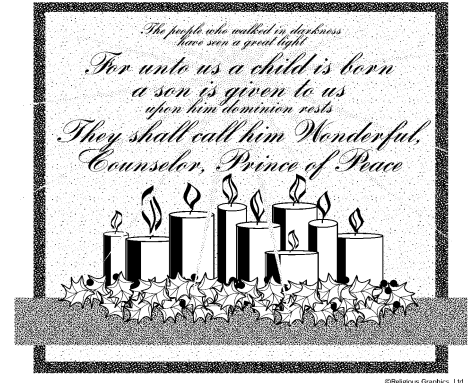




The Nativity of the Lord Christmas

December 25, 2016

Today is born our Savior;
Christ the Lord!



THIS WEEK

- Wednesday - 6:45pm Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Help, 7pm Mass
Friday - 1pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- 6:00pm Confessions
- 6:40pm Benediction
- 7pm Mass.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Lorraine Cameron; Creg Rosales; Gail Krueger; Janet Forsey; Ruel Capili; Loreto Ciaccia; Jerry Schaab; Edward Zdancewicz Jr.; Ryan Lehwald; Helen Kuty; Kellie Marchak; Myrna Cussen; Ian Wilson; Maria Amato; John Pollard; Archie D'Souza; Darlene Erskine; Leo Verstraete; Bearl Hall; Jean Van Loo; Edna Cachero; Tom Luxford; Marie Connor; Dominga Carrion; William Tam; Benedicto Tugade; Henry Morell, Gloria Peralta; Jo-Anne Macleod; Edward Chan; Michael Garding; Almira Steeds & Ernesto Hidalgo.

If you have a relative who is sick in the hospital or at home, please let the rectory know so that we can arrange for a visit.

PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD

Evangeline Baltazar.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI said this about Christmas: "Joy is the true gift of Christmas. We can communicate this joy simply: with a smile, a kind gesture, a little help, forgiveness. And the joy we give will certainly come back to us. . . Let us pray that this presence of the liberating joy of God shines forth in our lives." Let us take that joy and share it with others; let us take that joy and change our lives and the lives of others. When we say "Merry Christmas" let us mean it with every fabric of our being.

BIRTH RIGHT

Birth right is accepting Christmas donations of baby clothing, diapers size 3 or 4, and cash or cheques made out to Birth right. No toys please. Thank-you for your generosity.

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

Once again, we rejoice this year in the opportunity to celebrate the birth of Christ among us. In the midst of all our current challenges and concerns, the love of God the Father is made manifest to us in the wonderful gift of His Son, Jesus. Our Catholic faith beckons us to rejoice, to feel our worth and to fall on our knees.

Christmas has a way of bringing to Church individuals and families, who, for various reasons, have not been to Mass or the Sacraments for months or years. What a wonderful and grace-filled opportunity to put aside past differences and old habits and begin anew that prayerful relationships with the Lord and His Church community.

Christmas is also a time to rejoice and give thanks for the gift and blessings of life. It is a time to be generous toward others who may not be so blessed – so that the life of each one of us might be nurtured and supported – and together turn to the Author of Life and give Him profound thanks.

May our Lord Jesus Christ, born in Bethlehem, bless you, your families and loved ones at this time of hope and grace. May our Blessed Mother watch over you and our beloved Immaculate Conception Parish always.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
BLESSINGS THROUGHOUT 2017.**

Fr. Amador M. Abundo; Fr. Paul Chu & Fr. Camillus Gabriel Temba.

Upcoming: Sun., Jan. 8, 7:00pm: "Epiphany Party!"
Come to our annual Epiphany party! Please bring a wrapped gift (\$5 worth, no food, candy or gift cards) for the gift exchange. Also bring a snack to share.

Keep up to date and find out about upcoming events on Instagram, SnapChat, Twitter and Facebook! (iclifeteen)
For more information about Youth Ministry and Life Teen, please contact Faye p: 604.785.6729 or e: icyouthmin@gmail.com.

BULLETIN ADVERTISEMENT

If you are a registered parishioner and would like to advertise in the IC Parish bulletin for the next 12 months (Feb.1.2017-Jan.2018), please contact the office at 604.591.2271); **latest by Jan. 15, 2017.**

PARISH LIBRARY

The Parish Library is open on weekends after Mass as well as Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am-11am for your Advent and Christmas books and movies! The Library will be closed December 25 (Sunday) and January 1 (Sunday).

MOMS & TOTS VOLUNTEER HELPERS NEEDED

If you are interested and able to occasionally help host Moms and Tots in our parish Gathering Area on Tuesday mornings between 8:30am and 11am - please phone or email Margaret Taddei: 778.772.7239 mtaddei@telus.net.



CWL

CWL – will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2020. The national launched a Centenary Logo Contest in August at the National Convention. Members are encouraged to join and submit their creative and original logo ideas before December 28, 2016. Please email to: andrearawl@hotmail.com or call Andrea @ 604.598.1896 for more information.


CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES – 2017

Contribution envelopes for 2017 are available in the G.A. If you would like a box of envelopes and one is not available for you, please PRINT your name on the list provided or call the Parish Office (604.591.2271) and it will be ready for you to pick up the following Sunday.

Please DO NOT USE any of the 2016 or earlier contribution envelopes that you may have, please recycle them. Since the serial numbers on the boxes for each family changes every year, please put your full name & address on the first envelope you use. Thank you.

The "O" Antiphons

*O Emmanuel, King and lawgiver, desire of the nations,
Saviour of all people. Come, and set us free, Lord our God.*



SECOND ANNUAL ORDINANDI DINNER

Join Archbishop Miller and members of the Catholic faithful as we gather together in support of the men in our Archdiocese who are soon "to be ordained" ("ordinandi") to the priesthood. Meet your future priests: Deacon Francesco Voltaggio, Deacon Giovanni Schiesari, and Deacon Juan Lucca. Join us on Wednesday, Feb. 1, at the Italian Cultural Centre, 3075 Slocan Street, Vancouver. Doors open at 5:30p.m., dinner begins promptly at 6 p.m. Cost: \$50. You can also sponsor a priest or seminarian. To register or for more info on how to sponsor a priest or seminarian, visit vocationsvancouver.ca.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

General meeting will be held on January 5, 2017 at 7:30pm in the gathering area.

CATHOLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF BC

The Catholic Health Association of BC will be awarding two bursaries valued at \$250 each to two 2017 graduating students who are enrolled in Catholic secondary schools, or who are member of BC or Yukon parishes and enrolled in public secondary schools, or who are home-schooled. Students are asked to submit a 500-word essay that demonstrates an awareness and understanding of the significance of Spirituality in Health Care. Submissions must be received on or before March 10, 2017.

ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGIATE

The St. Thomas More Collegiate Open House will be held on Wednesday January 11, 2017 at 6:30pm in the school gymnasium. The evening is open to both parents and grade 7 students. The Placement Exam for students entering grade 8 in September 2017 is scheduled for Tuesday January 24, 2017 beginning at 1:00pm. In order to write this exam parents must complete an application form which will be made available on our school website, or obtained from the STMC school office on days between the hours of 8am and 4pm. For more information on school admission please visit our website at www.stmc.bc.ca or Maria Cirillo, Registrar at maria.cirillo@stmc.bc.ca.

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL MASS FOR LIFE

Join us as we celebrate life on Wednesday, Dec. 28, at Holy Rosary Cathedral, Vancouver. Rosary begins at 11:30 a.m. and Mass is at 12:10 p.m. Reception to follow in Holy Rosary Hall (donation of finger foods appreciated). "May we defend life and promote it from conception to its natural end."

