

LIST OF PARISH MINISTRIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND MEETING SCHEDULES

ALTAR SERVERS: Jun Lastica

BEREAVEMENT & LOSS: Fe Arias

CWL (CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE): Ameer Inocencio meets every 2nd Saturday of the month, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

CENACLE PRAYER GROUP: Elizabeth Tanase meets every Thursday, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

CHOIR: Vic Festejo at 5:00 pm; Chris Mok at 9:00 am; Michael Goco at 11:00 am

COUPLES FOR CHRIST: Erick & Rhona Cadlaon meets every 3rd Saturday, 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE: Evelyn Victoria

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST: Teresa Santos

INTERFAITH ALLIANCE: Edward Wong

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Addie Comilang [Executive Meetings: 3rd Saturday of the month, 10:00 am]
[General Meetings: 4th Saturday of the month, 10:00 am]

LECTORS: Marlytel Decena

LEGION OF MARY: Elizabeth Taboada meets every Tuesday, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

LEGION OF MARY JUNIOR: Fe Arias meets every Sunday, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

OUTREACH MINISTRY: Deacon Wilbur Victoria

P.R.E.P. (PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM): Teresa Santos classes every Tuesday, 6:30 pm – 7:45 pm

PROJECT ADVANCE: Ed & Baby San Jose

RELIGIOUS GOODS: Linda Zamora

R.C.I.A. (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS): Sam & Chic Mallare meets every Thursday, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

SACRISTANS & USHERS: Marlytel Decena

YOUTH FOR CHRIST: Javier San Pedro & Naomi Mallare meets every 1st & 3rd Saturday, 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

KIDS FOR CHRIST: 1st Saturday, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT BECOMING CATHOLIC

RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS)

Are you, or do you have friends who are interested in learning more about the Catholic Church? Whether you or your friends were baptized in another Christian denomination or have never been baptized and are exploring Christianity for the first time, we will be happy to answer your questions and explore the possibilities. We also have a program for Catholics who are returning to the practice of their faith.

FIND OUT MORE, WITH NO OBLIGATIONS, BY CONTACTING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS:

SAM/CHIC MALLARE [spsmallare@gmail.com]

WILBUR/EVELYN VICTORIA [wevnet1@gmail.com]

TEL DECENA [tel.decena@hotmail.com]

TERESA SANTOS [artesanatos@hotmail.com]

YOU CAN ALSO REACH OUT TO

ST. MONICA PARISH At [parish.smon@rcav.org].

"God entered human time in the most unthinkable way: by making himself a child and going through the stages of human life, so that our whole existence, spirit, soul and body – might be kept blameless and be raised to God's heights. And he did all this out of his faithful love for humanity."

POPE BENEDICT XVI

THECATHOLICBIBLEPAGE.COM



St. Monica Parish

21011 Woodhead Road, Richmond, BC V6V 1G2

WEBSITE: stmonicaparish.ca

TEL. 604.278.0844

EMAIL: parish.smon@rcav.org

FAX. 604.279.0334

Dear friends and parishioners,

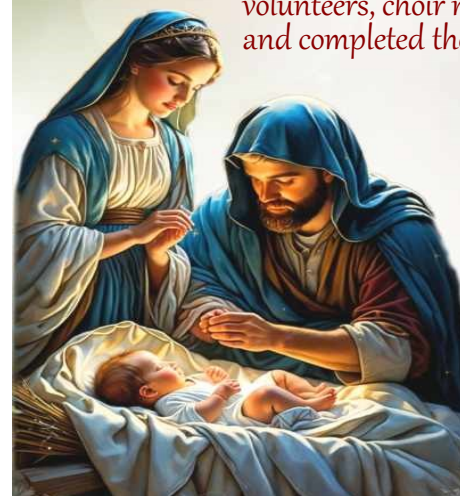
Wishing you a Christmas illuminated by the radiant glow of God's boundless love! As we joyfully commemorate the miraculous birth of Jesus, let us immerse ourselves in the timeless wisdom of the Gospel of John. In this sacred text, Jesus is unveiled as "the Word," embodying God's profound communication a testament to an intimate bond with the Divine and a profound connection with humanity.

This Christmas, let's become ambassadors of this divine message, sharing the extraordinary story of Jesus with others. In describing Him, let's emphasize His divine love, boundless compassion, and the transformative pathway to a life that is rich in meaning and fulfillment. As we open our hearts to the Word, may it fill us with an abundance of joy and a sense of completeness that transcends the ordinary.

Thank you to those who sent gifts and cards, and to all the mass sponsors, volunteers, choir members, food and parol sponsors, and those who attended and completed the 9-day Aguinaldo Masses.

Merry Christmas to you and your loved ones!

In the spirit of Christ's love,
Fr. Mark Bautista



MERRY CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR SCHEDULE OF MASSES 2023-2024

DECEMBER 24, SUNDAY

6:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass
9:00 PM Singing of Christmas Carols
10 PM Misa de Gallo

DECEMBER 25, MONDAY

9:00 AM Christmas Day Mass
11:00 AM Christmas Day Mass

DECEMBER 26, TUESDAY

9:00 AM Mass

DECEMBER 27, WEDNESDAY

9:00 AM Mass
9:30 AM Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

DECEMBER 28, THURSDAY

9:00 AM Mass

DECEMBER 29, FRIDAY

9:00 AM Mass
9:30 AM Holy Hour

DECEMBER 30, SATURDAY

9:00 AM Mass
9:45 – 10:30 AM Confession
5:00 PM Mass

DECEMBER 31, SUNDAY

9:00 AM Mass
11:00 AM Mass
5:00 PM New Year's Eve Mass

JANUARY 1, MONDAY

11:00 AM New Year's Day Mass



The **CHRISTMAS SEASON** is a reminder to Christians that despite hardships, God chose to join himself to humanity and still remains by its side.

THE INCARNATION, is a stupendous gift, and it brings with it another: that we may also love one another as brothers and sisters.

CHRISTMAS is a reminder that God loves us and wants to be with us.

ONLY BY LOVING GOD AND LOVING ONE ANOTHER can the world rediscover the light and the peace that it needs and which was proclaimed by the angels who announced Jesus' birth.

REMEMBER THE ELDERLY THIS CHRISTMAS...

Pope Francis reminds us that our obligation to visit the elderly is more significant than ever as the number of elderly people grows. This Christmas consider visiting the seniors in our community who may be feeling lonely or isolated during this season. "Social isolation and loneliness are as bad for your health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day," Jacques Lee, a Toronto-based emergency physician, told Global News. To learn more about ways you can support the elderly in our community, please visit chabc.rcav.org/seniorsatchristmas.

STAY UPDATED on upcoming events in the Archdiocese of Vancouver! Visit rcav.org and beholdvancouver.org/events. Check our parish bulletin and other events at St. Monica (stmonicaparish.ca). Join us for exciting events and activities. Thank you!

ARCHBISHOP MILLER'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE
You are welcome to read Archbishop Miller's Christmas message, which can be found at rcav.org/announcements.

PARISH GOAL: \$75,000.00

Donations: \$ 53,620 (72%)

Participation: 97 out of 374 families (26%)



2 SAMUEL 7.1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16 * PSALM 89 * ROMANS 16.25-27 * LUKE 1.26-38

Reflection...

"As any harried parent or excited child can tell you, there is just one day left until the celebration of Christmas begins. As Christian stewards let's live this last day of Advent well.



Our First Reading, from 2 Samuel, features King David, who has resolved to do God a favor by building Him a house in which to dwell. But God reminds David Who is truly in charge. "It was I who took you from the pasture and from the care of the flock to be commander of my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you went and I have destroyed your enemies before you."

What is true of David's position before God is true for all of us. Our God is mighty, all-powerful and Love itself. The only proper response is to worship Him and live our lives as a grateful gift for all His goodness to us.

How can we possibly live up to this task? Only by relying on God, as St. Paul tells us in the Second Reading, from his letter to the Romans. Paul instructs us to go to "him who can strengthen you... Jesus Christ."

The truth is, once we recognize that all we have is gift from God, the next step is to acknowledge that we need God's strength and wisdom to guide us in the best use of those gifts for the building of His Kingdom. Hopefully, we are making time during Advent to go to God in prayer and through the sacraments to obtain the strength we need to live as His disciples and the guidance to know we are indeed following His will with the gifts He has entrusted to us.

In fact, our aim should be to make the words of our Blessed Mother our own. We read in today's Gospel passage from Luke the wonderful words of her "fiat," her "yes" to God's plan. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." These are among the most beloved words in the Gospel. But the next sentence is also important for the Christian steward.

After Mary's fiat, we read, "Then the angel departed from her." Our Blessed Mother was left with a lot of unexplained details about God's plan for her! Yet, she followed God's will perfectly. She gave herself and her life fully to God as a gift. She trusted in her Heavenly Father to guide her at each step, and He did. She was the first disciple. We are called to follow her example as disciples today.

This Christmas, let us resolve to make our whole life a gift to the One Who has given us everything. It is the work of a lifetime. But He will give us all the help and strength we need to do it. Source: www.CatholicSteward.com

PROJECT ADVANCE 2023 Empowering our Parish Vision

Donate online at projectadvance.ca

Archdiocese of Vancouver

