



## Guardian Angels Parish

1161 Broughton Street, Vancouver BC V6G 2B3

Tel: 604-684-5775; Fax: 604-684-5757

Email: parish.ga@rcav.org; Website: guardianangelsvancouver.ca

Pastor: Rev. John Alex Pinto, OCD

## SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

November 20, 2020

**Dear Parishioners,**

At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century there was the rise of secularism and forms of oppressive regimes. This solemnity of Jesus Christ – King of the Universe, was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 as a counter trend and idealism. This feast is meant to assert Christ's royalty over nations, families, and individuals. For this Feast of Christ the King which is celebrated on the 34<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the liturgical year, marks the conclusion of this year Cycle A. And, from next weekend we begin the season of Advent with liturgical Cycle B.

On this Sunday, the Church presents to us in the first reading the 34<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Prophet Ezekiel. Prophet Ezekiel was a temple priest and was a victim of Babylonian deportation. He personally experienced the invasion of foreign forces, the atrocities of war and the consequences of corruption and lack of leadership (shepherding) on the part of Israel's rulers. Due to irresponsibility, Israel and its population had to face grave consequences. Reflecting this situation, Prophet Ezekiel thought of what Yahweh will do. Yahweh tells people through Prophet Ezekiel, "For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land. I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD. I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice." Ezek. 34: 11-16 NIV

This reading from Prophet Ezekiel gives us lots of hope and consolation –

- a) He is going to be with us.
- b) He will search for the lost sheep.
- c) He will take care of those who need physical healing and nourishment.
- d) He will establish peace and justice.

Last Thursday, you heard of the new announcement from Dr. Bonnie Henry the Chief Provincial Health Officer, asking faith leaders not to have any services for two weeks.

Enclosed please find the response from our Shepherd, Archbishop Michael Miller.

Please join and participate at our Sunday Mass through live streaming at 11 am on Sunday. Do continue your prayers and sacrifices as we face and respond to this pandemic.

December 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, has been designated by the archdiocese as a Day of Mercy. I will be available for confession from 10 to 12 am and 5 to 7 pm. So also in other parishes of the archdiocese.

Please note that church will be open for individual prayer. Please come to the office to get your access to the church. Only individual prayer is allowed, you cannot come as a group.

Prayers and blessings,

**Fr. John Alex Pinto OCD**  
Pastor

**Source: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2018-11/sunday-reflections>**

Excerpts from: Fr. Antony Kadavil reflections and comments on the readings at Mass for the feast of Christ the King.

**What is the Kingdom of God? What is the Kingdom of Christ the King?** Here is a beautiful explanation given by Gerald Darring (St. Louis University: *Center for Liturgy*): The Kingdom of God is a space. It exists in every home where parents and children love each other. It exists in every region and country that cares for its weak and vulnerable. It exists in every parish that reaches out to the needy. The Kingdom of God is a time. It happens whenever someone feeds a hungry person, or shelters a homeless person, or shows care to a neglected person. It happens whenever we overturn an unjust law, or correct an injustice, or avert a war. It happens whenever people join in the struggle to overcome poverty, to erase ignorance, to pass on the Faith. The Kingdom of God is in the past (in the life and work of Jesus of Nazareth); it is in the present (in the work of the Church and in the efforts of many others to create a world of goodness and justice); it is in the future (reaching its completion in the age to come). The Kingdom of God is a condition. Its symptoms are love, justice, and peace. Jesus Christ is king! We pray today that God may free all the world to rejoice in His peace, to glory in His justice, to live in His love.

**Life Messages:** 1) We need to assess our commitment to Christ the King today. As we celebrate the Kingship of Christ today, let us remember the truth that He is not our King if we do not listen to him, love him, serve him, and follow him. We belong to his Kingdom only when we try to walk with him, when we try to live our lives fully in the spirit of the Gospel and when that Gospel spirit penetrates every facet of our living. If Christ is really King of my life, he must be King of every part of my life, and I must let him reign in all parts of my life. We become Christ the King's subjects when we sincerely respond to his loving invitation: ***"Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart"*** (Matthew 11:29). By cultivating in our lives the gentle and humble mind of Christ, we show others that Jesus Christ is in indeed our King and that he is in charge of our lives.

2) We need to give Jesus control over our lives. Today's Feast of Christ the King reminds us of the great truth that Christ must be in charge of our lives, that we must give him sovereign power over our bodies, our thoughts, our heart and our will. In every moral decision we face, there's a choice between Christ the King and Barabbas, and the one who seeks to live in Christ's Kingdom is the one who says, *"Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven."* Let us ask ourselves the question, "What does Jesus, my King, want me to do or say in this situation?" Are we praying each day that our King will give us the right words to say to the people we meet that day, words that will make us true ambassadors of Jesus? Does our home life as well as the way we conduct ourselves with our friends come under the Kingship of Jesus? Or do we try to please ourselves rather than him?

3) We need to follow Christ the King's lesson of humble service to the truth. Christ has come to serve and to be of service to others. Hence, we are called to his service - service to the truth. In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus saying that the reason for his coming - the reason that he was born - was to "bear witness" to the truth. The truth to which Jesus bears witness by His Life and which he teaches us is that God, His Father, is also our loving and forgiving Father, so we are all His children, forming one body. Hence, whatever we do for His children, and our sisters and brothers, we do for Him. So we are called to be a people who reach out to embrace the enemy and the stranger, a people who are called to glory in diversity, a people who will endlessly forgive, a people who will reach out in compassion to the poor and to the marginalized sectors of our society, a people who will support one another in prayer, a people who will realize that we are called not to be served, but to serve. In other words, servant-leadership is the model that Christ the King has given us. "For the Christian, 'to reign is to serve Him,' particularly when serving 'the poor and the suffering, in whom the Church recognizes the image of her poor and suffering founder'" (CCC #786).

4) We need to obey the law of love of Christ the King. Citizens of Christ's kingdom are expected to observe only one major law--the law of love. *"Love God with your whole heart and love your neighbor as yourself."* *"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments."* Jesus expects a higher degree of love from His followers: ***"Love one another as I have loved you."*** On this great Feast of Christ, the King, let us resolve to give him the central place in our lives and promise to obey his commandment of love by sharing what we have with all his needy children. (Fr. Antony Kadavil)

## Reflection

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**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe:  
November 22, 2020**

"...whatever you did for one of the least of my brothers,  
you did for me." – Matthew 25:40

Most of us are generous when it's convenient for us. We are generous when we have the time or the money. But, generosity is the opposite of that. It means giving of one's time, money, compassion, forgiveness or mercy when it's not convenient; when it's not on our schedule, but on the other person's schedule.



### Mass Intentions

Day	Intention
Saturday Nov 21	Sp. Int. of Nestor Chan & Family
Sunday Nov 22	For the Parishioners
Monday Nov 23	+Maria Agnes de la Cruz+
Tuesday Nov 24	+Milagros Jarcia Daluro+
Wednesday Nov 25	+Emiliana Batallones+
Thursday Nov 26	+Remedios G. Legazpi+
Friday Nov 27	Sp. Int. of Hilde Garde Tiangco

**There will be NO MASS with congregation  
until further notice.**

Mass intentions will be offered in private Mass.

### BOOK of LIFE

The Church devotes the month of November to pray for the deceased members of our families and friends. You are invited to offer Mass(es) for your deceased loved ones throughout the year, but most particularly during the month of November. Envelopes and a marked box, for this purpose, have been placed Church. A stipend of \$10 per envelope is suggested. The Book of Life is displayed where you can enter the name(s) of the loved ones that you wish to have remembered and prayed for.



*For the living know that they will die,  
but the dead know nothing, and they  
have no more reward, for the memory of  
them is forgotten. - Ecclesiastes 9:5 -*

### KIDS & SENIORS CORNER

(Contributed by Nyles Fernandes)

- 1) When is the feast day of the presentation of the Virgin Mary?
- 2) Who were the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary?
- 3) When is the feast day of Christ the king?
- 4) When do we begin the first day of Advent?

**ANSWERS:**  
1) November 21 2) Saints Joachim and Anne  
3) November 22 4) November 29 which, (this  
year) is 26 days before Christmas

### PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Nov 24: Memorial; St. Andrew Dũng-Lac and  
Companions, Martyrs**

**Nov 29: First Sunday of Advent**

**Dec 12: Day of Mercy: Feast of Our Lady of  
Guadalupe**



Archbishop Miller has set aside December 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, as a dedicated Day of Mercy. The purpose of this day is to allow Catholics to recognize the need for, and availability of, the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent. The particular day

itself will see vast opportunities throughout the Archdiocese for people to get to Confession.

### PROJECT ADVANCE 2020

Total donations to date is \$32,810. Many thanks to those who have contributed so far. Please remember that you can donate online, by mail, or by enclosing your contribution in an envelope marked "Project Advance" and placing it in the collection basket during the offertory at Mass. Please check out our PA custom website at <https://support.rcav.org/guardianangels/>



### Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults



Sessions are for persons inquiring about the Christian faith or wanting to deepen their understanding of the Catholic Faith. Session is ongoing and is held every Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m.

### Parish Religious Education Program

PREP Classes 2020-2021 starts November 8 every Sunday. For inquiries about PREP classes for the year 2020/2021, please email [parish.ga@rcav.org](mailto:parish.ga@rcav.org) or call 604-684-5775.

### Baptism Prep Class



For those preparing their child to get baptized in the Catholic church, we are conducting Baptism Prep Class upon request. Please call or email the parish office for details.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

**3 pm every Saturday or by appointment**

Confessions will be heard at the Confession Room. Please follow protocols and guidelines posted by the door.

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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.

### **Love is the Answer Virtual Retreat**

Join us for this virtual retreat on the spirituality of St. Therese of Lisieux to bring people closer to Jesus during this difficult time of pandemic. Organized by Angelina Muniz from Lumen Vitae and team. We will have two talks, mental maps, time of recollection, contemplative prayer practice, videos and music. It is a free event, and open to everyone. This retreat will take place over Zoom on Saturday, Nov. 21 from 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm. Email [angelina@vidahumanaedu...](mailto:angelina@vidahumanaedu...) or send a WhatsApp to 778-668-7033.

### **Daughters of St. Paul Christmas Concert**

COVID-19 can't stop Christmas. And this year, the Daughters of St Paul choir's Christmas Concert is finally making it to Canada... virtually! The Daughters of St Paul are an international congregation of religious sisters who evangelize through the media. The sisters of the USA & Canada province have long wished to bring their Christmas Concert tour north, but international rights and customs made it impossible. But this year has offered the sisters the unique opportunity to launch their first-ever virtual concert, "Home for Christmas," with choir members joining in from their homes to sing to you in yours! So join us, the Daughters of St Paul Choir, for our first concert for Canada! "Home for Christmas" is a free YouTube live-streamed event where you can expect to meet our choir members, listen to some concert favourites, learn some dance moves, hear some inspirational stories, and have the opportunity to support our mission of evangelization. We hope to see you there on Thursday, Dec. 3 at 5:00 pm. Register online at [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events)

### **Advent Retreat: Ero Cras - "Tomorrow, I Will Be"**

Rejoice, rejoice! Christ is born! Join Father Juan Lucca and Barb Dowding at this year's Advent Retreat: Ero Cras (Tomorrow, I Will Be), where we will explore the rich symbols in Advent and share the intricate details of Christmas liturgy to help prepare us for the coming of Christ at Christmas, where our hope and our joy will be full. This retreat will take place Friday, Dec. 4 at 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm on Zoom. Register online at [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events)

### **Annual Report 2019/2020**

The Archdiocese of Vancouver's Annual Report for 2019-2020 is now published online at [annualreport.rcav.org](http://annualreport.rcav.org)

**LITTLE FLOWER ACADEMY** is accepting applications from prospective Grade Eight candidates for the 2021-2022 school year. All applicants must sit the ENTRANCE EXAM on Friday, December 4, 2020. For more information please visit our website [www.lfabc.org](http://www.lfabc.org) or contact Kathi Wilson, Registrar at [wils-sonk@lfabc.org](mailto:wilsonk@lfabc.org) or 604-738-9016 ext. 114.