



# ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CATHOLIC CHURCH

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## First Sunday of Advent

*December 1, 2024*



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### LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTIONS

Envelopes	1610.00
Loose	103.80
Other	2235.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3948.80</b>

### *December 1, 2024 - First Sunday of Advent*

*“But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand.” Luke 21:28*

We celebrate Advent each year in preparation for the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await His second coming. What will you do differently this Advent season to grow in friendship and love with Jesus? How will you inspire others to do the same? Start by sharing your God story with others, especially those that are closest to you. Invite and accompany them on their faith journey this Advent.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

**Please pray for those who are ill, or housebound, in our Parish Family:**

Barry Bembridge, Baby Anthony Vu, Joanna Black, Stella Hildebrandt, Paul McKenzie, Rudy Leon, Shirley Bach, Patrick Donegan, David Lim

**Please pray for the most recently deceased:**

Kate Davies

**We, the Catholic community of St. Anthony of Padua, relying on the wisdom and grace of God, unite ourselves to the call for renewal and transformation of our spiritual, social, and economic life.**

- MISSION STATEMENT -

# WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

SAT	Nov 30	5 PM	+Florence Sinclair
SUN	Dec 1	10:00 AM	+Michele Gasparini
		1:00 PM	+Omelus Family
MON	Dec 2	9 AM	+Gilbert Schaubroeck
TUE	Dec 3	7 PM	+Johannes Van VanVliet Francis D. Cadiz (thanks)
WED	Dec 4	9 AM	+Kyle Houle
THU	Dec 5	9 AM	+Jenny Graham
FRI	Dec 6	9 AM	+Fe Arizola
SAT	Dec 7	5 PM	+Harry & Lillian Bouchard



*Thank you for your response! We have met our parish goal of \$8600 All funds given in excess of this amount will be returned to our parish for our projects and we can directly apply that to paying for the pavement in our parking lot!!!!*

**To date: \$10,300!!!!**

**THANK YOU!!!!**

*For all of you who have registered for the Parish Dinner, please remember that it begins at 6 pm on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>!*

**Upcoming at St. Anthony's**  
**Pastoral Council: Tuesday 7:30 pm**  
**PREP: Thursdays 3:30 pm**  
**RCIA: Thursdays 6 pm**  
**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT TREE LIGHTING: December 1<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm**  
**PARISH CHRISTMAS DINNER: December 8<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm**  
**SIMBANG GABI: December 15-23 at 6 pm**



## THE RITE OF ACCEPTANCE INTO THE ORDER OF CATECHUMENS AND THE RITE OF WELCOMING THE CANDIDATE

The Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens (Rite of Acceptance) is the first of the “threshold rites” of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), and the first public ritual. In the Rite of Acceptance, a change of identity takes place: those previously known as inquirers become catechumens. They are officially welcomed by the Church as disciples, members (albeit not yet full members) of the household of faith. The text calls this rite “the first consecration by the Church”<sup>1</sup> of those seeking Christian initiation. They are literally marked with the cross of Christ as God’s own.

**This morning, we welcome Shannon Campbell with his Sponsor, Aaron Sask**

The Christmas Tree Lighting will take place on Sunday night at 6 pm  
 Please come and bring your families  
 There will be hot dogs & hot chocolate in the parish hall following the lighting of the trees which begins at the Shrine!  
 See you all there!

## CWL News

CWL Dues are due now. You may submit them at the parish office \$45.00

**Food Bank Sunday is the last Sunday of each month in our parish.**

**Please remember that many people in our community rely on this assistance and your donations are gratefully accepted and badly needed. There are red bags in the gathering area of the church for you to use to bring your generous donations into the church.**

**Thank you!**



**TODAY, WE begin the season of Advent, a time of waiting as we anticipate the coming of Jesus. The liturgy for this Sunday invites us to reflect on our lives in light of the Lord's arrival: "Grant your faithful, Almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly**

**kingdom."**<sup>[1]</sup> Our entire existence is a time of waiting until that great day when Jesus comes to bring us to Himself. To prepare for this encounter, the wisdom of the Church urges us to ask God for a deeper desire to do good.

**OUR LIVES** are marvelous gifts from God. During Advent, a time of special grace, the Church continually reminds us of this truth:

**God is greater than the things that suffocate or diminish love, things that ultimately bring pain and dissatisfaction. "In a society that often focuses too much on material comfort, faith helps us to lift our gaze and discover the true dimension of our existence. If we are bearers of the Gospel, our journey through this earth will be fruitful."**<sup>[2]</sup> Is that not what we want this

**Advent: to lift our gaze, rediscover the true dimension of our lives, and learn to leave a lasting impact as we journey through this world? We can pray with the words of the Psalm: Make known to me your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths (Ps 25:4).**

**Conversion is, above all, a grace: light to see and the strength to want to. We long to look upon God's face, that we may be saved. We know our limitations do not define us; rather, we are upheld by the infinite power of God.**

**"Lord, we place our trust in You." We need to tell Him so, because God deeply respects our freedom and waits for us to invite Him into our lives. If we ask Him, listen to his words, and try to put them into practice, entrusting Him with the most difficult tasks while faithfully attending to those within our reach, we can be certain that He will grant us his light and strength.**

**Knowing who our Lord is and mindful of his call to vigilance, we want to remain lovingly attentive, even when fatigue weighs on us. We can rely on Mary's presence: she lived in expectant vigilance during the months of carrying the Lord in her womb, and she will help us stay awake and joyful, ready to begin again whenever necessary, until our Jesus arrives.**

## Mail Disruption:

### The B.C. Catholic Print Edition

Stay informed and inspired with The B.C. Catholic digital edition, now available for free at [digital.bccatholic.ca](http://digital.bccatholic.ca). Due to a mail service disruption, our print edition is temporarily paused. We will resume printing as soon as the postal service returns to normal.

### Archbishop's Annual Mass for Life

The Archbishop's Annual Mass for Life is a once a year pro-life event for all those involved in the pro-life movement and all Catholics and people of other faiths to pray for respect for human life for conception to its natural end. Saturday, December 14, 12:10 p.m. at Holy Rosary Cathedral in Vancouver. Learn more at [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events).



Would you like to honor a loved one, family member, or friend in our Christmas Altar Display. If you wish to do this, simply drop a donation of your choice into the offering basket or leave it at the Parish Office!

Remember to include the name(s) of the people you wish to have honored  
Along with your name.

### Second Collection for Youth Ministry

The second collection this weekend will support Archdiocesan youth programs.

These funds make it possible for the Ministries and Outreach Office to provide youth ministry formation to parishes through training, support, and events.

Parishes with active youth ministry programming will receive a 50% rebate from this collection. Learn more at [rcav.org/parishes/second-collection](http://rcav.org/parishes/second-collection).

### Hockey Priest and the Story of Father David Bauer

Come and enjoy the conversation between author of Hockey Priest, Dr. Matt Hoven, and Clay Imoo, as they discuss how Father David Bauer brought together his Catholic life and his hockey life here at St. Mark's College and around the world. Thursday, December 5, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at St. Mark's College, Vancouver. Learn more and register at [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events).

### Christmas Choir Fest at the Agricultural Hall in Agassiz is Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm

A free will donation will be accepted in support of the Food Bank. Please come and hear the local church choirs as they come together to celebrate Christmas in this annual musical event.



