



# St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Church

480 East 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V5W 2B4

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● PASTOR: REV. JOE NGUYEN

● ASSISTANT PASTOR: REV. FRANCESCO VOLTAGGIO

**Office Manager:** Alma Abarquez

**School Principal:** Jo-Anna Nicolato 604.325.6317

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.



Today the Church celebrates the Fourth Sunday of Advent. We light the last candle on our Advent wreath and we are so close to Christmas. This final candle, the “Angel’s Candle,” symbolizes peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels: “Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men.”

Jesus’ earthly existence begins with Mary’s “Yes” in today’s account of the Annunciation. We need to say a courageous and generous “Yes” to God as Mary did. True obedience comes from a free choice made in the light of what is true and good. It often requires a

deal of courage, because it can involve going against the tide of social expectations. Jesus’ own moment of greatness, like his Mother’s, came when He said “Yes,” to his Father in Gethsemane, and Jesus’ own obedience is our model. Will we surrender to God and allow God to do what, from our human point of view, seems impossible?

It is by saying, with Jesus and Mary, a wholehearted and totally unconditional “Yes,” to God that Jesus will be re-born in each of us – or maybe even born in us for the first time. By my saying “yes,” Jesus may well be born or reborn in others too.

- Excerpt from Radio Vaticana on Liturgical Reflections



In the final hustle and bustle before Christmas, let us take some time to reflect on God's merciful love for us.

In our Lord Jesus Christ, we are given a home – a place where we experience forgiveness, mercy, peace, joy, and love. This is what we celebrate at Christmas -

welcoming Father, giving us a place in His heart through Jesus, His Son.

During this holy season of giving, let us also be mindful of those who are in need. The best gifts we can give to others at Christmas are not expensive presents. The best gift we can share is the love, joy, and peace of the Lord. We do so by our prayers for others, kind words and gestures, forgiveness, and joyful witness. Let us bring Christ to others this Christmas. May this final week of Advent be a prayerful time of joyful preparation for the coming of Jesus amidst the pandemic.

Our parish is extremely blessed with many dedicated parishioners who generously and willingly give their time, talents, and treasures for the good of our parish community. I would like to take this opportunity to **THANK** all of you, especially all the Volunteers in our parish. You are greatly appreciated!

With deep joy and gratitude, I, together with Father Francesco, the Parish Pastoral Council, the Parish and School Staff, extend to you and your families our prayerful best wishes for a Holy and Blessed Christmas.

God bless you always and in all ways,

+ **Father Joe**



*May you have the gift of Faith, the blessing of Hope and the peace of His Love. Merry Christmas!*

### 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.

### 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 reconnect with their faith. Why not invite one person to Mass at Christmas?

### 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.

You can still donate by placing your donation in the collection basket on weekend Masses – please marked ‘Project Advance’.

You can also support Project Advance by using the convenient online giving process at [www.rcav.org](http://www.rcav.org). Simply click “**Donation Options**” and go to Project Advance. Only gifts received **before** December 31 are eligible for a 2023 tax receipt.

Giving to Project Advance helps secure the future of our parish and the charitable works of the Archdiocese. Thank you for your support. Thank you to all our hardworking volunteers.

### Parishioners' Participation



■ Parishioners who have Donated

■ Parishioners who have not yet Donated

### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

There's no season quite so full of wild abundance as the Christmas season. It's a joyful, exuberant time, full of music, family, parties, good food, and friends. Often the poor among us become invisible, and poverty becomes a scourge of civil society – a culture relentlessly focused on consuming more of everything; a culture built on satisfying oneself; and a culture that runs on ignoring the needs of other people.

Christian stewards know that the true joy of Christmas is not tied in to the wealth of goods under the tree, but to the abundance of love and generosity that fill our hearts and spill out to others, especially those most in need of our generous spirit.

Let us make room for the child born into poverty who came to give us life and share it with all those whom we encounter.

READINGS & MASS INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 25 – JANUARY 07, 2024

<b>Mon Dec 25</b>		
9 am	<i>Jn 1:1-18</i>	All Parishioners
11am		All Parishioners
4pm		All Parishioners
<b>Tue Dec 26</b>	<i>Mt 10:17-22</i>	<b>St. Stephen, the first martyr</b>
6 pm		Francis Lo (RIP) Lucila Diaz (Thanksgiving) Milagros De Jesus (Thanksgiving)
<b>Wed Dec 27</b>	<i>Jn 20:1-8</i>	<b>St. John, the Apostle</b>
8:15 am		Betty Kan (RIP) James Ackah (RIP) Maria & John Lo (RIP)
<b>Thurs Dec 28</b>	<i>Mt 2:13-18</i>	<b>The Holy Innocents</b>
8:15 am		Elias Planas Jr. (Thanksgiving) Marcelino & Purificacion Emnacen (RIP) Mansueto Abique (RIP)
<b>Fri Dec 29</b>	<i>Lk 2:22-35</i>	
9 am		Evangeline Torillo (Thanksgiving) Myrna Foloso (RIP) Edna Bernejo (Thanksgiving)
<b>Sat Dec 30</b>	<i>Lk 2:36-40</i>	
9 am		Antonio Jorge (RIP) Alicia Fernandez (RIP) Simon Nguyen (RIP)
5 pm		Aldo & Liliana Petrella (RIP) Ana Di Benedetto (RIP) Lucas Santos (Thanksgiving)
<b>Sun Dec 31</b>	<i>Lk 2:22-40</i>	<b>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</b>
9 am		All Parishioners
11 am		All Parishioners
4 pm		All Parishioners
<b>Mon Jan 01</b>	<i>Lk 2:16-21</i>	<b>Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God</b>
9 am		All Parishioners
11 am		All Parishioners
4 pm		All Parishioners
<b>Tue Jan 02</b>	<i>Jn 1:19-28</i>	<b>Saints Basil the Great and Gregory</b>
6 pm		Jesus Felipe Fernandez (RIP) Koa Maclang (Thanksgiving)
<b>Wed Jan 03</b>	<i>Jn 1:29-34</i>	<b>The Most Holy Name of Jesus</b>
8:15 am		Lino & Elisea Javier (RIP) Kristina Moser (Thanksgiving)
<b>Thurs Jan 04</b>	<i>Jn 1:35-42</i>	
8:15 am		Violet Tham (RIP) Angeline Sy Chuang (RIP)
<b>Fri Jan 05</b>	<i>Jn 1:43-51</i>	
9 am		Magno Cueto (RIP) Angeline Sy Chuang (RIP) Anne Beaudet (RIP)
6 pm		
<b>Sat Jan 06</b>	<i>Lk 3:33-38</i>	<b>St. Andre Bessette</b>
9 am		Juan San Jose (RIP) Angeline Sy Chuang (RIP) Fe Magbanua (RIP) Angeline Sy Chuang (RIP)
5 pm		
<b>Sun Jan 07</b>	<i>Mt 2:1-12</i>	<b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b>
9 am		Anthony Michael Nicholas (RIP) Manuales & Abarquez Families (Thanksgiving)
11 am		Guillerma & Teofila Castro (RIP) Purificacion Rillera Family (RIP) Dana De Jesus (Thanksgiving)
4pm		Arnold Oclida (RIP) All Parishioners

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, ESPECIALLY:** Melissa Cenal. ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD. AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM. MAY THEY REST IN PEACE. AMEN.

Upcoming Events

in our Archdiocese

**FIAT SNOWSHOE**

Come spend quality time with the Religious Sisters of the Archdiocese and have fun outdoors on Saturday, January 6! We will meet at St. Anthony's Parish in West Vancouver and start with Mass at 9 a.m., then drive to Cypress for the snowshoe up Black Mountain. The trail is a 5.3-km snowshoe loop with a beautiful view at the top. All women aged 18-35 are welcome! There is no cost. Please pack a bagged lunch and bring your snowshoes. If you need help getting snowshoes or a ride, please contact Sister Mary Martha at [smmhetzler@rcav.org](mailto:smmhetzler@rcav.org). Learn more and register at [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events). Registration deadline: Wednesday, January 3

**MAKING SENSE OF COUNTERWILL**

The instinct to resist being controlled or coerced is one of the most perplexing and troublesome dynamics in dealing with children and youth. This material is applicable for all those dealing with toddlers through adolescents: teachers, parents and helping professionals. Discussions will be facilitated by Kevin Bredeman, M.A. On Tuesdays, from January 23 to February 20, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., via Zoom. Cost is \$25. These workshops are not being recorded. Learn more and register at [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events).

**WEEKEND GETAWAY MARRIAGE CONFERENCE**

We are excited to partner with Family Life Canada to offer weekend getaways to married couples in the Archdiocese of Vancouver! Wherever you're at in your relationship, this retreat is a weekend to remember. The atmosphere is relaxed, warm and fun! You'll hear from real couples doing real life together... God's way. The registration deadline is Wednesday, February 14, 2024. For more information call Joyce 604-683-0281 ext. 223 or visit [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events).



The parish office is closed from Dec 23 - Jan 1. Regular business hours will resume on Jan 2, 2024.





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