

## Christmas Message from Fr. Robert, S.J.



Dear Parishioners and Friends of Holy Name of Jesus:

May the Lord bless us with his love and grace as we celebrate God becoming one of us in our Saviour, Jesus the Christ! *Wishing you and your loved ones a Blessed Christmas and a Joyous Leap Year!*

Remembering you and your intentions in our Christmas and New Year Masses!

Yours sincerely,



Christmas 2011

Peace of Christ. I rejoice with you for the many blessings which the Lord has bestowed on our parish. Fifty years ago this month, 1961, our church was solemnly blessed by Archbishop Duke. We commemorated this special anniversary with a special Mass celebrated by our shepherd, Archbishop Michael Miller, CSB, on May 28<sup>th</sup> with a banquet at St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Centre. It was a celebration of gratitude and thanksgiving to our loving God. We thank God for those whose generosity built this beautiful "house of God", which was ahead of its architectural design. I still receive many praises of how beautiful our church is today. I also thank you for your generous support.

The retrofitting of the overall interior lightings was a major undertaking. I suspect you would agree with me the brightness and warm lighting have made a huge difference. We can see the prints in our Mass and hymn books better. Also, using energy efficient light bulbs allow us to do our share for a more ecological friendly environment. This is our stewardship commitment for a better world.

Our adult faith formation introduced *The Great Adventure: A Journey through the Bible* and *Matthew: The King and His Kingdom*. These two series of bible study programs were well received and attended. It is another sign of our thirst for the Word of God and its impact in our personal and spiritual life. Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way to the success of this learning process. On another level, our PREP program this year is showing great signs of growth. We are expecting seven candidates for confirmation and three for first holy communions next May. Thanks to our teachers and parents for your commitment to passing on our faith to future generations of God's people.

Looking ahead, I am excited to share with you the beautiful mosaic which has been commissioned to Sarah Hall, the artist. She also created the beautiful stained glass windows on all the three side entrances of our church. The mosaic is entitled, *Jesus the Light of the World: Mary and John at the foot of the Cross*. The unique and beautiful cross in the sanctuary will be taken down. After installing the circular mosaic (14 feet diameter), the cross will be remounted in the center of the mosaic. All the manufacturing work and arranging of the multiple pieces of coloured glass will be done at the Glasmalerei Peters Studios, Paderborn, Germany. In fact the owner and his assistant were here last Sunday afternoon. They will come back in mid April, 2012 to do the installation work. I have made a poster of the final design. You can check it out in the vestibule. I will keep you updated on the progress of this exciting and beautiful spiritual endeavour.

Let us continue to pray for our parish and our archdiocese and thank the Lord for His many graces. In the words of Jesus, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have revealed these things to (us); yes, Father for such was your gracious will" (Matthew 11: 25-26).

Sincerely in the name of Jesus, a friend and companion

*Fr. Robert Wong, s.j.*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## New Year's Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 31st, 9:00 AM

**JANUARY 1st, 2012**

**the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God.**

Saturday, Dec. 31st., 5:00 PM

Sunday, Jan. 1st, 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Tuesday, Jan. 3rd, 9:00 AM

Holy Name of Jesus—Our Parish Feast

**THANK YOU!** Fr. Robert, Msgr. Jensen and the parish staff would like to thank you for your cards, gifts and prayers during this festive season of joy. May our Lord bless you always. A special **thank you** to everyone who shared their time and talents at all the Christmas liturgies.

**2011 DONATIONS** To Holy Name of Jesus Parish must be received by the parish by December 31, 2011, in order for the donor to receive a tax receipt for 2011. This is a requirement by the Canada Revenue Agency.

**MADONNA HOUSE** Welcomes the Three Kings as they arrive on the Feast of Epiphany, Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. Join us at St. John the Apostle Parish Hall, 5457 Trafalgar St., Vancouver and help us to celebrate this most wonderful of feasts between 2:30pm and 4:30pm. Call Madonna House at 604-267-1757 or e-mail [madonna02@shaw.ca](mailto:madonna02@shaw.ca) for more information.



†	MASS INTENTIONS	†
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Dec. 26</b>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the special intention of Sr. Marion MacDonald, SCIC.
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Dec. 27</b>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the special intention of Gloria McDonagh.
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Dec. 28</b>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the special intention of Tamara Leung.
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Dec. 29</b>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For All Souls in Purgatory.
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Dec. 30</b>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the special intention of Sr. Therese Kergoat, SCIC.
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Dec. 31</b>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For Thanksgiving.
		<u>5:00 p.m.</u> For the repose of the soul of Maurice Woods.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Jan. 1</b>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the repose of the soul of Ong Bun Tau . <u>11:00 a.m.</u> For the special intentions of All Holy Name Parishioners

## Scripture Readings

**Christmas**

**Vigil Mass** Isaiah 62:1-5; Ps. 89; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Matt. 1:1-25

**Midnight Mass** Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7; Ps. 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-16++

**Mass During the Day** Isaiah 52:7-10; Ps. 98; Hebrews.1:1-6; John 1:1-18 or John 1:1-5, 9-14

Dec. 26, Mon., **St. Stephen, the First Martyr**  
Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Ps. 31; Matthew 10:17-22

Dec. 27, Tues., **St. John, apostle & evangelist**  
1 John 1:1-4; Ps. 97; John 20:2-8

Dec. 28, Wed., **Holy Innocents, martyrs**  
1 John 1:5—2:2; Ps. 124; Matthew 2:13-18

Dec. 29, Thurs., 1 John 2:3-11; Ps. 96; Luke 2:22-35

Dec. 30, Fri., **Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**  
Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps. 128; Col. 3:12-21; Luke 2:22-40

Dec. 31, Sat. 1 John 2:18-21; Ps. 96; John 1:1-18



## PROJECT ADVANCE 2011 REPORT

Archdiocesan Goal.....\$35,900  
Expenditures.....\$ 3,000

*As of December 23rd, we received  
251 pledges from 540 registered households  
Total Amount of Pledges \$ 109,332*

*December 31st is the deadline for 2011 tax-receipts.  
Thank YOU very much!!!*

## STEWARDSHIP: A Disciple's Response



In today's Christmas Mass at dawn we hear from the Gospel reading that God has entered quietly into the world. Not into the great city of Jerusalem, but into a small village, Bethlehem. Not into a noble family, but to an outcast couple keeping the newborn in a manger. Not announced by royal rulers, but to common shepherds, the first human heralds of Christ's birth. As Christian stewards we simply allow Christ to live in us no matter what our circumstances happen to be. We allow Christ to share his love with us and reflect that love out to others. We now are the heralds of Christ's Incarnation. What an unimaginable gift from a generous Lord. Good stewards rejoice in this gift and give glory to God.

## DEVOUTLY RELIGIOUS AND CRITICALLY SCIENTIFIC - Can You Be Both?

A presentation by St. Mark's Continuing Education - Is it possible to be devoutly religious and critically scientific? Fr. John McCarthy, S.J. will claim that you can. However, the popular voice still speaks of the conflict between science and religion, as if two solitudes exist that will never meet. Join us at St. Joseph the Worker Parish on January 7, 14 and 21 - 10 a.m. to noon. Cost \$50 includes all materials. To register, email [continuinged@stmarkscollege.ca](mailto:continuinged@stmarkscollege.ca) or call [604-822-6862](tel:604-822-6862)