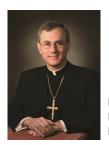


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FIRST SUNDAY **OF ADVENT November 29, 2020**



Ronald Peter Fabbro, C.S.B. Bishop of London

PARISH STAFF

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MASS TIMES Saturday 5:00 P.M. Sunday 8:30 A.M., 10:30 A.M. & 12:30 P.M.

By reservation via phone or online

Daily Mass: Wednesday at noon Seating will be by first come first served

basis. Doors will open at 11:30 A.M.

CONFESSIONS

following Wednesday daily Mass until 1:30 P.M.



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For parish news and information, visit St. Peter's online

www.cathedral.dol.ca







Advent and Christmas at St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica

Sundays of Advent

Nov. 28/29, Dec. 5/6, Dec. 12/13, Dec. 19/20

Sat: 5:00 p.m.; Sun. 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m.

General Absolution will be offered before Mass beginning Dec. 5/6. Seating is by reservation only by phone or online each Tuesday & Wednesday, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Daily Mass-Wednesdays, 12:00pm

Dec. 2, Dec. 9, Dec. 16, Dec. 23

General Absolution will be offered before Mass beginning Dec. 9. *No reservation is required.*

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

Thursday, December 24 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m., 9:00 p.m., 12:00 a.m.

8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. Friday, December 25

Seating is by reservation only by phone or online:

Thurs. Dec. 17 & Fri. Dec. 18, 8:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Saturday, December 26 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 27 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Seating is by reservation only by phone or online:

Tues. Dec. 22 & Wed. Dec. 23, 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Thursday, December 31 5:00 p.m. Friday, January 1 10:30 a.m.

Seating is by reservation only by phone or online: Thurs. Dec. 17 & Fri. Dec. 18, 8:00a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday, January 2 5:00p.m.

Sunday, January 3 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m.

Seating is by reservation only by phone or online:

Tues. Dec. 29 & Wed. Dec. 30, 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Daily Mass-Wednesday Jan. 6, 12:00pm

No reservation is required.

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Saturday, January 9 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 10 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m.

Seating is by reservation only by phone or online

Tues. Jan. 5 & Wed. Jan. 6; 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Mobile Giving at St. Peter's Cathedral

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- 1. Place your device in camera mode or open the QR Code Reader.
- 2. Hold your device over the full QR Code.
- 3. Your camera will scan the OR Code.





Journey Through Advent

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) announces a new online weekly video

series created to help Canadian Catholic faithful to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Entitled Journey through Advent, the series is a joint project involving the CCCB's Office national de liturgie, the National Liturgy Office, and the Office for Evangelization and Catechesis. The initiative was developed as a way, through the modern method of video messaging, to offer a resource that enriches faith formation during a time of joyful anticipation for the coming of the Lord and Saviour into the world.

The videos serve as an introduction to the liturgical Season and present reflections on the Gospel readings for each Sunday in Advent. The Most Reverend Douglas Crosby, O.M.I., Bishop of Hamilton and the Most Reverend Pierre Goudreault, Bishop of Saint -Anne-de-la-Pocatière, provide spiritual and pastoral guidance on the readings that illustrate the true meaning of Christmas.

This video series is especially relevant given the COVID-19 pandemic that places limitations on in-person gatherings for faith communities. It is hoped that Journey through Advent will be a source of deep spiritual solace and insightful preparation for all.

The videos will be available on the CCCB website each Monday in advance of the upcoming Sunday celebration (23 November, 30 November 7 December and 14 December). The series can be found at the CCCB website https://www.cccb.ca/

Reservation System for Weekend Masses

It has now been six weeks since we implemented the Reservation System for our weekend Masses. With the colder weather upon us, the reservations system avoids the need to line-up for mass an hour in advance. We have been able to accommodate many without reservations, but ideally everyone makes a reservation to guarantee seating. Reservations can be made by phone or online each Tuesday and Wednesday morning. It is still necessary for all those with reservations to be there no later then 15 minutes before Mass. The Cathedral doors open 30 minutes prior to Mass. Arriving after 15 minutes may result in your seat being given away. Thank you for your cooperation, patience, and understanding with our volunteers.

Volunteers for Mass-WE NEED YOU!

We continue to offer thanks to the 60 volunteers who have been assisting with our weekend masses and have been faithfully serving our parish community since we re-opened in July. We could not continue to safely open our doors without their commitment and dedication. As we celebrate our 4 weekend Masses, Wednesday daily Mass, baptisms, weddings, and funerals new volunteers are always needed. As we approach the Christmas Season and the additional Masses indicated on our cover this week, we will need even more volunteers to be able to safely open for these scheduled celebrations. Our volunteers are responsible for welcoming and screening of our parishioners, seating of parishioners, directing of traffic flow in and out of the Cathedral and at communion, and sanitizing of the Cathedral after every celebration. prayerfully consider how you might be able to contribute. Training will be provided in order to carry out all tasks safely and effectively. Please contact Cathryn Hall.

Parking Available

St. Peter's has monthly day parking available in our North parking lot. The cost is \$120/month which is substantially below our competitors in the area. Please email or call at basilica@dol.ca or 519-432-3475.

Flowers for Christmas



We are collecting monetary donations to offset the cost of flowers for our Christmas celebrations. If you would like to make a contribution, please seal

donations in an envelope, along with your name, address and phone number and drop it in the Sunday collection or mail in to the office. Donations may be made in the name of family or friends, deceased or living, for whom you may wish to pray. These names will be placed in the bulletin and remembered in prayer throughout the Season of Christmas.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Angel Tree Appeal

There is a longstanding tradition by SSVP at St. Peter's Cathedral to assist those in need at Christmas. The Annual Angel Tree Appeal has helped to raise additional funds and gift cards for those in need at Christmas time. In 2019, the generosity of parishioners resulted in over \$5000 for gift cards through the annual Angel Tree. The 2019 Christmas Delivery packages of food cards and selected Angel Tree gift cards assisted over 160 households. With the COVID restrictions at this time, the Angel Tree will not be set-up in the narthex as in past years but the annual appeal will continue.

This year the Christmas packages will consist of an addressed and personalized Christmas card and greeting, a \$50 food voucher and selected Angel Tree gift cards. \$10 Gift cards from such places as Giant Tiger, Walmart, Shoppers Drug Mart or Tim Horton's are most appreciated. Gift cards, along with monetary donations can be placed in an envelope clearly marked 2020 Angel Tree Appeal and placed in the offertory baskets or dropped off at the office. Monetary donations to SSVP can also be made online. Donations will be gratefully accepted up until the weekend of Dec. 5/6. Christmas Delivery Packages to our neighbours in need will take place on Saturday December 12, 2020. In past years, we have been told by some recipients of your gifts that these gifts had been their one source of Christmas cheer. Thank you for helping us bring joy to someone over this special season.

Service of Lessons and Carols

On the first Sunday of Advent, November 29, at 7 p.m., the London Centre of the Royal Canadian College of Organists will present their annual Carol Service. The service was recorded at Metropolitan United Church and follows the traditional service of lessons and carols. Readers are members of London clergy, and there are organ and vocal solos as well as a guest appearance by the Salvation Army Citadel Band. The recording is available at londonrcco.com.



King's University College Veritas Series

The next speaker in King's Veritas Lecture series on December 3 at 7:00 p.m. is Shane Claiborne. His lecture "The Jesus Way in the World Today" is

about how our faith is not just a way of believing. It is a way of living in the world. Christians are meant to be nonconformists, interrupting the patterns of our world with prophetic imagination. We should be a holy counterculture. After all, the Kingdom of God is not just something we hope for when we die, but something that we are to bring on earth as it is in heaven. More information and registration are at this *link*.



From the Desk of the Rector

What if I can't make it to Church? The cover of this week's bulletin presents the schedule for Advent and Christmas. It's quite clear not everyone will be able to attend everything due to the circumstances caused by the pandemic. Our first responsibility is to remain healthy and safe and to support others in doing the same. Over the course of Advent we will offer suggestions for making the celebration of Advent and Christmas prayerful and meaningful – just as we celebrated the events of Holy Week and Easter. An inability to make it to the Cathedral in no way diminishes our presence and openness to what God will share with us if we are open and reflective. Surprises are good!

Light a Candle – for a reason. Inviting us to prepare our heart for Advent, Sr. Joan Chittister offers the following: "Advent is that unchangeable season when the same concepts, the same words rise over and over again, year after year, to challenge our hearts and plague our minds... when we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus in our lives... Candles are prominent symbols in Advent services. Candles focus our minds on the light of Christ and remind us always that time is going by, that light is ebbing. Light a candle occasionally during the Advent season and reflect on these questions: What is time for? If time is only for work, then what will be left of me when the work is done? If there is no light in me, what will happen when the darkness comes, as darkness comes to every life? What is the gain of leading a useful life if I do not also lead a meaningful one?"

A story. One day a wise rabbi turned to his students and asked: "How can you tell when the night has passed and

the day is on its way back again?" One student said "When you see an animal in the distance and you can tell whether it is sheep or goat" Another said "When you see a tree in the distance and you can tell whether it is a fig tree or a peach tree." Another said "when you can see a person in the distance, and you can tell whether it is a friend or an enemy." There were a number of other answers. But the rabbi didn't respond and so they asked him what his answer was. And he replied as follows: "It is when you can look at the face of any human being and see the face of a brother or sister, because if you cannot do this, then no matter what time it is, for you it is still night."

Do we share light, hope, joy and freedom? We are a people on whom the light of Jesus has shone and still shines. We keep trying to walk in the light – the light of truth in life, the light of holiness and grace, the light of justice, love and peace. Nevertheless, darkness still has power over us. It can take many forms. Any kind of hatred, lack of forgiveness, lack of reconciliation, injustice done to another, behaviour that is wrong- all of these are forms of darkness. But once we recognize the darkness in our lives and it does take courage, we end up taking responsibility for it and decide to do something about it. There is no joy in living in darkness. To walk in the light means we do have joy and we do have freedom. It would be wonderful if at the end of this Advent I can truthfully say, that with God's help, I had left some form of darkness behind me. That I had allowed the light to shine into some area of my life where up until now darkness had taken root. Then I would be more ready to meet the Lord of light knowing that in his presence no form of darkness can exist.

Fr. Jam Modler

Celebration of Weekday Liturgy

Wednesday, December 2nd - 12:00 pm

Anthony & Mary Pinto; Bishop John Michael Sherlock; Int. of Peter & Olga Marek

We remember in prayer all those who are sick. We also pray for those who have died and comfort those who mourn.

We pray for those serving in pastoral ministry throughout our diocese:

Christine Yeoumans, Coordinator of Youth Ministry; Deacon Fred Truchon; Rev. Louis Mousseau, O.F.M. Cap.; Rebecca Bondy, Pastoral Minister/Coordinator of Youth Ministry; Rev. Robert Champagne; Janet Loo, Liturgical Facilitator/Director of Music; Rev. Dwayne Adam

READINGS - SUNDAY DECEMBER 6, 2020 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading - Isaiah 40.1-5, 9-11
Psalm - Ps 85.8ab+9, 10-11, 12-13 (R.7)
Second Reading - 2 Peter 3.8-14
Gospel - Mark 1.1-8

Sunday Missals for the 2020/2021 Liturgical Year are available in the narthex or through the Parish Office. Cost is \$5.00. With our COIVD restrictions, upon entry to the church, the missals will be available from our volunteers. The volunteers will be wearing gloves. We ask you to place your money in the basket to avoid minimal handling.

Sunday Missals

Sunday Offertory Envelopes

The Sunday Offertory envelopes are now available at the registration table for those who have registered for Mass. The volunteers will be wearing gloves and will distribute them as you check in for Mass. Envelopes can also be picked up at the Parish Office. Please call ahead if you are coming to the office.

Come Pray With Us

Join us each Sunday for our Sunday Prayer Service online. The service invites us into the Sunday scriptures and celebrates a time of prayer, music, and reflection led by members of our Pastoral Team. The service will be available at the following <u>link</u> each Sunday morning.



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