

SATURDAY, November 14, & SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2020

33RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



In my ministry in the inner-city parish where I'm pastor, I'm often overwhelmed by the seemingly unsolvable problems we face. How to tackle poverty, unemployment, and

crime? How to get practical help to folks? How to bring together those with resources and those with needs? How to deal with daily frustrations?

In this tough ministry, one of my Franciscan colleagues has a very helpful strategy for me and our parish community. He says there's two ways to do this ministry. One is a way that stresses people's needs. This "need-based" approach can often lead to frustration as we face those overwhelming problems. A second way is an "asset-based" approach. Everyone has a gift. Every person has a unique dignity given by God. Everyone is an "asset" in our community. The poorest person economically may have a talent or gift not immediately apparent. In this approach we're all in relationship, and in that relationship, love and service can flow two ways.

Maybe that's part of what Jesus wants to teach us in today's parable of the talents. We've all been given gifts by God. In the parable, praise goes to those who develop those gifts; hoarding them or burying them—even for security's sake—is not an option. In our faith communities we're challenged to find ways to discover the gifts each person has and to discover how to put them at the service of the Kingdom.

From Father Greg Friedman, OFM
Sunday Soundbites

2021 CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPES

The **2021 church envelopes** will be available for pick up the next week. If you no longer want to use envelopes and **would prefer to use interact or Pre-authorized payments** for your offering, please contact the parish office ASAP by phone at 250-964-4898 or email icparish@pgdiocese.bc.ca.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

In the second week of January 2021 we will be providing a **Family Faith Formation** program for all children from grades K-7 attending public school. We are collaborating with St. Mary's Parish. The program will include Sacramental preparation as well as a parent faith formation component. Please pick up a registration form in the church foyer or go online to <https://www.icparish.ca/religious-ed>. Please submit your form to our parish office or email to icparish@pgdiocese.bc.ca on or before **NOVEMBER 18, 2020**.

Sign up for 2020 Christmas Masses

This year, because of COVID-19, we will have an opportunity for parishioners to sign up for the Mass of their choice for the Christmas and for New Year's celebrations.

The Mass times will be as follows:

Nativity of the Lord: Christmas Eve and Day

- December 24 @ 6PM
- December 24 @ 8PM
- December 24 @ 10PM
- December 25, 2020 @ 10 AM ONLY

Feast of Mary, the Mother of God: New Year's Eve and Day

- December 31, 2020 @ 6PM
- January 1, 2021 @ 10AM ONLY

**The sign-up sheet will be available
the first week of December.**

Please consider which Mass you and your family would like to attend. Both the church and hall will be available for attendance at all evening Masses. There will be a cap of 50 people for each space. It will be important for you to decide soon as possible as we need to know the number of tickets that will be made available on Eventbrite. **THERE WILL BE NO WALK-INS – ALL THOSE ATTENDING MUST BE REGISTERED.**

FESTIVAL OF TREES

Thank you to all who contributed for the Giving Tree **BLANKET PROJECT**. All the blankets have been sponsored. We continue to accept monetary donations for the following agencies **Baby's New Beginnings, Canadian Mental Health, Elizabeth Fry Society, John Howard Society, Phoenix Transition Home, and Youth Around Prince George**. These agencies have specific requests and your donation would be much appreciated. If you would like to **make a monetary donation** please contact Sr. Michaela before December 4, 2020. **Thank you for your support.**

VIRTUAL SOUTHDOWN COMMUNITY WELLNESS SERVICES

The Southdown Institute, a trusted provider of psychological services and spiritual guidance to the adult Catholic population, ordained and lay alike, has expanded its services to reach even more members of the Catholic Faith Community across Canada. The services are designed to help individuals navigate these new and challenging times and offer a variety of interactive psychoeducation webinars, spirituality and psychotherapy groups to address the issues we are now facing. Please visit www.southdown.on.ca for further details and to register. See the flyer on bulletin board or on our website for upcoming events.

IC SCHOOL & PARENT SUPPORT GROUP (PSG) FUNDRAISER

The PSG, in partnership with IC school, is hosting two fundraisers, Purdy's Chocolate and North Roast Coffee sales. Perfect Christmas gifts for family and friends. PGS support financial endeavours of the school and welcome your support as they were not able to have their main fundraising activities this year due to Covid-19. For More info **contact Stephanie Carpenter at sprimus83@outlook.com** or go to <https://fundraising.purdys.com/join.aspx/1226655-79808> to place your order. **Thank you for your support.**

MASS FOR DECEASED CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS

The annual Mass for deceased Clergy and Religious will be celebrated on Saturday, the 21st of November at 10:00AM in Sacred Heart Cathedral.

Please register through this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/mass-for-deceased-clergy-and-religious-tickets-128672844943> Or

LIVE Stream via FaceBook Page Roman Catholic Diocese of Prince George: <https://www.facebook.com/RCDPG>

ADVENT NOON HOUR REFLECTIONS



Using famous religious paintings, each on the Sunday Gospels of Advent, the Sisters of St. Joseph will host an Advent 2020 series of prayer and reflection in preparation for our beautiful religious celebration of the Birth of Christ.

At St. Mary's Church – Freeman Street Entrance
On Mondays, November 23, 30, December 7 and 14.
at 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Sign in registration at the door – 50-person limit.

MASKS ARE REQUIRED!

ANNUAL APPEAL-CALLED TOGETHER UPDATE

Thank you for your continued support for the Annual Appeal. We are extremely grateful for your kind generosity during this time of pandemic many smaller parishes will benefit from your contribution due to our sharing our rebate with them.

Diocesan Goal	\$200,000
Pledged to date	\$179,115
Received to date	\$172,153
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IC Parish Goal	\$ 19, 804
Received to date	\$ 31,430

PARISH FINANCIAL WEEKLY UPDATE

Sunday Collection weekend of:	Nov 7-8, 2020
Envelopes	3995.00
Loose Change	45.00
Total Sunday Collection	\$4040.00
Children's Collection	30.30
Building/Grounds Collection(for roof)	320.00
Needs of the Church	750.00

MASS TIMES and COVID-19 Protocols
SATURDAY EVENING AT 6:00 PM
SUNDAY MASSES AT 9:00AM, 11:00AM & 7:00PM.

We continue to observe and follow the protocols set out by [BC Centre for Disease Control](#) and [WorkSafe BC](#).

- We have two spaces within our facility (church and hall) with a cap of 50 people per space.
- Each space has its own entrance and exit.
- Upon arrival individuals must check in with the ushers.
- Sanitization and distancing are a must. Masks are an expectation, as per the Provincial Health Officer.
- If you have not registered by phone or online, you must register with the usher providing your name and email or phone number. **Entrance is NOT guaranteed for unregistered people.**
- If you registered by phone or online to secure your spot please **arrive at least 10 minutes prior to Mass starting**. Your registration does **not** guarantee a place in the church itself, but a place in our facility.
- You **MUST REGISTER EVERY WEEK** for the Sunday Mass that you would like to attend, please go to www.icparish.ca for further details.

ONLINE REGISTRATION PREFERRED

IF YOU REGISTER EITHER BY PHONE OR ONLINE AND WILL NOT BE ATTENDING – PLEASE CALL TO CANCEL – TO FREE UP YOUR SPOT FOR ANOTHER.

Regular Daily Mass is celebrated at 9:00AM Monday thru Saturday. No registration required.

THE NATIONAL EVANGELIZATION TEAM (NET)

A team of seven young Catholics are ministering in the Diocese. **The team will be at Immaculate Conception School and Parish from November 22 – December 5, 2020 and then again in April 18-24, 2021.** They are staying at the Domano Renewal Centre instead of host homes due to the pandemic. In light of this, they are in need of food/meal donations. If you are interested in being a part of this initiative within our Diocese by helping to provide meals, food or gift certificates for the NET Team while they are in our parish and school please call the parish office or Lisa at the Pastoral Centre at vfarrell@pgdiocese.bc.ca. **Thank you for your consideration in helping with this great mission.**