



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

244 Lawrence Street, New Westminster, BC. V3M 5L1

<https://holyspiritnewwest.ca>

email: parish.hs@rcav.o

PHONE: 604-521-0334

PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR - REV. TOMSON EGIRIOUS



Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year B, 24th December 2023

Son of David

This year, the Fourth Sunday of Advent is swallowed up in Christmas Eve. Perhaps we can celebrate it early so as not to lose the riches of this final week: the Lord is very near.

In our **First Reading**, God does not allow David to build him a physical house but promises rather to build him a house, a dynasty, that will last forever.

The Psalm reinforces this promise, and emphasizes God's Fatherly love and faithfulness.

St Paul, in **the Second Reading**, tells of how God's mystery, kept secret through the ages, has now been revealed in the person of Jesus Christ.

In **the Gospel**, the well-loved narration of the Annunciation to Mary, we note how the angel emphasizes that her Son will be of the House of David. Mary willingly agrees to be part of God's plan.

Tomorrow is Christmas Day: may we hold out our suffering world in yearning to the Prince of Peace.

MASS TIMES

Weekend Mass

Saturday 9 am & 5 pm

Sunday 9 am & 11 am

Weekday Mass

Monday, Wednesday

& Thursday - 9 am

Tuesday & Friday - 7 pm

Sacrament Of Confession

Saturday 9.30 am - 10am

4 pm - 4.30 pm

or by appointment

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday To Friday

10:00am - 4.30pm

Lunch Break 12pm - 1pm

Saturday

10.00am - 12:00 noon

Office is closed on
Monday



In his intention for December 2023, Pope Francis prays:
"We pray that people living with disabilities: may they be at the center of attention in society and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation."

stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com

Parish Ministries, Organization & Services

Altar Servers Ministry

Be The Light Ministry

Coordinator: Noli Pangilinan

Catechetical Ministry

PREP Winnie Bernardo

Catholic Women's League

President : Cecile Cartago

Knights Of Columbus

Robert Yang

Legion Of Mary

Fidel Carolino

Ministry Of Hospitality

Coordinator: Jose Cruz

Ministry Of Lectors

Coordinator: Armando Cordova

Music Ministry

Dr. Audrey Zylmans

Ana Marie Avendano

Noreen Nicolas

Project Advance Team

Art & Violet Tonido

Jun & Liezel Javier

Building Committee

Theo Vanden Hoven

Fund Raising Committee

Ruth & Jeric Alvarez

SACRAMENTAL LIFE OF THE PARISH

BAPTISM: Call the parish office to register for the Baptism Preparation Course. This is for parents and godparents. It is held every 1st Saturday of the month from 1pm to 3pm. Baptism is every 3rd Sunday of the month at 1pm

MARRIAGE: Arrangements are to be made through the pastor at least six months prior to your wedding date. A marriage preparation course is a requirement of the Archdiocese. Secure a spot at all Marriage Prep courses. Go to registration webpage: <http://rcav.org/m-prep/>

CONVALIDATION: If your marriage was not celebrated as a Sacrament and you wish your marriage to be recognized by the Church, then call the parish office to make an appointment to see **Fr. Jack**

ANointing OF THE SICK : Call the parish office to request a hospital visit or for communion to the sick at home.

FUNERALS: Please contact the office before making any arrangements with the Funeral Home.

MASS INTENTIONS: Did you know, Catholics can "offer" Mass?

We do so for multiple reasons such as thanksgiving, for another person/s such as a birthday, graduation or wedding anniversary or as is most common, for the repose(peace) of the soul of someone who has died. Mass Offering envelopes are available at the back of the Church

Parish & Archdiocesan Events

1. Christmas and New Year Mass schedules:

December

Sun Dec. 24 – 7 PM

There will be a **Children Christmas Pageant** before the 7:00 PM Mass starting at **6:30 PM** on Sunday **December 24**.

Mon Dec. 25 – 9 AM and 11 AM

Tue Dec 26 - 9 AM Mass & no evening Mass

Sun Dec 31 – 7 PM

Please note the Regular Sunday 9 am and 11 am Mass are still on schedule

January

Mon Jan 01 – 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM

There will be no Mass on Tuesday January 2 nd .

Please pick up your 2024 Sunday Offering Envelopes and calendar located at the back of the Church next to the side door.

2. Donation Envelope

If you need a 2024 Donation Envelope **please email the parish office** with your complete name & address. If you changed address in 2023 please email the parish office your new complete address for tax purposes.
parish.hs@rcav.org

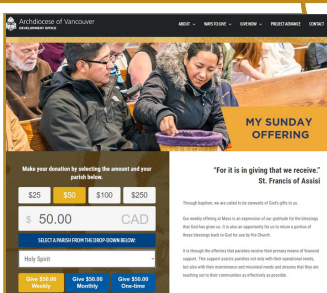
Have a Holy Christmas & a Blessed New Year!



Your gift to Project Advance will grow your parish and expand the reach of Christ's love to those who need it most.

#ProjectAdvance

Give online projectadvance.ca



You can make an online offering using your credit card or set up automatic weekly or monthly donations

Please visit our website:
holyspiritnewwest.ca



Three Minutes with God: The Power of Prayer

We often are deaf to God's presence, loving inspirations, guidance, tenderness, and mercy because of the noise around us and inside us. Create your own space for silence where you can be alone and quiet today. Let God find you there in the silence. Shut out the external noise, as well as the noise inside you, and listen carefully. God's voice is like a gentle, peaceful breeze. Be silent, for silence is the language of God. We think of prayer as speaking to God, but if it's real communication, then we have to give God a chance to speak, to inspire, to heal, to guide, to forgive, and to help us.

Enjoy these reflections on the power of prayer!

Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.”—James 4:8

Over the years people have asked me, “What is prayer?” I like to quote St. Teresa of Avila, who described prayer as “a loving conversation with the one who I know loves me.” It's a love-talk with God. With the eyes of faith, I see his acts of love in my life. Love draws love. I spontaneously want to love him in return. When I pray, first I thank God for his love and spend time simply saying, “I love you too.”

Secondly, I try to listen for God's words, inspirations, and ideas, usually by prayerfully reading the Scriptures. And finally, I ask for God's support and guidance. Try praying like this: Thank, listen, and ask. It's a great prayer formula. Another way to pray is with the acronym ACTS: Adoration, Contrition (for our sins), Thanksgiving, and Supplication (asking for what we or others need). On different days we might pray with more emphasis on one or two of these than on the others. Let your heart and God's love lead to the prayer you need.

Prayer: Lord, show me how to draw near to you. Amen.

Pray with Your Body

*“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit?”
—1 Corinthians 6:19*

Have you ever thought of praying with your body? We often reserve prayer for our minds or souls, which is where our conversations with God begin. But we are not pure spirits, as are the angels. We also have bodies, and therefore we can pray with our bodies. For example, simply folding our hands is a prayer, kneeling is a prayer, and opening our arms to heaven is a prayer. Prostrating our bodies facedown before God is a prayer; Jesus often prayed that way. All these express our desire to connect with our loving God.

They often strengthen our mental prayer. Today offer at least one body prayer as an expression of the love of God in your heart. Fold your hands in prayer or kneel for minute. Your body is praying—you are praying. A very helpful prayer at night, even while lying in bed, is the Sign of the Cross. As I touch my forehead, I say, “Father, thank you for your blessings of today.” As I touch my heart, I say, “Son Jesus, forgive my sins and shortcomings,” and as I touch my shoulders, I pray, “Holy Spirit, inspire and guide me tomorrow.” It's a perfect way to put ourselves into the arms of our loving God as we drift off to sleep under his watchful gaze. Try this simple prayer tonight. It is a beautiful way to have a peaceful night's sleep.

Prayer: Lord, show me how to use my body in prayer to you. Amen.

Saints for December

December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

The feast in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe goes back to the 16th century. Chronicles of that period tell us the story.



A poor Indian named Cuauhtlatohuac was baptized and given the name Juan Diego. He was a 57-year-old widower, and lived in a small village near Mexico City. On Saturday morning December 9, 1531, he was on his way to a nearby barrio to attend Mass in honor of Our Lady.

Juan was walking by a hill called Tepeyac when he heard beautiful music like the warbling of birds. A radiant cloud appeared, and within it stood an Indian maiden dressed like an Aztec princess. The lady spoke to him in his own language and sent him to the bishop of Mexico, a Franciscan named Juan de Zumarraga. The bishop was to build a chapel in the place where the lady appeared.

Eventually the bishop told Juan to have the lady give him a sign. About this same time Juan's uncle became seriously ill. This led poor Juan to try to avoid the lady. Nevertheless the lady found Juan, assured him that his uncle would recover, and provided roses for Juan to carry to the bishop in his cape or tilma.

On December 12, when Juan Diego opened his tilma in the bishop's presence, the roses fell to the ground, and the bishop sank to his knees. On the tilma where the roses had been appeared an image of Mary exactly as she had appeared at the hill of Tepeyac.

Reflection

Mary's appearance to Juan Diego as one of his people is a powerful reminder that Mary—and the God who sent her—accept all peoples. In the context of the sometimes rude and cruel treatment of the Indians by the Spaniards, the apparition was a rebuke to the Spaniards and an event of vast significance for the indigenous population. While a number of them had converted before this incident, they now came in droves. According to a contemporary chronicler, nine million Indians became Catholic in a very short time. In these days when we hear so much about God's preferential option for the poor, Our Lady of Guadalupe cries out to us that God's love for and identification with the poor is an age-old truth that stems from the Gospel itself.

Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Patron Saint of: The Americas Mexico

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/>

Mission

Holy Spirit Parish is a community demonstrating that God is known and loved through living and proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ taught by the Roman Catholic Church through Word, sacrament and service with certain hope that all who repent and believe will have eternal life

Vision

1. We see a parish that is diverse, Spirit-filled and vibrant, joyously worshipping together.
2. We see a parish generously caring for each other with our time, treasure and talents.
3. We see a parish with relevant, active and well-led ministries that are mission-oriented.
4. We see a new parish hall built in the next 3-5 years that serves as a gathering space for parishioners to learn, connect, grow and celebrate our faith.





Place your AD's here for only \$150 for minimum 6 months or \$275 for 12 months
get a digital business card free (only 15 Slots available)

<https://holyspiritnewwest.ca> email: parish.hs@rcav.org

PHONE: 604-521-0334



www.team3000realty.com

Bus: 778-297-3000
Fax: 604-677-5629
Email: gerritorres@gmail.com



Gerri Torres
Real Estate Professional
604.761.3464



Peter Tolentino
Personal Real Estate Corporation

778 239 2666
peter@ptolentinoirealty.ca
www.ptolentinoirealty.ca



GINA BACTOL

Mortgage Advisor

604.719.4765

www.mortgagearchitects.ca/GinaBactol
gina.bactol@mtgarc.ca



"Top Performer 2021" & "Top Producer 2020"



"Financial Independence For Everyone...
No Family Left Behind"



Evangeline Pagsanhan
MARKETING DIRECTOR



778 868 2780
epagsanhan01kzc@wfgmail.ca
<https://agents.wfgcanada.ca/evangeline-pagsanhan>
2025 Willingdon Ave. Unit 000, Burnaby, BC, V5C 0J3



Darly Capellan
Insurance Advisor

Suite 460, 628 - 6th Ave.
New Westminster, B.C.
V3M 6Z1

Business: 604-515-0770
Facsimile: 604-515-0710

Cellular: 778-998-2086
Residence: 604-528-3855

darly.capellan@fddfinancial.com



SERVICE ABOVE ALL



Columbus Homes

Affordable homes for seniors in Greater Vancouver

For information call:
604-250-6444

www.colchar.org

Your story continues at Columbus Homes...



We are Here to Help
Pre-Planning



Kearney
FUNERAL SERVICES



Mike Garisto
m.garisto@kearneyfs.com
604-312-9799



Ethelyn David
ethelyn.d@kearneyfs.com
604-889-3842

Pre-Planning allows you to
make carefully-considered,
pressure-free decisions that
are the right choices for
you and your family.

Helping • Caring • Planning

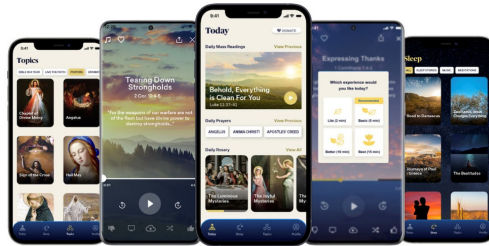
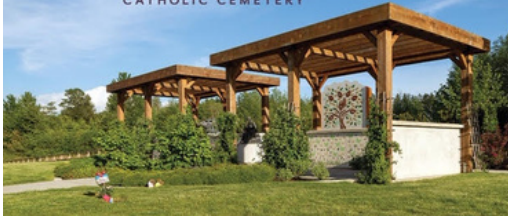
Vancouver 604 736 0268 New Westminster 604 521 4881 Burnaby 604 299 6889 Cloverdale 604 574 2603



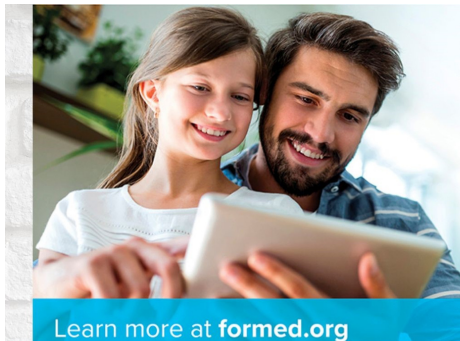
www.KearneyFS.com

GARDENS OF
Gethsemani
CATHOLIC CEMETERY

604-531-2141
rcav.org
Surrey, BC



Amen
THE FREE CATHOLIC PRAYER APP



Learn more at formed.org

The best Catholic content.
All in one place.

It's EASY and FREE to register!

1. Visit formed.org/signup
2. Enter our parish zip or name **Holy Spirit-BC-V3M 5L1**
3. Enter your name and email
4. Enjoy and share with others

RANDY'S SALON
Professional Hair Styling Services



RANDY

Barber



JANET

Stylist

Tel : (604) 520-0479 | Cell: (604) 767-7283
Instagram : @randys_salon

#155 - 23233 GILLEY ROAD, RICHMOND, BC V6V 1E6



**Knights of
Columbus**

BLESSED JOSEPH ALLAMANO COUNCIL #11359
Knights of Columbus
Kofc11359@gmail.com

Learn More & Join Online
<http://www.kofc.org/learn/learn-join-the-knights.html>



604-812-7097

Thank you for your referrals

Elizabeth Morales Pagtakhan BA
Real Estate Consultant/ Mortgage Specialist
elizabeth@elizabethmp.com
www.grandcentralrealty.com



Grand Central
REALTY

<https://holyspiritnewwest.ca>

PHONE: 604-521-0334 Fax: 604-521-9518

email: parish.hs@rcav.org