

St. Joan of Arc Parish

Proclaiming and Living the Gospel through Stewardship. All are Welcome.

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Served by the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement

PARISH STAFF

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Oh Come
Let us Adore Him

MASS
INTENTIONS**Sunday, December 24****Fourth Sunday of Advent**

2 Sam 7:1-5 Ps 89: 1-4

Rm 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38

10:00 am Parish Community

Monday, December 25**The Nativity of the Lord**

Is 52: 7-10 Ps 98-1, 6

Hb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18

10:00 am Parish Community

12:00 pm Parish Community

Tuesday, December 26

Acts 6:8-10, Ps 31:2-16

Mt 10:17-22

5:30 pm Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, December 27

1Jn1:1-4 Ps97:1-12 Jn 20:8

5:30 pm Int. of Elizabeth

Thursday, December 28

1Jn1:5-2:2 Ps124: 2-8 Mtt 2:13-18

5:30 pm Godofredo Guarin &
Grant Panter**Friday, December 29**

1Jn2:3-11 Ps 96:1-6 Lk2:22-35

5:30 pm Janek Pabian

Saturday, December 30

1Jn2:12-17 Ps 96:7-12 Lk 2:36-40

5:30 pm Wanda Latanski

***The Friar's Nook***

Well, it's almost Christmas. I love this small time of year where it's not yet Christmas but it's really close. The reason I like this so much is all the extraneous things that have been attached to the holiday. We have decorating and parties and meals and visiting and shopping. It can take a season of quiet peace and expectant waiting and turn it into a season of stress and anxiety.

Christmas is coming on Monday. I say that not to cause you to panic about all the things that you haven't done or all the things that "need" to be done. But rather tell you that it's too late - but in a good way. What hasn't gotten done won't get done so relax. If you haven't taken the time during the season of Advent to quiet yourself down that you may be like the shepherds watching their flocks at night under a starry sky, then now 's the chance to do so! As we learned from Doctor Seuss's story *How the Grinch stole Christmas*, Christmas is coming in fact Christmas comes whether or not we have the decorations or the feasts or the presents - Christmas comes!

They say that Christmas is for children, but I want to remind you that we are all children. Sometimes we've covered it up with all the obligations and worries of life but underneath it all we are all children - children of God. The season of Advent is short this year so it gives us less time to sweep away all the "adulting" we do that we may find the child of wonder and each of us. Even if we have no one to visit or to visit with us. Even if we have a baloney sandwich rather than a Christmas feast. Even if we have no gifts under the tree or even no tree at all, Christmas comes.

As a child I waited with wondrous expectation over what presents I would get for Christmas. I never thought that I would be as an adult, a person who much rather enjoys giving gifts for Christmas. It causes me to think about those I'm giving gifts to and to ponder what they would like that I might be able to surprise them with it. And I get great joy and seeing them receive and open those gifts. As I don't have any children myself, I've already picked out a couple of gifts for Bodhi's Christmas stocking. Well, there is nothing he needs whether in toys or treats, but I know he will like these presents on Christmas morning. And that makes me happy.

Wherever you find yourself this Christmas, whatever you find yourself doing, I hope that you take the time to rejoice in whatever God gives you that you may in turn give goodness to others and find that same joy!

Merry Christmas,
Fr. Bob

Please Pray For

The Sick: Aniela Kuncaitis, Antonia Bova, Celeste Cignarella, Mary K, Rosanne K, Michelle Rodrigues, Rose Menecola, Guillermo Medina

The Deceased: Frank Grech, Brendan Clough, Dorothy Laxton, Gregor Rustja



Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve, December 24

5:30 pm Children's pageant

*8:00 pm Christmas Liturgy

*12:00am Christmas Liturgy

Christmas Day, December 25

10:00 am Christmas Liturgy

12:00 pm Christmas Liturgy

*Solemnity of Mary,
Mother of God*

New Year's Eve, December 31

5:30 pm The Holy Family of

Jesus, Mary & Joseph

New Year's Day, January 1st

10:00 am Mary, The Holy
Mother of God Liturgy

12:00 pm Mary, The Holy
Mother of God Liturgy

***Please note: Please check our website in case of any changes
with Mass times for Christmas and New Year. Thank you!**

Merry Christmas

May the birth of our Lord bring you joy, love and peace.

Love, Fr. Bob, Deacon Alex, Rosanne, Arturo, Anne and Mj



**St. Joan of Arc Development and
Peace Group**

would like to thank the parish for their response to the letter signing last month. We gathered 249 signatures for the letter being sent to the Honduran Ambassador to Canada to make her aware of the egregious abuses of land and water in Honduras due to iron ore mining. These signatures along with signatures from parishes all over Canada highlight the fact that our small actions when added to others can make a big difference in our world. Thank you!

SJA D&P will continue to bring to parish fair trade weekends once a month in the new year. Please look for the upcoming dates in the weekly bulletins. Our next SJA D&P meeting is Monday, January 22nd at 7PM in the room off the parish hall and we welcome new members.

Monthly Offertory 2023

Offertory	November
Envelopes	\$ 7,116
Loose	\$ 2,140
PAG*	\$ 6,102
Total	\$ 15,358

**Pre-Authorized Giving*

Contributions to the Building Maintenance Fund for the month of November were \$4,277.

Christmas Collection:

Any Donation received by December 31st, will be included in the 2023 tax receipts.

From the Parish Office:

We'll be *fa-la-la-la-far* away from our desks!

We'll return on January 3

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