

Mass Intentions from Dec 18-23, 2021

Sat. Dec 18/4:30 p.m. Blessings for Dr. Vicente & Alicia Coffey -Julian, Lisa & Kennedy

Sun. Dec 19/11:00 a.m. Nick Baird -Teresa Baird
Fr. Joseph A. Sullivan - Yvonne Gouveia
Giovanni Bellini - Anna Bellini
Eileen Shanahan - Shanahan & Scott family
Mary, Paul & Madeleine Chung-Pin-Yong - Chung-Pin-Yong family

Wed. Dec 22/10:00 a.m. Carlo Palucci - Elisabetta Palucci

Thu. Dec 23/10:00 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Baird, Shanahan, Scott, Ryan, Malone, Faherty, McGarry & Kostner Family - Teresa Baird

Happy 4th week of Advent!



YEAR C

First Reading (Micah 5.2-5a)

From you, O Bethlehem, will come the ruler of Israel.

Second Reading (Hebrews 10.5-10)

I come to do your will.

Gospel (Luke 3:10-18) In the face of the coming judgment, John the Baptist explains how his questioners must behave.

REFLECTION:

The readings chosen for today help us to focus on the imminent celebration of the birth of Jesus (Christmas). The readings emphasize the human origins of Son of God. They also speak about the response that should be ours from celebrating the birth of Jesus. Our focus should not be on singing Christmas songs, bright lights, nor on putting presents under the tree. Our focus must be on the One Who was born to bring us salvation by His life, ministry, death, and resurrection and on the means by which He did that – total obedience to the will of His **Abba**, and complete service to others. It is easy to get caught up in the excitement of Christmas holiday season, yet we must realize that the human Baby born of Mary in the stable in Bethlehem came in obedience and service as the divine Savior.

It is important that we celebrate His earthly coming, but we need to keep it in perspective with His suffering and death, and the gift of **salus** (wholeness, healing, salvation) we receive from Him. As we focus on the Lord Jesus' presence with us, we realize that we are called to bring forth the Lord Jesus to others in our acts of service. Our caring and compassionate deeds must make people aware that they are blessed by God. We can proclaim the Incarnation of Jesus by imitating our Master-Teacher and His obedience to His **Abba** and His service of others. If we do so, others will experience the salvation of Jesus and be able to echo the words of today's psalm:

"God, give us new life and we will call upon Your name."

May you continue to reflect on the meaning of the Lord Jesus' coming to earth and being born as a human, and may that reflection lead you to a greater sense of your calling to serve others, in imitation of Jesus and His mother.



Helping of the needy people at our parish

Thanks for your generosity in contributing for the Christmas basket.

This year, we are able to help twelve families with a total of thirty one children.

We are also helping the children of sixteen newly arrived families to do their school homework in French. Senior students from the Loyola High School are helping out through online tutoring project.

We also thank you for your generous gifts for needy children placed under the warmth and gift tree.

As you prepare to celebrate the birth of Our Lord Jesus (Christmas), know in your heart your gift put a smile on a child's face. That unseen gratification is priceless.

God bless all of you!



**The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week
For the People.**

SUNDAY ENVELOPE BOXES for 2021 will be available for pickup as of December 24th at the back of the church arranged in alphabetical order for your convenience.

Please note contributions \$20 and below for 2020 will not be assigned an envelope box for 2021.

If your box is not available, please continue using a blank envelope with your contribution and 2020 number and leave your name, phone number and box number on the sheet provided on the table. The parish office will call you when one is assigned to you.

Should you take the wrong box by mistake, please don't forget to return it. **If you have moved please fill out one of your envelope with the new address for tax purposes.**

The parish office will be closed from Friday December 24, 2021 until Tuesday January 4, 2022.

You may view St. Richards weekly bulletin on our website and also use the Donate button for E-transfer for contributions. Go to www.strichards.ca We thank you for your ongoing generosity!

Thank you

Our Faith First Christmas Pageant & Raffle was a huge success.

A very special thank you to our Faith First Teachers who prepared the children for the Christmas Pageant to make this yearend event a wonderful & enjoyable celebration of Christmas.

A very special thank you to the people who made generous financial donations towards the raffle. Also special thanks to the people who sold and bought tickets.

As 2020 comes to an end, Fr. George Joseph wishes to extend his sincere appreciation and thanks to all members of St. Richards parish for the warm welcome and help received upon arrival and continuing to receive.

We pray 2022 to be a healthy & prosperous year for all!

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve December 24 ~ Mass 4:30 p.m. (St. Pat's Square)
Christmas Eve December 24 ~ Mass 8:00 p.m. (St. Richard's)
Carols begin at 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve December 24 ~ Mass 10:30 p.m. (St. Joseph Parish)

Christmas Day December 25 ~ Mass 9:00 a.m. (St. Joseph Parish)

Christmas Day December 25 ~ Mass 11:00 a.m. (St. Richard's)

New Year's Day January 1, 2022

Mass 11:00 a.m. (St. Richard's)

Mass 4:30 p.m. (St. Pat's Sq)

Regular weekday morning mass at 10 a.m.

There will be no weekday morning mass on December 24th.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Friday Evening from 5 to 6 p.m.

(Silent meditation followed by the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy)

