



# HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

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

<https://holyspiritnewwest.ca>

email: [parish.hs@rcav.o](mailto:parish.hs@rcav.o)

PHONE: 604-521-0334

PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR - REV. TOMSON EGIRIOUS



## Christmas 2023 with St Beuno's Outreach

The period around Christmas can sometimes be frantic, allowing little space to meditate on the mystery of the Incarnation: God's love coming to us in the person of Jesus. But whether we are busy or not, we can still pause awhile to marvel anew at the miracle of this small baby born into obscurity and poverty.

This year, St Beuno's Outreach invites you to pray with a blend of familiar scripture passages and related reflections by Pope Francis. Please use them in whatever way works best for you. On some days, a single phrase or image may be enough; on others, you may have time for a more leisurely celebration of the joy and hope brought about by this holy birth.

Our images this year come mostly from the Holy Land and Ukraine, with special thanks to the Palestinian artist Sliman Mansour (b. 1947), and the young iconographers of the Iconart Gallery, Lviv, Ukraine.

Their work has been chosen to help us pray for peace in all parts of the world where people are broken and suffering this Christmastide.

[stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com](https://stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com)



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."

### 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

## 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**

**ANOIDTING 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. New Year Mass schedules:

#### December 2023

Sun Dec 31 – 7 PM

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

#### January 2024

Mon Jan 01 – 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM

Fri Jan 05 - 6.30 PM Adoration Followed by Holy Mass at 7 PM

There will be no Mass on Tuesday January 2nd 2024.

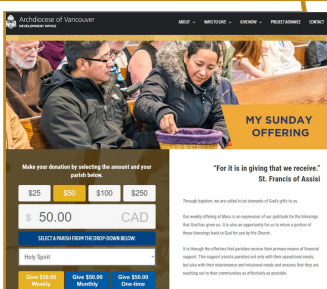
Please pick up your 2024 Sunday Offering Envelopes and calendar located at the back of the Church next to the side door. Your envelopes number will be different from this years number, please start using your new envelopes on January 1st 2024.



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](http://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](http://holyspiritnewwest.ca)

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

May this year bring you blessings and happiness.



**"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."**

PROVERBS 3:5-6





## Pause + Pray - Savings and Trust

### Reflect

“Most of us plan for the future by investing in a savings account. Jesus also spoke of the importance of storing up treasures—treasures in heaven. That’s something we can all do through simple words of trust—prayers of confidence in God’s ever-present love. Whenever we trust in his plan for today and tomorrow, we are building up a savings account for those days ahead that may present real challenges and difficult problems. We build up that account by trusting God in small things.”

—from Three Minutes with God, by Msgr. Frank Bognanno

### Pray

God of limitless love,  
We’re often so fixated on the bottom line,  
Obsessed with increasing our wealth,  
That we lose sight of what’s truly important—  
Loving you and loving each other.  
Guide us to a place of trust in your plan  
For this day,  
For tomorrow,  
For all time.  
Amen.

### Act

Is there something you are holding on to that is actually holding you back? It could be a physical object that could be discarded or donated. Or it might be an unhealthy pattern of thinking that needs to be unlearned. Sometimes removing an obstacle is the only way to see the right path forward

<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.

## Saints for December

December 27 th

### Saint John the Evangelist



It is God who calls; human beings answer. The vocation of John and his brother James is stated very simply in the Gospels, along with that of Peter and his brother Andrew: Jesus called them; they followed. The absoluteness of their response is indicated by the account. James and John “were in a boat, with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him” (Matthew 4:21b-22).

For the three former fishermen—Peter, James and John—that faith was to be rewarded by a special friendship with Jesus. They alone were privileged to be present at the Transfiguration, the raising of the daughter of Jairus and the agony in Gethsemane. But John’s friendship was even more special. Tradition assigns to him the Fourth Gospel, although most modern Scripture scholars think it unlikely that the apostle and the evangelist are the same person.

John’s own Gospel refers to him as “the disciple whom Jesus loved” (see John 13:23; 19:26; 20:2), the one who reclined next to Jesus at the Last Supper, and the one to whom Jesus gave the exquisite honor of caring for his mother, as John stood beneath the cross. “Woman, behold your son.... Behold, your mother” (John 19:26b, 27b).

Because of the depth of his Gospel, John is usually thought of as the eagle of theology, soaring in high regions that other writers did not enter. But the ever-frank Gospels reveal some very human traits. Jesus gave James and John the nickname, “sons of thunder.” While it is difficult to know exactly what this meant, a clue is given in two incidents.

In the first, as Matthew tells it, their mother asked that they might sit in the places of honor in Jesus’ kingdom—one on his right hand, one on his left. When Jesus asked them if they could drink the cup he would drink and be baptized with his baptism of pain, they blithely answered, “We can!” Jesus said that they would indeed share his cup, but that sitting at his right hand was not his to give. It was for those to whom it had been reserved by the Father. The other apostles were indignant at the mistaken ambition of the brothers, and Jesus took the occasion to teach them the true nature of authority: “...[W]hoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave. Just so, the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:27-28).

On another occasion, the “sons of thunder” asked Jesus if they should not call down fire from heaven upon the inhospitable Samaritans, who would not welcome Jesus because he was on his way to Jerusalem. But Jesus “turned and rebuked them” (see Luke 9:51-55).

On the first Easter, Mary Magdalene “ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, ‘They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don’t know where they put him’” (John 20:2). John recalls, perhaps with a smile, that he and Peter ran side by side, but then “the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first” (John 20:4b). He did not enter, but waited for Peter and let him go in first. “Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed” (John 20:8).

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**Gerri Torres**  
Real Estate Professional  
604.761.3464



**Peter Tolentino**  
Personal Real Estate Corporation

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**Darly Capellan**  
Insurance Advisor

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



Business: 604-515-0770 Cellular: 778-998-2086  
Facsimile: 604-515-0710 Residence: 604-528-3855

[darly.capellan@fddfinancial.com](mailto:darly.capellan@fddfinancial.com)



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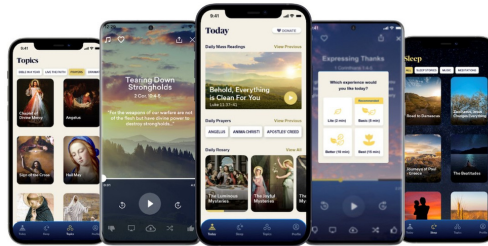
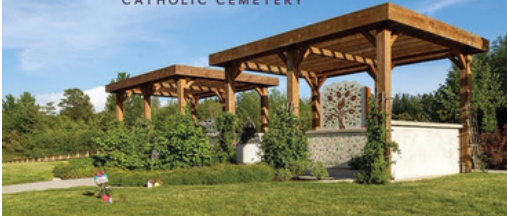
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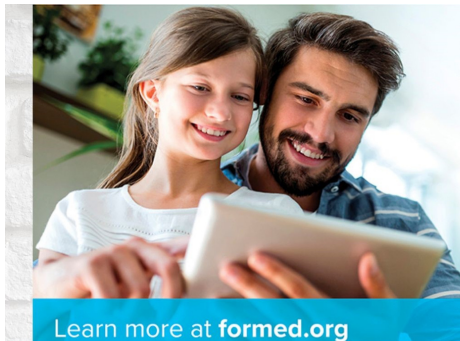
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**Elizabeth Morales Pagtakhan BA**

Real Estate Consultant/ Mortgage Specialist

[elizabeth@elizabethmp.com](mailto:elizabeth@elizabethmp.com)

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

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