



St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Church

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● PASTOR: REV. JOE NGUYEN

● ASSISTANT PASTOR: REV. FRANCESCO VOLTAGGIO

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Office Volunteers: Nita Alojado

P.E.C. Chairperson: Mart Rapada 778.987.6032

Josephine Alabazo

P.R.E.P. Coordinator: Ana Alayan 604.872.2900

R.C.I.A. Coordinator: Father Francesco

WELCOME

If you are new to our parish, please be sure to register, complete the registration form and get Sunday donation envelope.

Registration forms are available at the Information Centre, or at the Church entrance.

If you are moving from the parish, changing address, or phone#, please notify the Parish Office. Thank you.

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM

Last Saturday of the months of January, March, May, September, and November @ 11am.

PREPARATION

Baptism Class is required for Parents and Godparents, offered on the 2nd Wednesday of the months of January, March, May, September, and November @ 7pm.

Requirements must be all completed before attending the Baptism Class. Contact Parish Office to register.

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday to Friday –
10am to 12pm & 1pm to 4pm

MASS TIMES

Sunday Masses –

Saturday 5pm
Sunday 9am, 11am & 4pm

Weekdays –

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday
8:15 am
Tuesday 6pm
Friday 9am
First Friday 9am & 6pm
Saturday 9am

Mother of Perpetual Help Novena
Every Wednesday after 8:15am Mass

School Mass Wednesday 9:30am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 9:30am – 10:30am
in the church

MARRIAGE

Contact Father Joe through the Parish Office at least six months before making any plans.

FUNERALS,

ANOINTING OF THE SICK, COMMUNION FOR ELDERLY, AND HOUSE/CAR BLESSINGS

Contact Father Joe &
Father Francesco anytime.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Parish Religious Education Program (P.R.E.P.)

Classes on Sundays for Grades 1 to 7 & Post-Con, 10:30am to 12pm, from September 2023 to June 2024.

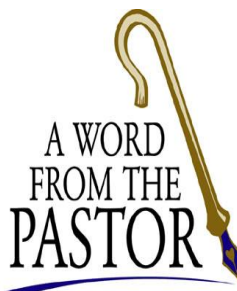
For more information, please contact Ana Alayan @ 604.872.2900.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.)

Non-Catholic adults who desire to join the Catholic Church and also Catholics who wish to deepen their faith.

Every Thursday, 7pm to 8:30pm from September 2023 to June 2024.

For more information, please contact parish office @ 604.327.2824.



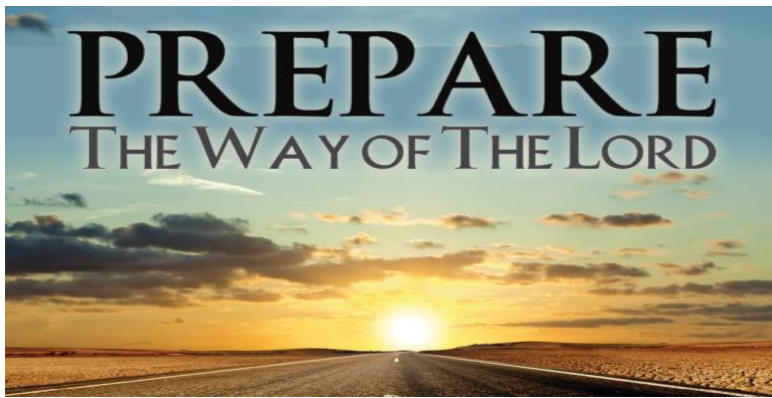
I would like to thank all of you who took part of our Parish Novena and Retreat. Thank you to each and everyone for your continued support and dedication in serving our parish community. Job well done to a successful 110th Feast Day celebration!

As we enter into a new liturgical year, the Church gives us the gift of Advent Season to prepare our hearts and homes to receive Jesus. We have many ways to prepare ourselves and to prepare the way of the Lord. One of the ways is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Confession.

ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14 @ 7PM, OUR PARISH WILL CELEBRATE THE ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE. Several priests from our deanery will come to our parish to hear Confessions. Please make an effort to come with your family and friends. Let us embrace our Advent journey prayerfully, just like our Blessed Mother who awaited and prepared silently for the Birth of her Son.

God bless you always and in all ways,

+ Father Joe



Salvation is God's doing, and we cannot earn His blessings. We are saved by His grace. On the other hand, we must cooperate with God's grace because God cannot force His bounty upon us. That is why John the Baptist in today's Gospel summons us to play our essential part by leading lives of repentance, conversion, and renewal, thus preparing the way for the Lord's second coming. We start this process by spiritually preparing for Christmas, as we reform and renew our lives by repentance and works of charity.

Let us remember that the Holy Mass is the most powerful of prayers because it transforms us into Eucharistic people. The Sacraments, especially Confession make us strong and enable us to receive more grace in the Eucharist. We should also practice forgiving those who offend us. Finally, let us share our love with others as a selfless and humble service.

- Excerpt from Radio Vaticana on Liturgical Reflections

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"Prepare the way of the Lord..." - Mark 1:3

We are all called to live a holy life. We are all called to invite others to live holy lives. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, puts us on the path to holiness and is an example for others to be holy, too. We are responsible not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. How are you helping others get to Heaven?

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**PROJECT ADVANCE APPEAL 2023
"EMPOWERING OUR PARISH VISION"**

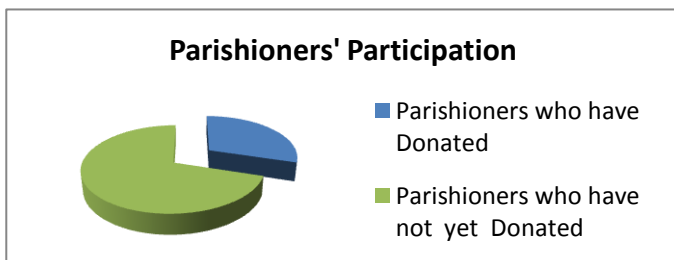
Update as of December 4, 2023

Total Number of Pledges: **276**

Total Amount of Pledges: \$ **82,282.50**

THANK YOU to all parishioners who have generously made a gift to Project Advance. Your participation and contribution will make a difference. Only gifts received before December 31 are eligible for 2023 tax receipt.

Thank you to all our hardworking volunteers.



PARISH ENVELOPES 2024

All Sunday Envelopes are available in the Luminous Hall after all weekend Masses.

THANK YOU for generously supporting our parish community by using Sunday envelopes or by online giving.

Please ensure your addresses and names are correct when picking up your envelopes. Please inform parish office, 604.327.28 for any changes of address, phone #, or name for income tax purposes.

SIMBANG GABI

A Christmas Marian Novena of Masses, 'Simbang Gabi' is a nine-day devotion that honours the Annunciation, the expectation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and culminating in the Birth of Jesus. Centered on the Eucharist, it is a combination of deep prayer, community spirit, reconciliation, hope, love, and the grateful recognition of our redemption.

Our 'Simbang Gabi' at St. Andrew **starts on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, and ends on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23. 'SIMBANG GABI' MASSES @ 6 AM** (except on Sunday, December 17 – Mass @ 9 AM).

Simbang Gabi Sponsors are needed. Sign-up sheet is available at the church entrance.

MASS SCHEDULE FROM DECEMBER 15 - 23

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15	6 AM AND 9 AM
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16	6 AM, 9 AM AND 5 PM
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17	9 AM, 11 AM AND 4 PM
MONDAY, DECEMBER 18	6 AM AND 8:15 AM
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19	6 AM AND 6 PM
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20	6 AM AND 8:15 AM
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21	6 AM AND 8:15 AM
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22	6 AM AND 9 AM
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23	6 AM, 9 AM AND 5 PM

SIMBANG GABI COMMISSIONING MASS

The Novena begins with a Commissioning Mass where representatives from each parish hosting Simbang Gabi are present. You are invited to attend the Commissioning Mass on **Thursday, December 14** at Holy Rosary Cathedral. Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB will bless the Parols (Christmas Lanterns) at 6:30 pm, followed by Mass at 7 pm.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

Please donate a poinsettia to help decorate our church for the Christmas season. You can offer it during Simbang Gabi Masses or drop it off in the church before December 22. Thank you for your donations.

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AS A CATHOLIC

Confession is not a judgment but a meeting with God who forgives all our sins, without exception. It's about going to meet with our Father who reconciles, who forgives us and who rejoices. Please prepare yourself for the coming of our Lord through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

BRING A FRIEND THIS CHRISTMAS

In his apostolic exhortation, Pope Francis asked us to "go forth from our own comfort zone" in order to reach others.

Christmas is a natural opportunity to invite non-practicing Catholics to re-connect with their faith. Why not invite one person to Mass at Christmas?

READINGS & MASS INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 11 – DECEMBER 24, 2023

Mon Dec 11		
8:15 am	Lk 5:17-26	Leobert Olilang (RIP) Francisca Ramos (RIP) Benjamin Ferraris (RIP)
Tue Dec 12	Lk 1:26-38	Our Lady of Guadalupe Leonarda Destura (RIP) Manuel Patron (RIP) Cherry Galorport (Thanksgiving)
Wed Dec 13	Mt 11:28-30	St. Lucy Francisco Lorenzana (RIP) Nilo Galorport (RIP) Enrico & Fidela Durana (RIP)
8:15 am		
9:30 am (school)		
Thurs Dec 14	Mt 11:11-15	St. John of the Cross Rea Abique (RIP) Peter Viloria (RIP) Claudio Bernal (RIP)
8:15 am		
Fri Dec 15	Mt 11:16-19	Simbang Gabi ~ Day 1 Simbang Gabi Sponsors, Romeo Jalimao (RIP) Gaeza & Josephine (RIP) Aurora Jover (RIP)
6 am		
9 am		
Sat Dec 16	Mt 17:9-13	Simbang Gabi ~ Day 2 Simbang Gabi Sponsors, Angeline SY Chuang (RIP) Juanita Navarro (RIP) Rosella Armentia (Thanksgiving) John Lawrence Sullivan (RIP)
6 am		
9 am		
5 pm		
Sun Dec 17	Jn 1:6-8, 19-28	Gaudete Sunday Simbang Gabi Sponsors, Elnora English (Thanks.) Art & Margie Trinidad (Thanksgiving) Armando Gustilo (RIP) Cecilia Soriano Guevarra (RIP) Jose Lajato (RIP) Luzminda Abando (RIP) Guillerma & Teofila Castro (RIP) All Parishioners
9 am		
11 am		
4 pm		
Mon Dec 18	Mt 1:18-25	Simbang Gabi ~ Day 4 Simbang Gabi Sponsors, Brian & Eve Sullivan (RIP) Claudio Bernal (RIP) Angeline Sy Chuang (RIP)
6 am		
8:15 am		
Tue Dec 19	Lk 1:5-25	Simbang Gabi ~ Day 5 Simbang Gabi Sponsors, Angeline Sy Chuang (RIP) Alicia Fuentebella (RIP)
6 am		
6 pm		
Wed Dec 20	Lk 1:26-38	Simbang Gabi ~ Day 6 Simbang Gabi Sponsors, Edgardo Yara (Thanks.) John & Connie Evans (Thanksgiving) Alicia Fuentebella (RIP)
6 am		
8:15 am		
Thurs Dec 21	Lk 1:39-45	Simbang Gabi ~ Day 7 Simbang Gabi Sponsors, Angeline Sy Chuang (RIP) Kali Maclang (Thanksgiving) James Ackah (RIP)
6 am		
8:15 am		
Fri Dec 22	Lk 1:46-56	Simbang Gabi ~ Day 8 Simbang Gabi Sponsors, Angeline Sy Chuang (RIP) Francisco Jupista (RIP) Lilia Formanes (Thanksgiving)
6 am		
9 am		
Sat Dec 23	Lk 1:57-66	Simbang Gabi ~ Day 9 Simbang Gabi Sponsors, Angeline Sy Chuang (RIP) Felizardo Alojado (RIP) Tomas Diaz (RIP) Connie Evans (Thanksgiving) Saturnino & Julia Villero (RIP)
6 am		
9 am		
5 pm		
Sun Dec 24	Lk 1:26-38	Fourth Sunday of Advent Rogelio Gonzaga (RIP) Manuales & Abarquez Families (Thanksgiving) Connie Evans & Family (Thanksgiving) Rillera Family (Thanksgiving) Father Francesco Voltaggio (Thanksgiving) Bobstil Occeno Sr. (RIP) All Parishioners
9 am		
11 am		
4pm		

LET US REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS –



ALL OF THE SICK, ESPECIALLY: Kathie Coll, Merlita Dayrit, Reynaldo & Cynthia Dela Cruz, Lorna Delos Santos, Cindy Ferrer, Elisa Mohammed. Kristina Moser. Linda Navalta, John Smith, Josie Taboada, Katherine Tomei, and John Topp.



ALL OUR DEARLY DEPARTED BROTHERS AND SISTERS. ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD. AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM. MAY THEY REST IN PEACE. AMEN.

EXCERPT FROM ARCHBISHOP MILLER'S ADVENT MESSAGE

A fellow priest with whom I lived and taught for many years always used to remind us at the beginning of Advent that Christmas “comes at the worst time of year.” We have shopping, writing Christmas greetings, putting up decorations, and endless social gatherings. Although it is supposed to be the season of “waiting” and “preparation,” we are mostly spinning our wheels frantically just trying to keep afloat.

We usually slide by the season and make it into a mini-Christmas. Indeed, Christmas carols have already been serenading us for weeks. The time before Christmas that the Church so carefully puts aside as a special liturgical season is absorbed into the feast that follows...

... But how should we celebrate Advent? We do so as a four-week preparation for the coming of the Lord. First, at his Second Coming, which is emphasized in the early weeks. Originally, in fact, Advent was held to be primarily a period of getting ready to greet the Lord when he comes in glory at the end of the ages. Second, of course, and what is more to the forefront, is Advent as a preparation for our celebration of the Lord's Birth at Christmas.

In the fifth century, St. Cyril of Alexandria distinguished the two “comings” of Jesus in this way:

In his first coming he was wrapped in swaddling clothes in the manger. In his second coming he is clothed with light as with a garment. In his first coming he bore the cross, despising its shame; he will come a second time in glory accompanied by the hosts of angels. It is not enough for us, then, to be content with his first coming; we must wait in hope of his Second Coming.

Dear friends: May this Advent draw you ever closer to the Lord Jesus Christ, anticipating with hope his coming at the close of the ages, and celebrating with joy the staggering and wondrous mystery that the Word was made flesh and was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem.

+ J. Michael Miller, CSB
Archbishop of Vancouver



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