coming of the Lord and live every day—is hastening what is to come.

The role of John the Baptist is transferred to us. The most poignant announcement of and preparation for Christ’s coming is living our lives in such a way that we “be found by him at peace” (second reading). The fullness of this “way of the Lord” will only come when this world will “pass away” (second reading). Nevertheless, through the Holy Spirit, we now share in the good of life God wishes for us. We live the “way of Lord” by eagerly welcoming God’s abiding presence, living God’s good gifts, and attesting to peace and righteousness. Our everyday living does make a difference—*through* us Christ comes!

## PROJECT ADVANCE APPEAL—HOME RUN

With less than one month to go for this final home run. You can make your gift by dropping it off in the collection basket or the rectory office, or by going to their website.

Thank YOU for your gifts.

**2012 ST. JOSEPH’S MISSAL** The price is \$3 a copy for the new missal. You can also buy it at the parish office during the week. Each registered household should have at least ONE copy for their perusal.

**2012 CALENDARS** from *Kearney* are available at the entrance of the Church. Please only take **ONE per FAMILY**.

**KUDOS** Thanks to everyone who shared their time and cooking giftedness with us at our potluck dinner. It was a very relaxing and joyful evening.

## RELIGIOUS CRAFTS FROM THE HOLY LAND

Please welcome our Christian confreres from the Holy Land who are here to sell the olive wood crafts as a means to support the Christian minority families in Bethlehem and Jerusalem. This is our little way of assisting the livelihood of the remaining Christians rooted in the Land of Christ. You can buy the crafts for gifts or collection.

**YOUTH MINISTRY COLLECTION** The second collection this weekend is to assist the work of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry in providing parish youth ministry formation through training and support. Please the youth of our parish and archdiocese thru our generosity.

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE** Our parish will have our Advent penitential service on **Tuesday, December 13th, at 7:00 pm**. Several priests will be here to hear confessions. Please mark this date in your calendar. Other parishes also have confessions, their dates and times are listed on the bulletin board. Mark you calendar!



## ✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Dec. 5</b>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the special intentions of Anne Chong-Hill & Family.
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Dec. 6</b>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the repose of the soul of Maria Planta
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Dec.7</b>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the special intentions of Christine & Antony Heung.
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Dec. 8</b>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the special intention of Marina Lo.
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Dec. 9</b>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the repose of the soul of Alice Leung.
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Dec. 10</b>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the repose of the soul of Ligorio Cruz.  <u>5:00 p.m.</u> For the repose of the soul of Thelma Loquia Calimpong.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Dec. 11</b>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the special intention of All Holy Name Parishioners. <u>11:00 a.m.</u> For the repose of the soul of Teresa Rego.

## APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER FOR THE HOLY FATHER’S INTENTIONS IN DECEMBER

**General:** That nations of the earth, through knowledge and mutual respect, may grow in harmony and peace.

**Mission:** That children and young people may be messengers of the Gospel and that their dignity may always be respected and preserved from all violence and exploitation.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## HNJ CWL CRAFT FAIR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2011 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Last chance for shopping at our Craft Fair. Come and shop from a variety of gift baskets, handmade crafts, fashion scarves and toques, children's knitwear, quilts and quilrows and much more. Come to our Tea Garden and enjoy some homemade goodies with tea. The Gifts of the Heart Foundation Choir will entertain you with Christmas carols. Come and buy some baked goods. SEE YOU THERE!

**Raffle Draw: December 11th, at 12:30 PM**—1st Prize Queen-size handmade Quilt  
Donations of baked goods gratefully accepted. Drop off on Saturday, December 10th, after the 9:00 am Mass till noon, or drop off at the rectory office during office hours, Monday to Friday.

### CHRISTMAS CHEER AT THE BURNABY YOUTH CUSTODY CENTERS

On Tuesday, December 13th, from 5:30 to 8:30 pm, Evelyn Florendo will put on a Christmas party for the residents at the Detention Centre. After 28 years of doing this, she and her team have decided to form a foundation to celebrate the Christmas spirit in prison. A small donation is welcome, but she is still accepting small gifts to give to the inmates. Drop off your donations at the rectory office and presents in the box at the vestibule of the Church.

**BULLETIN AD** We have some advertising spaces that will be available in the back of our weekly bulletin. The cost is \$200 for the whole year, which begins in February and goes to the end of January, 2013. Please reserve your space ASAP and send us a business card size of your advertisement. Thank you.

### STEWARDSHIP: A Disciple's Response

Today's second reading is about Christ's coming again, "The day of the Lord," Peter calls it, but that day isn't December 25th. It's that other day, that second-coming-day about which Peter is concerned. He waits with great hope and anticipation for God to remake the earth into a place of perfect justice and peace. And he sets some demanding goals for the Christian community as it awaits that final day of accounting and reconciliation: strive to be at peace, without spot or blemish. Christian stewards work for peace. As we await the coming of Christmas, what can we do to promote peace in our homes, workplaces, community, world?



### LIGHT OF THE WORLD MOSIAC

Sarah Hall, who designed and made the stained glass windows for our church's three side entrances, has been commissioned to create a mosaic based on John's gospel—the "Foot of the Cross." You can examine her prayerful and beautiful design in the vestibule. If you wish to sponsor/donate a leaf-plaque on the *Jesse Tree of Life*, please contact the parish office for more details. You are encouraged to keep this spiritual enterprise in your prayers.

### Scripture Readings



#### 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps. 85; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

Dec. 5, Mon., Isaiah 35:1-10; Ps. 85; Luke 5:17-26

Dec. 6, Tues., Isaiah 40:1-11, Ps. 96; Matt. 18:12-14

Dec. 7, Wed., **St. Ambrose, bishop, doctor**  
Isaiah 40:25-31; Ps. 103; Matt. 11:28-30

Dec. 8, Thurs., **Immaculate Conception of the BVM**  
Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ps. 98; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38

Dec. 9, Fri., Isaiah 48:17-19; Ps. 1; Matt 11:16-19

Dec. 10, Sat., Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps. 80; Matt. 17:10-13



### 2011 PROJECT ADVANCE: Touching Many Lives!

Total pledges/gifts: \$104,652.25

# of donors: 229 (42%)

out of 540 Registered Households

Archdiocese Assessment: \$35,900 plus \$3000 expenses

**THANK YOU!!!** Those who are still thinking of making your pledge, please put it in the Sunday collections; or mail it to the Parish Office. Your PARTICIPATION is just as important as your gift.

**Deadline: December 31st for this year's tax-receipt.**

**FILMS AT 4** - Sunday, December 4 at 4 p.m. at St. Mark's College, 5935 Iona Dr., Van., Fr. Elton Fernandes will lead a discussion on the Oscar winning film 'The Visitor'. Cost: \$10 for the movie, discussion and snacks. Mass 7 p.m. in the chapel. Email [continuinged@stmarkscollege.ca](mailto:continuinged@stmarkscollege.ca); call 604-822-6862 ext 112 for my details.