



Sacred Heart Catholic Church

4040 Nelthorpe Street, Victoria, BC V8X 2A1
250-479-1611 | sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org | sacredheartvictoria.com

Peace



* *Second Sunday of Advent | 10th December 2023* *

Weekend Masses : Christmas Season 2023

Sunday, December 24

4th Sunday of Advent

9:00 am – English

1:00 pm – Polish

Christmas Vigil

4:30 pm – English (Children's Carolling and Pageant)

5:00 pm – English (Children's Christmas Vigil)

7:00 pm – English (Carolling)

7:30 pm – English (Christmas Vigil)

9:30 pm – Korean (Christmas Vigil)

Midnight – Polish (Christmas Vigil)

Monday, December 25

Christmas Day

8:30 am – English (Carolling)

9:00 am – English (Nativity of our Lord)

11:00 am – Syro-Malabar (Nativity of our Lord)

5:30 pm – Vietnamese (Nativity of our Lord)

**The Parish Office will be closed
on Tuesday, December 12.**

**For the Christmas Season,
the Parish Office will be closed from
Sat, 23 Dec. 2023 to Mon, 8 Jan. 2024.**

LITURGICAL YEAR B

Saturday:

Syro-Malabar (Dec. 30)

English Mass

11:30 pm

4:00 pm

Sunday:

English Mass (streamed)

Polish

Korean

Vietnamese (Dec. 17)

9:00 am

1:00 pm

3:00 pm

5:30 pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturday

3:00 pm

Weekday Masses

English

Confessions before Mass

(During Advent)

11:30 am

Mass: Tuesdays to Thursdays

12:05 pm

Mass: Fridays

12:05 pm

Adoration until 3 pm (Sign-up sheet, in the foyer)

Korean

Mass: Wednesdays

7:00 pm

Mass: Thursdays

10:30 am

Sacred Heart YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzXJfSxennwmYIT4kPyUh6w>

Last week I wrote about committing acts of love and kindness to encounter Jesus in our daily lives. I could easily write the exact same words as last week for this week's Gospel about preparing the way of the Lord.

Preparing the way of the Lord includes 'metanoia' or the act of turning around and turning away from negative actions, mindsets, God-views and world views but preparing the way of the Lord is much more than that. As I implied last week, every act of love and kindness prepares the way for Christ to come. When we give without expectation of payment, the path of Christ becomes a little straighter and a little less hilly for the one who receives our love. Every kindness, no matter how small, can fill up a pothole that has caused someone to stumble on their way to the Lord. Perhaps the ones we respond to gently and kindly will not immediately have a personal encounter with Christ but the road has been smoothed and preparations made. The next person who offers love may indeed be received as an ambassador of Jesus. We don't know and it's none of our business. Our business is to love and to continually prepare the way of the Lord.

The way of the Lord is a not a road filled with criticism, condemnation or judgement. It's not a way strewn with sharp caustic words or 'righteous' resentments. We can't fill in valleys with anger, contempt or entitlement. Those things are actually looming and threatening mountains that block the way to the Lord for anyone who may consider seeking him. The Way of the Lord, the Highway of our God, is a two-way street. It is a path for the Lord to come to us and it is a path that encourages us and others to run to greet the Lord on his way.

Love repairs and prepares the way. The Way of the Lord is not just a metaphorical path; it is also the way Jesus acted and acts:

With love and kindness.





Please pray for:

Those who have died

*Bill Greaves, Mary and Kevin Loughran,
Agnes Mao, Alec Perez de Tagle,*

Those who are ill

*Thérèse A, Jon A, Sisley F. Chaves, Patricia C, Darrell C, Cora C,
Ludwik D, Lesley D, Kathleen G, Richard G, Pedrito K,
M Lopez, Derek L, Lisa L, Mike Reason and Maria T.*



Moms & Tots

You're not meant to face life alone. All parents and caregivers are welcome to join our little group with their little ones in the Parish Hall, Mondays, 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Come for community-building and faith-sharing between mothers. Contact Chantal: momstots.shvic@gmail.com



2024 Parish Donation Envelopes

Dear Parishioners,

Donation Envelopes are ready for pick up in the church foyer. Please do not use them until January 1st, 2024.

Please inform the Parish Office if you have moved and have a new postal address, or a new email address or phone numbers.

If you do not have Donation Envelopes and would like a box, or if you wish to discontinue using the Donation Envelopes, please inform the Parish Office. Thank you.

Donation Envelopes are beneficial if you make weekly contributions to the parish. The Donation Envelopes are necessary if you wish to receive an income tax receipt.

PLEASE DO NOT USE ANY ENVELOPES FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

The number may have been re-assigned and you will not get credit for your donation.



Contributions

Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD)

If you are PAD user, please remember to complete your name and address on the Special Collection envelopes, if you would like to receive a tax receipt. Information & links are also available on our website.

Options To Donate

E-Transfer: The email to use is:
sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org

Pre-Authorized Debit: Automatic Debit

(click here for the PAD form)

The PAD form is also available from the Parish Office.

Canada Helps: Online through Canada Helps

If you have any questions on the available options, or would like to make a change in how you donate, please contact the parish office. Thank you.

Thank you for your contributions!

Dec 2 & Dec 3, 2023

Envelopes \$ 2,508.00

Cash \$ 527.10

Total \$ 3,035.10

Donations through PAD, Canada Helps, & e-Transfer will be reported after the end of the month.

African Aids Angels will be on sale in the church foyer on Saturday December 16 before and after the 4 pm Mass and Sunday, December 17 before and after the 9 am Mass.

African Aids Angels are handcrafted angels made by volunteers from donated materials. These angels are sold and funds earned help to support children orphaned by the HIV virus. We help support an orphanage in South Africa and one in Zambia.

Small angels: \$10

Large: \$25.

We accept cash or cheques made out to "African Aids Angels".

**Thank you, in advance,
for your support.**

Marcia Thompson



Society of St. Vincent de Paul Second Sunday of Advent:

In today's Gospel John the Baptist urges us to "Prepare the way of the Lord.". We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas. Please contact Georgina at mgvshort@telus.net or call 250-727-2615

For monetary donations, please specify that it is for the "SCO Food Pantry". Cheques: "Society of St. Vincent de Paul".

Donate online and specify Sacred Heart Parish at:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/society-of-st-vincent-de-paul-of-vancouver-island/>

Christmas Charity Concert with the Greater Victoria Concert Band Jr. 1 pm, Saturday, December 16 Sacred Heart Parish Hall

Come and enjoy the spirit of the season at The Christmas Charity Concert with the Greater Victoria Concert Band Jr.

Entrance is by donation.

All proceeds of this concert will go to the
Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Contributions to the food-bank will also be welcome.

Anawim is asking for assistance.

A collection box is now in the church foyer THIS WEEKEND to accept donations of NEW CLOTHING: items such as jeans, jackets, socks, underwear, shirts, raingear and any new items of clothes that may be used as gifts to the residents of the two houses, and guests from the drop-in program.



Anawim House

Anawim's Annual Christmas Tree Sale is now ON!

At 973 Caledonia Avenue.

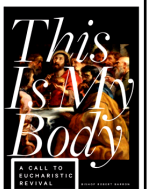
**Thank you for your long-term support
of Anawim.**



Discover the Miracle of The Mass & The Holy Eucharist

Help Our Lady of the Rosary build a new church.
Donations go to **OLOR's Building Fund**

To order a copy please contact Nancy at
nvanaya@gmail.com or text 604-442-2473.



Tapestry of Faith

Bishop's Appeal 2023

The Bishop's Appeal, Tapestry of Faith, is still accepting 2023 donations. Please consider making a financial commitment to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Not only are you helping our parish, but you are making a real difference to our greater Diocesan faith community, our religious leaders, and Local Mission Parishes.

Reaching our parish goal also means that the parish will retain \$8,800.00 for our own project.

Please give prayerful consideration towards our Appeal and know that you are making a difference

<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/bishops-appeal>

Parish Project: *New benches and more lighting in darker areas.* Parish Goal: **\$44,000.00** Actual: **\$28,994.32** Pledges: **120**



Our Lady of Guadalupe Festival

December 10th, 2023

Our Lady of Fatima Parish

Everyone is welcome to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Mass will be at 12:30pm in English, celebrated with Bishop Gary Gordon.

After mass, the parish hall will be open for a social gathering and soup will be available to purchase. If you would like to donate baked goods for the bake sale, it would be appreciated.

The Knight's Annual Charity Appeal is now on until December 16.

Grand prize: 2023 Toyota RAV4 Hybrid

Multiple prizes and Early Bird prizes.

Tickets are \$5 each, 10 for \$25 or 50 for \$50.

Proceeds go towards charitable causes.

www.kofccharity.ca

Please select "Victoria - Sacred Heart Parish" under organization.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

In 2009, the International Order of the Knights of Columbus launched its 'Coats for Kids' program with a simple goal of giving children in need the gift

of warmth in the coldest months. This winter marks the distribution of the one millionth coat to a child in need of warmth.

The six Knights of Columbus councils in Greater Victoria are, once again, participating and have donated over 260 of these colourful winter coats to First Nations, St. Vincent de Paul, schools and other area agencies that cater to needs of children and families, and the Ukrainian refugee families in greater Vancouver.

Next time you purchase a Knights of Columbus lottery ticket, burger, hotdog, a pancake breakfast, have your Christmas tree chipped, or donate your empties, know that you are indirectly helping to fund this program - and that your help is appreciated.

"Thank you" from the Knights and the Kids.

Join us for an Evening of Carols

Wednesday, 27 December at 5 p.m.

Come and sing Christmas carols as a parish community in church, and celebrate Christmas with the ethnic communities of Sacred Heart Parish, as they sing in their own languages!

SEE YOU THERE!



Thank you

for your generous donation of **\$294.00** for flowers to beautify our Sanctuary.

If you wish to make a contribution toward our Flower Fund, donation envelopes are available in the church foyer.

Simbang Gabi Sa Victoria

St. Andrew's Cathedral

Celebrate the Filipino tradition of devotional Mass in preparation for the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

December 15, 7:30 pm

December 16 and 17, 5:00 pm

December 18 to 22, 7:30 pm

December 23, 5:00 pm



From the Diocese



Advent Carol Service

St. Patrick's School invites all to join them for an Advent Carol Service on Tuesday, December 12th, 6:00 pm at St. Andrew's Cathedral in Victoria (740 View Street).

The Epiphany of the Liturgy: Welcoming the Closeness of God

St. Joseph the Worker Church | January 5 & 6, 2024

This free conference will be valuable for all who serve in liturgical ministries and participate in the assembly. The presenters are Dr. Glenn Byer and Dr. David Pitt, liturgical and musical educators at Catholic colleges in the U.S. The workshops are on: Fri, Jan 5, from 7:00 to 9:30 pm, and Sat, Jan 6 from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.

For more information and to register please visit:

<https://EpiphanyLiturgyConference.eventbrite.com>

For assistance in registering, please mail

mgwyn@rcdvictoria.org or call 250-479-1331 ext 227.

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

On December 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Church in Canada celebrates the National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples. Take a moment to recall Pope Francis' Penitential Pilgrimage to Canada in July 2022.

To read Pope Francis' prayer, please visit

<https://www.cccb.ca/announcement/national-day-of-prayer-in-solidarity-with-indigenous-peoples-12-december-2023/>



Journey through Advent

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops presents the "Journey through Advent" video series. This year's presenter, the Most Rev. Jon Hansen, CSsR, Bishop of Mackenzie-Fort Smith, will offer a reflection on Scriptures for each Sunday of Advent 2023.

To view the videos, please visit

<https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-advent/>

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL 2023 / 2024

Marilyn Bojko (Chair) Jim Haffey
Peter Martin Jeremy Côté
Rick Perez de Tagle Edgar Tan Jr.
Samantha Sherman Will Podmoroff

OUR MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

Saturday, 9 December, 4 pm

Altar Servers : Daisy, Mariah, Elias, Mara
Proclaimers : Belle PdT, Sigrune F
EMCs : Marilyn T
Ushers : Marisa T
Music : Arlene S, Rafael O

Sunday, 10 December, 9 am

Altar Servers : Pio, Matthew, Michael
Proclaimers : Connie H, Gail-Golden F
EMCs : Steve K, Aubert G
Ushers : Lucia DD, Linh DD
Music : Sacred Heart Choir, Rafael O

Thank you to all our volunteers

TO REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE TO AN INDEPENDENT AGENCY

To report sexual abuse by a clergy member,
religious, employee, or volunteer, visit
RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry
or call 1-800-968-3146

To report sexual abuse or cover-up
by a Catholic Bishop,
visit BishopReportingSystem.ca or call
1-866-892-3737

Sacred Heart Contacts

Pastor: Fr. Jan Grotkowski, SDS
jgrotkowski@rcdvictoria.org

Korean: Fr. Robert Ryu
youngjinryu0758@gmail.com

Polish: Fr. Jan Grotkowski, SDS
jgrotkowski@rcdvictoria.org

Syro-Malabar: Fr. Thomas Vincent
thomasvenman@gmail.com

Vietnamese Pastor: Fr. Michael Tran
michaeltran@rcdvictoria.org

Hospital Chaplain
Fr. Sean Flynn: 250-889-3761

Parish Administrative Assistant
Katherine Newton:
sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org

Children's Religious Ed.
Coordinator
Lidia Moodie:
sacredhearteled@rcdvictoria.org

Parish Liturgy Coordinator
Rafael Oei: sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org

RMSE Coordinator
Sindhu Merwin:
sacredheartmse@gmail.com

PARISH MINISTRIES & GROUPS



Please contact the
Parish Office:
sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org

PARISH LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Parish Liturgy Coordinator

Altar Servers
Extraordinary Ministers

Floral Ministry
Music Director
Pastoral Care Ministry
Proclaimers
Ushers

Video Streamers

Rafael Oei

Karla Montano
Gilbert Santos
Chay Santos
Ruby Rivera
Rafael Oei
Lynda Tan
Stan Dzbik
Marisa Tinsay
Isme Liem
Peter Liem

PARISH GROUPS

Christian Meditation
C.W.L. / Prayer Line
Knights of Columbus
Led By The Spirit Group
Moms & Tots
Phone-tree
Funeral Receptions
Social Justice/D & P
St. Vincent de Paul

Margie Noonan
Margot McLaughlin
Rick Perez de Tagle
David MacIntyre
Chantal Côté
Elizabeth Olcen
Elizabeth Olcen
Stan Dzbik
Georgina Short

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SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

Victoria BC, 2023