

Nativity of the Lord
December 24 and 25, 2018



Intention and Schedule

† Denotes Repose of the soul

Monday, December 24th

4:30 pm † Adrianna Mes by the Mes Family
Return to health of Fr. Daniel Hayes
by Ina Rodger

8:00 pm † Aurelio de la Cruz by his daughter, Mila
† Jean-Paul Potvin by his family

Tuesday, December 25th

11:00 am † Ivan Joachim by Cynthia Serrao
Souls in Purgatory by the Semrau Family
Birthday blessings for Cynthia Serrao
by Lucienne Bolduc



Responsorial Psalms

Christmas Eve – December 24th
Today is born our Saviour,
Christ the Lord.

Christmas Day – December 25th
All the ends of the earth
have seen the victory of our God.



Pastor's Message

The primary way in which we celebrate the Lord's Day is with our participation in the Sunday Eucharist or Holy Mass. The Holy Mass is not a solitary, private event. Instead, we come together as the People of God, the Church, to worship with one heart and one voice.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) teaches us that "participation in the communal celebration of the Sunday Eucharist is a testimony of belonging and of being faithful to Christ and to his Church" (CCC, no. 2182). When members of our church community are absent from this gathering, they are missed.

No member of the faithful should be absent from the Sunday Eucharist without a serious reason. The Liturgy should be the first thing on Sunday's schedule, not the last. We should arrive on time, prepared in mind and heart to fully participate in the Mass. Those who cannot attend because of illness or the need to care for infants or the sick deserve our prayers and special attention.

Often, people will suggest that going to Sunday Mass is not necessary. After all, they can pray at home just as well. This has clearly been an issue in the Church for more than a millennium. In the fourth century, St. John Chrysostom addressed this problem directly:

"You cannot pray at home as at church, where there is a great multitude, where exclamations are cried out to God as from one great heart, and where there is something more: the union of minds, the accord of souls, the bond of charity, the prayers of the priests." (CCC, no. 2179, quoting St. John Chrysostom, *De incomprehensibili* 3, 6: PG 48, 725)

Hope to see you all on Sunday regularly!

Our Church offers also a Saturday evening Mass, which also fulfills our Sunday worship, if you cannot come on Sundays.

May each of you have a Joyful Christmas
and a Blessed New Year!

May Christ Jesus abide in your hearts
and in your families always!

Fr. Jessi