

The Paring Bukidnon, a group of priests from the Diocese of Malaybalay, Bukidnon, will hold an Evangelization Concert on October 4, 2024 (Friday) at 7 PM here in our parish hall. Tickets will be available next week.

Do You Welcome Visitors to Your Parish?

As new energy and activity begin to pick up at the parish in September let us be on the lookout for newcomers to the parish. Welcoming newcomers to your parish is not just the job of the pastoral staff, ushers, ministers of hospitality or greeters. It is everyone's responsibility. Here are ten things you can do to provide better hospitality toward those who are new to the parish.

1. **Cultivate the virtue of hospitality at Mass.** Many Mass attendees tend to gather into little cliques and ignore those who are not members of their particular clique. They are not really inhospitable, just heedless to the needs of good hospitality. Make hospitality a new habit when you go to Mass.
2. **Come early, leave late.** Instead of rushing to Mass to be there on time, and then rushing out at its conclusion, make time to come a little early and linger just a bit later. Make room in your busy life to greet and spend time with others at Mass.
3. **“The Mass has ended,” now go and greet someone!** Seek out someone you've not met before. Introduce yourself, and take a few moments to welcome them to your parish home, God's home.
4. **Welcome everyone.** Not only do visitors need your warm welcome, regular Mass attendees also need a friendly greeting. Develop a good habit of greeting everyone with some enthusiasm. You are Christ's ambassador and greeting others in his name.
5. **Help newcomers connect.** While you are getting to know visitors, introduce them to other parishioners as the opportunity presents itself. Feel free to invite newcomers to sit next to you.
6. **Say goodbye with genuine warmth.** After Mass, bid farewell to visitors, inviting them to return next week. Introduce them to the pastor if the opportunity arises.
7. **Avoid Parish business.** Avoid conducting parish business with others immediately before or after Mass. Focus on newcomers and visitors.
8. **Give visitors information about the parish.** Ensure that a visitor has a bulletin and other information about the parish before they leave. If there is a social gathering after Mass, invite them to join you.
9. **Be part of a greeting ministry or hospitality team.** Parishes are always in need of greeters to serve regularly, and provide ongoing formation to new greeters. Help out, be a greeter. If your parish doesn't have greeters, now is a good time to start!
10. **Greet those who already minister in the area of hospitality.** It isn't necessary to neglect the people who are already ministers of hospitality in order to make newcomers feel at home. A simple wave and a smile go a long way.



ST. MONICA PARISH
Archdiocesan Shrine of St Pedro Calungsod
 12011 Woodhead Road, Richmond, BC V6V 1G2
 Tel. 604.278.0844 Fax. 604.279.0334
 Website: stmonicaparish.ca
 Email: parish.smon@rcav.org

PASTOR: Rev. Mark Bautista
DEACON: Wilbur Victoria

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
 Monday – Friday
9:30 am – 1 pm / 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

MASS SCHEDULES
 WEEKDAYS: **9:00 am**
 SATURDAYS: **9:00 am & 5:00 pm**
 SUNDAYS: **9:00 am, 11:00 am**
& 4:00 pm (YVR)

CONFESSION SCHEDULES
 SATURDAYS: **9:45 am–10:30 am**
 20 minutes before Daily Mass

BAPTISM every Saturday @ 11am
WEDDING – Please call the Parish Office
 at least 6 months in advance.

FUNERAL, HOUSE BLESSING,
SICK CALL
 Please call the Parish Office.

WEDNESDAY:
Perpetual Help Novena
after 9am Mass
 FRIDAY:
Holy Hour after 9am Mass
 1st SATURDAY:
Rosary for Vocation after 9am Mass

PARISH VISION STATEMENT:

St. Monica Parish – a community of faith committed to the call of Christ to holiness.

MISSION STATEMENT:

We, the parishioners of St. Monica, sharing our spiritual and cultural values commit to:

- ◆ Inspire people to love the Eucharist.
- ◆ Promote devotion to Our Lady of Consolation, St. Monica and St. Pedro Calungsod.
- ◆ Evangelize people through a life of love and service.
- ◆ Renew, strengthen and uphold the sanctity of life, marriage and family.
- ◆ Support and enhance the life of the youth and elderly.
- ◆ Pursue Catholic Social Teaching.
- ◆ Encourage ecumenical and interfaith dialogue.
- ◆ Foster camaraderie in the community through fellowship.



Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Weekend of September 7/8, 2024

St. James teaches that those who are perceived to be poor in the eyes of society are the ones who have been chosen to inherit the Kingdom of God. Indeed, we are saved because of our poverty and redeemed out of our need, not because of our material wealth or achievements that the world finds praiseworthy. St. James also suggests that we

are stewards of others, especially the poor and it is how we respond to the poor and needy that will define our relationship with the Lord. Can you identify the poverty, whether spiritual or material, that is in your own life? How can that “poverty” be redeemed? As stewards of others, how do we respond to the poverty that exists right in our own parish?

Second Collection: Healing & Reconciliation (Sept. 7/8)

This weekend's second collection will help support our Indigenous brothers and sisters. Your donation will fund projects that are determined locally in collaboration with First Nations, focusing on:

- Healing and reconciliation for communities and families
- Culture and language revitalization
- Education and community building
- Dialogue for promoting indigenous culture

Make a tax-deductible donation in person at the parish or online at rcav.org/healing-and-reconciliation.

PARISH VOLUNTEERS APPRECIATION DINNER

If you are a volunteer in the parish—e.g., ushers, readers, choir members, catechists, etc. YOU ARE INVITED TO THE DINNER, which will be held on November 30th in the Parish Hall after the 5pm Mass. A \$30 refundable deposit is required payable to St Monica Parish to register. Deposit will be forfeited for non-attendance. Please call the office M-F, 10am-4pm for details. Deadline to register is November 1.

MISA DE GALLO/AGUINALDO MASS SPONSORSHIP

Masses will be 16-24 December 2024. Sign-up sheet & Donation envelopes are in the foyer. Please don't forget to write your Complete Name, Envelope Number, Contact Number & Sponsorship Date.

Project Advance as of 26 August 2024: Building our Parish Community

Your support of Project Advance will help grow our parish and expand the reach of Christ's love to those who need it most. Parish Projects for 2024: (1) Installation of acoustic panels in the church & hall, (2) Installation of laser projectors in the hall, (3) Repair of the church roof, (4) Installation of new CCTV cameras, (5) new screenflex dividers in the hall, (6) new projector, sound system & screen in the upper room, (7) installation of coloured lights in the hall. Tax-deductible donations can be made in person at the parish or online. Learn more and donate at projectadvance.ca.

PARISH GOAL: \$75,000.00 ~ Donations: \$ 34,996.80 (47%) ~ Participation: 101 out of 374 families (27%)

Be a Good Steward of Your Faith this Autumn

There's something wonderfully renewing about autumn, especially as it begins a new school year. It's all about new beginnings. Maybe it has something to do with new classrooms, new teachers, the great smell of brand new shoes and the smooth touch of that new backpack.

We remember those feelings of starting again even if it's been years since we walked through the school house door, and even if we don't have our own children heading off to the classroom this fall. We still get that heady feeling of new possibilities in the crisp autumn air. This is the perfect time to bring a sense of spiritual renewal to your life and to your family – the domestic church.

Autumn can truly bring out a new resolve to improve our lives as summer's freedom gives way to the structure of fall. For adults, faith formation classes and prayer groups are just forming in parishes. Check out the opportunities. With summer ending, many organizations are gearing up for new volunteers. Contact your local Catholic Charities or Habitat for Humanity to see how you might help out.

Think of the autumn season as a way to discover a new rhythm for your prayer life. If new activities can be scheduled into your daily life, start scheduling in more quality time for prayer. Fall is the perfect time to begin a 34-week Ignatian retreat, because if you start in September, the retreat in-real-life schedule will conform to the liturgical year.

For the children in your house, early to bed and early to rise means there may be more opportunities to be together for short prayer. Say a blessing at breakfast, or a brief morning offering as kids head out for the bus. Try to bring a more regular prayer schedule to your home. Pray with your children as you tuck them in, making the prayer personal and about the day's events. Make a resolve this fall to bring Christ more prominently into your family's daily routine. Make the stewardship of your faith and family a commitment as autumn brings a sense of renewal.

MISA DE GALLO FOOD SPONSORS

Sign-up sheet is @ the Foyer. Please include the date & food you wish to bring .