



Dear Parishioners and friends,

Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year, Alleluia!

All in one with deep gratitude to Emmanuel, God IS with us!

On December 18, a week before Christmas Day, I received the confirmation from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada that the Khumpi's family has been approved for resettlement in Canada. It is the best Christmas gift one can only imagine for the family after so long living in limbo and stuck in Nepal as refugees.

Our parish community continues to grow through our spirit of generosity. You have enhanced our worship space with the art glass windows of the mysteries of the holy rosary. We received the icon of St Francis Xavier just before his feast day. The remaining seven icons will be installed in the new year. Hopefully the Saints intercede for us whenever we gather around the table of the Lord.

Our religious formation programs attract many participants both teachers and students. It's a good indication of a vibrant faith community. Our weekday masses gather a good congregation throughout the year. The corporate Sunday Masses generate a spirit of active involvement, making our faith in action a priority. There are still room for growth particularly in the music ministry. We have parishioners who have talents with musical instruments and we welcome you to share your gifts with us.

Looking ahead to 2019, I hope our generous spirit will spread far and wide. We always welcome potential parishioners who move into our area and have not registered with us. Registering in the parish offers you a sense of belonging and responding to your requests for sacramental ministry without ambiguity. You can explore the different parish ministries and find one that would interest you to get involved in our parish life. Visitors are always welcome here.

In mid January I am traveling to Guatemala and El Salvador with the Maryknoll fathers and brothers to the Shrine of St. Oscar Romero and the site of the Jesuit Martyrs. It will be my retreat and pilgrimage to Central America, where I hope to learn about our "faith in the service of justice". Your prayers will be much appreciated.

May the Lord bless you and let His face shine on you and your loved ones always.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Robert Wong, SJ

NATIVITY SET FROM BETHLEHEM – Our olive wood nativity is originally made in the birthplace of Jesus, by a co-operative community of Christians whose livelihood depends on incomes from their crafts. We are happy to support them. They also thank us for our solidarity in their struggle to remain in the land of Palestine.

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KUDOS – A Special thanks to everyone who, in anyway, has helped with preparing our parish for the Advent and Christmas celebration. May Christ our Saviour bless you and all whom you love with His grace and joy!

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Holiday Office Hours – Our parish office will be closed until January 2, 2019. If you have an urgent request, please email Fr. Robert at rwong@rcav.org or leave a phone message ext. 102.

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Mass for Life – Archbishop Miller will preside the Mass for the Holy Innocents on Dec. 28, at 12:10, Holy Rosary Cathedral. Rosary Prayers at 11:30am. All are welcome.

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KUDOS – Project Advance 2018. Thank you for your generous response to the mail out pledged cards of this year's appeal. Every bit helps with the rebates in the installation of the public address system in the hall and the repairs of the church roof. Our parish total goal is \$75,000. *December 31st is the last donation date for the 2018 charity tax receipt.* May the Lord bless you.

You may also make your pledge online at www.projectadvance.ca

December 25, 2018

Nativity of the Lord

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The wait is over. The promise is fulfilled. Light has entered the world. *For a child is born to us, a son is given us.* We rejoice in the birth of our Saviour. With this celebration of the Incarnation of our God in the person of Jesus, the Messiah has come to save us and lead us to the Father. We rejoice in our redemption.

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Today's Readings:

1st: Isaiah 52.7-10

Psalm: 98

2nd: Hebrews 1.1-6

Gospel: John 1.1-18

Stewardship Reflection

Christmas

Rejoice! The Word became flesh and dwells among us! Oh, come, let us adore him!



Mass Intentions

Dec 23 - 29, 2018

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| Mon, Dec 24— | Richard Tan (RIP) |
| Wed, Dec 26— | 9am, Maria Cortencia Dias (RIP) |
| Thu, Dec 27— | Savio D'Silva (TG) |
| Fri, Dec 28— | Rufino Garcia (TG) |
| Sat, Dec 29— | 9:30am, Cezar Dalde & Family (INT) |
| | 5pm, Cyril Saturnino Dias (RIP) |