



Newsletter – Issue 130: December, 2023

**Prepared by members of the *Una Voce Vancouver Island Association (U.V.V.I.A.)*,
for the Traditional Latin Mass community,
in the Diocese of Victoria, B.C., Canada.**

Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish	U.V.V.I.A. Traditional Latin Mass Community
849 Old Esquimalt Road, Victoria B.C., V9A 4W9	Website: http://latinmassvictoria.com/
Parish Priest: Fr. John Domotor, C.D.	Email: info@latinmassvictoria.com
Phone: 384-3884; E-mail: office@gop.ca Website: www.gop.ca	Newsletter Editor: UVVIA.NL@shaw.ca

Latin Masses & Devotions in December; For latest update see our web-site.		Time	Celebrant
Friday, 1 st December	First Friday Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart of Jesus .No commem.	8.30 a.m.	Fr. Domotor
Sunday, 3 rd December	First Sunday in Advent	Noon	
Friday, 8 th December	Solemn Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary + commem. privileged Advent Feria at all Masses (Friday abstinence lifted in the Traditional Rite).	8.30 a.m	
Sunday, 10 th December	Second Sunday in Advent	Noon	
Friday, 15 th December	Privileged Advent Feria at all Masses	8.30 a.m	
Sunday, 17 th December	Third Sunday in Advent (Gaudete Sunday)	Noon	
Thursday, 21 st Dec.	Feast of St. Thomas, Apostle & Martyr + commem. Greater Advent Feria at all Masses.	8.30 a.m.	
Sunday, 24 th December	Christmas Vigil Mass	Noon	
Monday, 25 th December	Christmas Midday Mass (Third Mass of Christmas, with no commem.), present & past holyday of obligation.	Noon	
Friday, 29 th Decembe	Fifth Day of Christmas + commem. St. Thomas à Becket, Bishop & Martyr, at Low Masses.	8.30 a.m.	
Sunday, 31 st December	Sunday in the Octave of the Nativity	noon	
Monday, 1 st January, 2024	Octave Day of the Nativity, present & past holyday of obligation	noon	

PRAYER INTENTIONS:

For the sick and suffering (see also Parish Bulletin):

Mrs. Agnes Berard	Peter & Christine Stornebrink	Miscellaneous Intentions: For our Priest, Bishop and the Holy Father. For vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life.
Fr. Donald Malins	Mr. Peter Perkins	
Mr. Ron Turner	Mr. Rob McBride	

R.I.P. Please remember in your prayers the faithful departed:

Fr. Michael Birch, Irene Domotor, Roger Brown, Earl & Elsa Morrison, Bernard & Nova Wauthy, Louis Berard, Marcellina Baldauf, Patricia Gould, Mary Lawson, Lorna Cue and Doreen Kitchen, We also remember in our prayers the faithful servants of God: Benedict XVI and George Pell

NEWS

Bishop Strickland and praying for the Pope

You all likely know that Pope Francis has removed Bishop Strickland from his see as Bishop of Tyler, Texas. You may also have read that this holy Bishop said that he has prayed for Pope Francis much more than for anyone else, and that he will continue to pray for him. He does that out of charity. Obviously, he does not want Pope Francis to suffer the eternal fires of Hell. Such a spiritual act of mercy is somewhat uncommon, and it needs to serve as an example for all of us. Please include in your daily prayers the following petition:

For Pope Francis, that he may become faithful to the magisterial teachings of the Church and respectful of the established Traditions. Pray also that he may have a holy death after having been reconciled with the immutable teachings of the Catholic Church.

The Pope has not given Bishop Strickland any reason for his deposition; nor has he given him any new responsibilities. Please also keep Bishop Strickland in your prayers.

2. Please prepare for our two Christmas fundraisers.

a. On Sunday, 3rd December, there will be a Christmas bake sale benefiting Queen of peace parish. Part of the proceeds will be going into our seminarian fund. The theme of the baked sale will be international. Please bring baking that would be typical at Christmas in your original nationality. Your baking for this event should be dropped off at the parish on Saturday, December 2nd, or before the 10 a.m. English Mass on Sunday, 3rd December.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Ellie Raeder. 1-604-808-2390

b. The second event on 17th December, 2023. GAUDETE SUNDAY

There will be: (1) a **Christmas bake sale**; (2) a **silent auction**, and (3) our **monthly book** sale. All proceeds will go to our Seminarian Fund.

If you have religious items to donate for the auction such as statues or holy pictures etc please give them to Lisa Furlong or Ellie Raeder by Sunday, 10th December.

4. A special Christmas Newsletter

On Christmas Day we will have our usual “Special Newsletter” containing a selection of Christmas hymns which will be sung during the short Christmas Season. Please grab a copy, take it home and then back to the church for the next few Sundays.

5. The next Newsletter, for January 2024

It will become available, as usual, on the last Sunday of the previous month, i.e., Sunday, 31st December.

LITURGY

The month of December is entirely dedicated to the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which is especially observed for a devotional octave. Much or all of Advent lies in December as well, as does the Octave of Christmas. The two main feasts of the month are Christmas (25th December) and the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (8th December). Christmas is also preceded by the 'Golden Octave' as well as a Novena. After 16th December, only the Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle is admitted to the calendar.

The Advent season is a penitential period of abstinence and penitence in preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus Christ. It marks the beginning of the ecclesiastical year and includes four consecutive Sundays before Christmas, ending on Christmas Eve. The singing of the Ordinaries of Mass also changes from Mass XI to Mass XVII and is unaccompanied by the organ.

Since Christmas can occur on any day of the week, the first Sunday of Advent can fall anywhere between 27th November and 3rd December. The Advent seasonal colour of the vestments is violet, except it is white on the feastday of the Immaculate Conception (December 8) and rose on Gaudete Sunday. We have dressed this newsletter in a violet border to mark this season.

The term *advent*, in normal parlance, means a coming into being or the start of something. In Sacred Scripture (Genesis 3.15), a Redeemer was promised to Adam and Eve after their expulsion from Paradise. Their descendants had to wait some four thousand years before the advent of the Redeemer, Who was born in a humble stable near Bethlehem, because there was no room for them anywhere in the little Town of Bethlehem. Advent corresponds to that long waiting period of the Israelites.

By the time that Jesus, the Redeemer, was finally born, many Jews had forgotten the true meaning of God's promise. They expected a martial king who would come to free them from the yoke of the Roman occupation. But the Saviour of mankind did not come into the world as a triumphant and charismatic leader who would expel the hated Romans. No, He came into the world as a humble Child. The birth of that humble Babe, Who was actually the powerful Creator of Heaven and earth, was announced by an angel to nearby shepherds. These simple men became the first people, after His parents, to adore Jesus, while a choir of Angels sang *Gloria in excelsis Deo*. It was a simple but majestic appearance of the Son of God in His human nature.

Advent is the season in which we do not only remember Jesus' first coming but also wait in joyful hope and expectation for His second coming. The current conditions in the Church, and in the world, seem to make the need for God's intervention in human affairs ever more urgent.

DEVOTION

We have a beautiful devotion entitled “**Advent and Preparatory Christmas Devotions**” which we highly recommend meditation and prayer during the Advent season. It will be posted on our website and can be downloaded from there. For the devotional octave of the Immaculate Conception, we have a booklet entitled "Devotions to the Immaculate Conception".

A POPULAR DEVOTION IN ADVENT SEASON

There exists a pious custom amongst many Catholics to pray the following popular novena in preparation for Christmas. It reminds them every day in Advent of the coming of Our Lord into the world. To be effective as a meditation, it should be recited with great recollection and attention.

Christmas Anticipation Prayer

Recite piously 15 times a day,

from 30th November

(feastday of St. Andrew the Apostle)

until Christmas

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment
in which the Son of God was born
of the most pure Virgin Mary,
at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold.
In that hour, vouchsafe, O my God!
to hear my prayer and grant my desires,
(Here mention your personal intention)
through the merits of Our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and of His Blessed Mother. Amen

