



## Guardian Angels Parish

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Pastor: Rev. John Alex Pinto, OCD

Aug 14, 2020

### Dear Parishioners,

As one of the 98 parishes in the Archdiocese of Vancouver, we at Guardian Angels have an obligation to support the annual Project Advance appeal. This year, in response to the pandemic which has caused such suffering and hardship throughout the world, the amount to be contributed by each parish has been reduced by 50% and will go to support the needs of those in crisis, rather than to the building of new churches and schools.

Last year our target was \$24,000. This year it is \$12,000, and, as usual, anything raised above that amount will be given back to us to be used for our own parish project. As most of you know, I have been meeting with local contractors with the intention of building a new, accessible washroom at the back of the church and I am very much hoping that, once we have passed our Project Advance target, the money given back to our parish will cover the cost of construction.

So far we have raised \$10,015 for the Archdiocese and I would like to extend a big “Thank You” to those parishioners who have already donated, many of you online. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

I would also like to encourage those who have not yet made their donation to do so. Although this Pandemic has done its best to keep us apart from each other and to limit our numbers at Mass, it has not succeeded in destroying our Parish family. Far from it! At this time more than ever, we are connected by our faith and by our sense of community. Every one of you is important to me, your pastor, and every one of you has a part to play in the life of Guardian Angels Parish.

So I am asking that EVERYONE contribute whatever they can to Project Advance. My personal goal is to have 100% participation, no matter how small the amount donated. I know that is an ambitious goal but as I have told you many times, my dreams for our parish are big. Everything helps!

The official launching of Project Advance in the Parish will be in September.

Thank you Deirdre Santesso, our Parish Project Advance Coordinator, for coordinating with the Parish and the Archdiocese.

God bless you all. Thank you for taking the time to read this article. Enjoy your weekend and stay safe!

Prayers and blessings,

**Fr. John Alex Pinto OCD** - Pastor



**Source: International Catholic Stewardship Council - Aug 2020 • e-Bulletin**

## **Spiritual Closeness in a Time of Social Distancing: Seven Suggestions**

*(Author: Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.)*

As Christians, we encounter Jesus in his people—our families and friends, our neighbors and fellow parishioners, our co-workers and school mates, even people we don't know personally (strangers) who we come in contact with as we go about our daily lives. Jesus tells us that we find him in the "least of these" brothers and sisters (cf. Mt 25: 31-46), so being close to them means being close to him.

During this unprecedented time of pandemic, we need to be especially concerned about those who are experiencing intense anxiety, feel lonely and abandoned, and who really count on public worship for their own support. We also should be concerned about how the spiritual lives of our people will be impacted by the drastic changes we are all experiencing for the first time in our lives. The Eucharist and the celebration of the Mass are so central to our Church that their absence is really felt deeply by us.

"Social distancing" is necessary for the common good, but we need to counter this with a dramatic increase in what Pope Francis calls "spiritual closeness." How can we stay close to Jesus, and all our sisters and brothers, at a time when concern for them demands that we keep our distance? How can we remain spiritually close at the same time that we practice social distancing?

Here are some simple suggestions for staying close spiritually while maintaining a safe and respectful social distance:

1. Begin each day with prayer. Ask Jesus to stay close to you and to all your family and friends. Pray for the health and well-being of everyone you associate with, and of all God's people throughout the world.
2. Express your love and concern for the people you live with—your spouse, children, other relatives or friends. Comfort and encourage them when they are frightened and feeling closed-in or helpless.
3. Reach out to other family members, friends and colleagues by telephone, texting, email and other forms of social media. Let them know that

you are close to them and that you share their experiences and anxiety.

4. Attend Mass and other prayers and devotions virtually. Many opportunities are available each day on television, radio and online. Participation in the life of the Church can help us feel more closely connected with God and with each other. Make a spiritual communion (see below).
5. As you go about your daily business—working remotely, studying at home, doing spring cleaning, caring for children or family members, preparing dinner, doing the laundry, and more—look for opportunities to offer up your activities to God in gratitude for his closeness to you.
6. To the extent that you can, share your financial resources with those in need. Online giving is available for most religious, educational and charitable organizations, but if that's not an option for you, you can write a check and mail it, or set aside some cash to give to someone in need once the current stay at home order has been lifted.
7. Be patient with yourself and those you love. This is a strange and difficult time for all of us. Frustration and anger are understandable reactions. We need to help each other remain calm and trust in the healing power of Jesus who is close to us—now and always.

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## **Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Weekend of August 15/16, 2020**

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus brings up the topic of the cross to his followers. They would not realize the cross was part of God's plan and was to be their legacy until after the Resurrection. Today's followers of Christ recognize they are stewards of his entire legacy, including his cross; that through their mutual sacrifices God's glory is revealed. They don't live their lives in Christ only when it is convenient for them. They make a decision to take up their cross and carry it, no matter what the cost. In the midst of the uncertain times we live in, what crosses do we bear in order to reveal God's glory?

### **PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Aug 22: Memorial:** Queenship of Mary

**Aug 28: 6 pm Mass;** First Holy Communion  
For those intending to attend the Mass, please email or call the parish office to register.

**Stewardship Reflection - August 16, 2020**  
**20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**"For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable."  
 (Romans 11:29)**

God has a special mission in mind for each of us. He has given us the gifts we need to accomplish that mission. We are called to be good stewards by using those gifts to do the work that He has planned for each of us. If we deny our gifts or fail to use them as God calls us to use them, then some part of His work will be left undone.

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## Mass Intentions

	Day		Intention
Saturday	Aug 15	9am	+Milagros J. Daluro & Asuncion D. Nacis
		4pm	Sp. Int. of Nestor Chan
		6pm	Souls in Purgatory
Sunday	Aug 16	9am	+Rose+
		11am	Sp. Intentions of Parishioners
		12:30pm	Anonymous
Monday	Aug 17	8am	Thanksgiving of Julie Cain
Tuesday	Aug 18	8am	+Kathleen Brooks+
Wednesday	Aug 19	8am	Sp. Int. of Stanley Frencher
Thursday	Aug 20	8am	Sp. Int. of Michelle Frencher
Friday	Aug 21	8am	Sp. Int. of Alexas Brown

**Please pray for our Candidates for the Sacraments of  
 First Communion month of August**

**August 28, Friday, 6 PM:**

**Sacrament of First Communion**

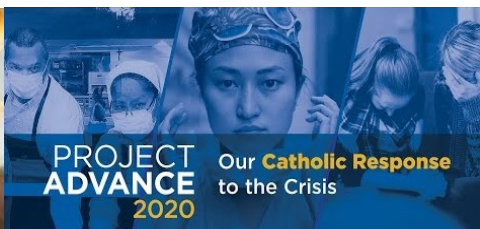
**- Jzabel Gomes Thomazini**

**- Nate Santos Conwi**



As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.

1 Peter 4:10



**August 22, 2020**



## The QUEENSHIP Of Mary

**(Memorial)**

In this feast, particularly cherished by the Popes of modern times, we celebrate Mary as the Queen of Heaven and Earth.

Pope Pius XII in the Papal Encyclical *Ad Coeli Reginam* proposed the traditional doctrine on the Queenship of Mary and established this feast for the Universal Church.

Pope Pius IX said of Mary's queenship: "Turning her maternal Heart toward us and dealing with the affair of our salvation, she is concerned with the whole human race. Constituted by the Lord Queen of Heaven and earth, and exalted above all choirs of Angels and the ranks of Saints in Heaven, standing at the right hand of Her only-begotten Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, she petitions most powerfully with Her maternal prayers, and she obtains what she seeks."

And Pope Pius XII added the following: "We commend that on the festival there be renewed the consecration of the human race to the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Upon this there is founded a great hope that there will rejoice in the triumph of religion and in Christian peace..."

...Therefore, let all approach with greater confidence now than before, to the throne of mercy and grace of our Queen and Mother to beg help in difficulty, light in darkness and solace in trouble and sorrow...

... Whoever, therefore, honours the lady ruler of the Angels and of men - and let no one think themselves exempt from the payment of that tribute of a grateful and loving soul - let them call upon her as most truly Queen and as the Queen who brings the blessings of peace, that She may show us all, after this exile, Jesus, who will be our enduring peace and joy."

**Source: Catholic News Agency.com**



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## ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

### **Email Fraud Warning**

The Archdiocese has received multiple reports from parishioners and priests who have fallen victim to a recent Internet email phishing scam. Imposters, posing as priests and using email addresses that are similar to those of our priests, have been emailing people asking for personal donations, gift cards, and other forms of financial assistance.

### Upper Room Conference 2020

At the Upper Room Conference, you will hear from incredible speakers, be able to connect with other disciples and gain insight and resources on how to live out your missional call in your homes and communities. We'll have times of worship, prayer, community, and hear from amazing speakers like Dr. Mary Healy, Fr. John Riccardo, Pete Burak, Matt Maher, and Archbishop J. Michael Miller.

This year's conference marks one year since the launch of the Proclaim movement in the Archdiocese of Vancouver. Led by the vision of Archbishop Michael to see the Gospel shared, the heart of the Upper Room comes back to the prodding of the Holy Spirit in our city.

The Upper Room Conference will be streamed live on Saturday, September 19 from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm. You can join from the comfort of your home or gather safely with other intentional disciples at a host parish near you. Registration coming soon to [upperroomvancouver.com](http://upperroomvancouver.com)

Join us as we listen to the Holy Spirit and respond to God's call in our Archdiocese. This is your invitation to see God move.

### Guest Attendant, Men's Hostel (Casual Part-Time)

The Catholic Charities Men's Hostel is looking for Guest Attendants to support the Men's Hostel.

### Guest Attendant Shift Supervisor, Men's Hostel

For more information and application instructions please visit [rcav.org/employment](http://rcav.org/employment)

### Santa Maria House

If you, a loved one, or someone you know, wants to be free from an addiction to drugs or alcohol, consider Sancta Maria House. Located in a beautiful part of Vancouver, we offer a structured and supportive Catholic Christian 12-Step recovery program, in a pleasant, loving, family-like setting. We accept women of all faith backgrounds. For more information, visit: [agapestreetministry.org/healing-homes/sancta-maria-house-1st-stage-recovery-house/](http://agapestreetministry.org/healing-homes/sancta-maria-house-1st-stage-recovery-house/) <<http://agapestreetministry.org/healing-homes/sancta-maria-house-1st-stage-recovery-house/>> or call 604-731-5550.