

# Saint Anthony of Padua Parish

With the Eucharist at the centre, we are a community desiring to be saints, sent out to love like Jesus and proclaim Him in every circumstance.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 16, 2018

## What we should do at Christmas Mass

Today, the Lord is offering us clarity about who you and I are called to be. We start with the crowds in today's Gospel. "The crowds, who were gathering to be baptized by John..." (Lk 3:10). This group is made up of all sorts of people who were motivated enough to leave their daily work, lose time, and maybe even suffer loss—they're hungry. Why? Because they "were filled with expectation, all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah" (Lk 3:15). They're wondering, "Is this the anointed one, who will save us?" And so they go out on a few days' journey and wait in line to be baptized.

St. John the Baptist preached about repentance, which, in the Bible, means to change our mindset and actions. And so they want clarity, asking, "What should we do?" (Lk 3:10). The tax collectors also ask, "Teacher, what should we do?" (Lk 3:12), and so do the soldiers, "And we, what should we do?" (Lk 3:14). What does changing our mindset mean for us?

And St. John personalizes the answer for each group: The crowds are to practice generosity ("Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise" (Jn 3:11)); the tax collectors are supposed to be honest and avoid greed ("Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you" (Jn 3:13)); and the soldiers, who would get paid very little, were supposed to be content with what they had and stop abusing their authority ("Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your

wages" (Jn 3:14)).

One of my greatest joys when I went to the seminary was being told how to become holy. I was always wondering, "How do you become a saint?" And P. Peter said, "St. Thomas Aquinas says love means to will the good of the other—that's the definition (Cf. CCC 1766). If you want to become a saint, focus on the good of other people," not on ourselves and what feels good, but on what is good. So, when we look at someone, we think, "What would be good for him or her?" More importantly, what would be the highest or eternal good for them? How can I love them like Jesus does? How can I bring them closer to Jesus?

As we continue our Advent preparation for inviting our loved ones home or inviting them for the first time, getting ready to meet Jesus, we pray, "Lord, what should we do?"

First, we need to change our mindset. Inviting people in a loving way is part of who we are. Remember, St. Paul VI said, "Evangelizing is... the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelize, that is to say... to preach and teach, to be the channel of the gift of grace, to reconcile sinners with God, and to perpetuate Christ's sacrifice in the Mass" (Evangelii Nuntiandi, 14).

Second, we're a confident group here, who doesn't mind saying, "Merry Christmas." Could I ask how many people have extended an invitation to someone to come to Christmas Mass?

Third, when our loved ones come, let's be clear about doing the following, much of which we've already talked about:

*...continued on inside page*

## Christmas 2018 Parish Schedule

### **Penitential Service**

Sunday, December 23, 7:00 pm

### **Christmas Eve**

Mass: Monday, December 24, 5:00 pm

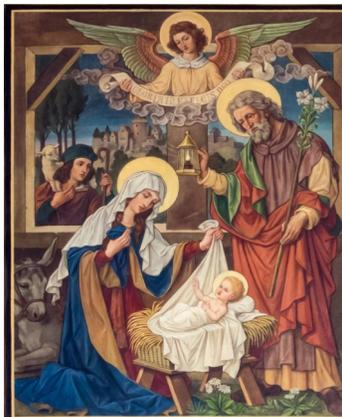
Carols in the Church: 11:15 pm

Midnight Mass: 12:00 am

### **Christmas Day**

Masses: Tuesday, December 25

8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm



### **New Year's Eve**

Mass: Monday, December 31, 5:00 pm

Holy Hour & Gaudeamus: 11:00 pm

### **New Year's Day**

Tuesday, January 1, 2019

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Masses: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm

**Pastor:** Fr. Justin Huang *Blog: thejustmeasure.ca*  
**Deacon:** Andrew Kung *deaconandrewrcav@gmail.com*  
**Priest in Residence:** Fr. Pierre Leblond *plb.op272@gmail.com*

Address: 8891 Montcalm St., Vancouver BC V6P 4R4  
 Mailing Address: 1345 West 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Van., BC V6P 3E9  
 Tel 604.266.6131  
 Hours Tuesday—Friday  
 9:00 am—12:00 noon  
 1:00 pm—3:00 pm  
 In case of emergencies,  
 please call the office anytime.  
 Web: *stanthonnyvan.com*  
 Email: *office@stanthonnysvancouver.org*

**Parish Registration**

Our parish family warmly welcomes new parishioners. Please register by filling out a registration form located in the vestibule or the Parish Office. If you are registered and moving, please advise the parish office.

**Sunday Masses**

Saturday 5:00 pm  
 Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm

**Weekday Masses**

Monday 8:15 am  
 Tuesday 7:30 pm  
 Wednesday-Friday 8:15 am  
 Saturday 9:00 am

**Confession**

Weekday 8:00 to 8:10 am *except Tuesday*  
 Saturday 9:45 am & 3:45 pm to 4:45 pm  
 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday each month 9:45 am to 1:00 pm;  
 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm;  
 7:00 pm to 9:45 pm

**Eucharistic Adoration** at 1365 West 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
 Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 am to 10:00 pm in the chapel

First Friday of each month: 8:45 am to 10:00 am in the church followed by **Benediction**.  
 First Saturday of each month: 9:30 am to 9:30 pm in the church during all-day confessions.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)**

Please call the parish office for more information on RCIA classes and other Sacraments.

**St. Anthony of Padua School**

Kindergarten to Grade 7  
 1370 West 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue,  
 Vancouver, BC V6P 3E9  
 Principal: Michael Perry  
 Telephone: 604.261.4043  
 Website: *stanthonnyofpaduaschool.ca*  
 School Email: *office@stanthonnyofpaduaschool.ca*

**Weekday Masses & Intentions**

Day	Feast or Memorial	Missal Page	Intention
Monday, December 17	Ferial	54	Saclayan Family
Tuesday, December 18	Ferial	57	Mary Messere
Wednesday, December 19	Ferial	60	Jack Bolton
Thursday, December 20	Ferial	62	Kathy Kim Sing & Family
Friday, December 21	Ferial	65	Battista & Eleonora Piazzon †
Saturday, December 22	Ferial	68	Doris Joseph

**Prayers for the Sick** At Holy Mass we remember the sick including: Nita Carvajal, Nung Chum, Isobel Clancy, Nick De Vos, Elaine dos Remedios, Teresa Gaio, Feli Hempl, Cecile Hernandez, Yvonne Kharoubeh, Molly Loui-Ying, Huguette Piché, Barney Rousseau, Therese Rozario, Christina Sayo, Filomena Sison, Liliana Taylor, Fernando Tiago, Theresa Yoshioka.

**Upcoming Homily Themes**

December 24 & 25  
*The Gift of God's Plan for Us*

December 29 & 30  
*3 Ways to Increase our Faith*

January 5 & 6  
*God Takes Away Nothing, But Gives Everything*

January 19 & 20  
*God Wants to Hear Our Problems*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## School Announcement

All parishioners are welcome to attend the annual school Christmas Concert on Monday, Dec. 17 at the Scottish Cultural Centre. The matinee performance is at 12:00 pm and evening performance is at 7:00 pm.



**Many THANKS** to those who claimed tags from the Giving Tree and brought gifts for homeless men and women!!! The Missionaries of Charity are grateful for the contribution and they will be picking up the gifts from our parish on Monday, December 17 and then distributing the gifts to those in need this Christmas.



Please remember to pick-up your **2019 Collection Envelope Boxes** after Mass this weekend at the back of the church. If you are a registered parishioner and have not been assigned a box, please write your name on the “Envelope Request” form, at the Welcome Booth. Non-parishioners who would like a box of envelopes are asked to please complete a parishioner registration form.



### Volunteer First Aid Attendants needed at Masses

We are developing an Earthquake Preparedness Ministry to assist parishioners and visitors in the event of medical emergencies during Mass and parish events. To ensure full coverage at all Masses and events, we need 32 volunteers. Parishioners with health care or emergency response experience are preferred. However, this is not a requirement as training and re-certification will be offered. Regular attendance at St Anthony’s and a commitment to participate in at least 1 to 2 Masses per month is necessary.

Ministry members are available at the back of the church today, to answer questions and provide application forms. To express an interest in serving in this ministry, or if you have any questions, please call the Parish Office, 604.266.6131.

*...continued from the cover*

1. Could we, for Christmas Mass, park further away from the church? Other invitational churches do this. They park away so that guests can get the closer spots. I’ll do this with my car. It’s a small action but this is willing the good of our loved ones.
2. When we come to Mass, let’s pray right away, giving our burdens and pains to God, uniting ourselves to His heart, and praying to see the face of Jesus in everyone we meet. We’re all burdened sometimes, so we’re going to ask Jesus for help to choose the good.
3. When we’re outside, let’s greet people, ask their names, and wish them, “Merry Christmas,” but not now at church while it’s still Advent! Inside, let’s smile and acknowledge people. We always try to maintain silence in church because we’re in God’s house, but we can also show a heart that cares for people by smiling and quietly whispering.
4. Let’s move to the centre of the pew so that people don’t have to jump over us—this is a welcoming gesture that says, “Come sit with us.”
5. Let’s shake hands during the Sign of Peace. But don’t pressure people who aren’t yet ready because of health reasons.
6. After Mass, if God allows us to meet someone, let’s say something like, “Merry Christmas! It’s great to have you here. You’re always welcome!” or, “Hope to see you again,” or, “It was nice to meet you. I’ll pray for you this week” and then do it! And if God gives us the opportunity, we can invite them to the pancake breakfast on Jan. 6 or to the Faith Studies on Jan. 29.

I want to thank you so much for trying to grow in holiness and mission! You’re all doing amazingly well! God is doing great things and we have the greatest gift to share: Jesus.

*- excerpt from Fr. Justin’s homily, December 16, 2018*

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 We would like to invite the ladies of the parish to become members of the CWL. Meetings are normally held the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month at 10:00A.M. For more information, please email Ai-Lin aleng@shaw.ca



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