

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Diocese of Prince George

3285 Cathedral Avenue - Prince George, BC V2N 6R4

TELEPHONE: 250-964-4898

WEBSITE: www.icparish.ca



3rd Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023



OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Catholic community nourished through
the Word and the Sacraments.

Striving to follow Christ,
we reach out and welcome all,
witnessing through loving actions
in service, education, and celebration.

OFFICE HOURS:	Monday to Friday	9:30AM – 3:00PM
MASS TIMES:	Daily	Monday – Friday 9:00AM
	Sunday	9:00AM, 11:00AM & 7:00PM
SACRAMENTS:	Baptism	Contact Parish Office
	Reconciliation	Before Mass, or by appointment
	Marriage	Contact Parish Office at least six months in advance

BISHOP -DIOCESE OF PRINCE GEORGE

Most Rev. Stephen Jensen

Email: sjensen@pgdiocese.bc.ca

PASTOR -IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH
ASSISTANT PRIEST

Rev. John Garden
Rev. Matthew Bellerive

Email: jgarden@pgdiocese.bc.ca

Email: mbellerive@pgdiocese.bc.ca

ADMINISTRATIVE AND PASTORAL ASSISTANT

Mrs. Martha Primus

Email: icparish@pgdiocese.bc.ca

PRINCIPAL -IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

Mrs. Kathleen Barth

Email: icsoffice@cispge.ca

PASTORAL MINISTRIES CONTACTS

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR: Jennifer Wilczek

HOME/HOSPITAL VISITS: Contact Parish Office

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR: Daniel Burri

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: TBA

HOSPITALITY/COFFEE: Daniel Burri

CHURCH

SUNDAY:

ENVIRONMENT: Phyllis Sarrazin

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Fern Cote

SOCIAL ACTION &

GRAND KNIGHT:

SOUP KITCHEN: Sr. Michaela

K of C Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the month

VOCATIONS: Fr. Terry Brock

Rejoice in the Lord always: again I say, rejoice.

Philippians 4, 4



The first part of Advent allows for the celebration of feasts of the saints; from December 17th until Christmas, the liturgy and readings of the day have priority.

Mary plays a prominent role in Advent; it is the season in which she finds a special place as the one who gives herself to the service of the Word.

December 8th: celebrates Mary's own sinless conception (which is not to be identified with the virgin birth of Jesus); this is fulfilled in the commemoration of her birth on September 8th. Mary is the perfect Advent model of what the Church is called to be.

December 12th: Our Lady of Guadalupe (commemorating the apparitions to Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin in Mexico in 1531) has particular significance in North America in which she is celebrated as patroness. In Canada, it is a National Day of Prayer for Aboriginal People.

Many countries had a tradition called the Rorate Masses: special celebrations in honour of Mary during Advent. Older calendars included a number of reflective feasts (for example, her Betrothal to Joseph and her Waiting (Expectation) for the Birth). Although these celebrations are not included in the current liturgical books, Mary's role is clearly expressed, especially in the days directly before Christmas.

Joseph's role in the mystery is the particular focus of the Fourth Sunday (Year C) and of the weekdays before Christmas. His response to the angel's message must be mirrored in the response of each Christian to the call to service of the Word.

CHRISTMAS SEASON PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The parish office will be closed from December 22, 2023 to January 1, 2024 inclusive.

SEATING FOR CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Due to the number of people who attend Christmas Eve Masses, please note that parishioners will ONLY be able to "hold" a seat for friends and family until 15 minutes prior to the beginning of Mass.

OVERFLOW SEATING WILL BE IN THE PARISH HALL



Sun	Dec 17	9AM	For the People of IC
		11AM	
		7PM	For the Holy Souls in Purgatory
Mon	Dec 18	9AM	RIP of Betty Hopley
Tues	Dec 19	9AM	For the Holy Souls in Purgatory
Wed	Dec 20	9AM	RIP of Betty Ann Davis
Thu	Dec 21	9AM	RIP of Patrick and Ruth Martin
Fri	Dec 22	9AM	RIP of Stella Caglioti

Mass intentions may be requested for various reasons (eg. a deceased loved one, someone who is ill, a birthday or anniversary, etc.) A Mass offering may be given for the intention but is not required. If you have a Mass intention, please call the parish office by Wednesday of each week so that the intention can be published in the bulletin.



- **K of C Pancake Breakfast –December 17 today the 9AM and 11AM Masses- there will be a special guest.**
- **Family Movie Night – December 21, 2023 from 6:00PM to 8:30PM- more details to come. See poster in foyer on bulletin boards.**

Attention Movie goers - All can enter a draw for a night to the movie theatre for the whole family- sponsored by **Lisa O'Neill - Team Powerhouse Realty**

- **Advent Series reflecting on the "O Antiphons" by Fr. Matthew; Monday December 18, to 22. 5:30 to 6:00PM.**
- **Monthly Adoration at Domano Chapel – Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM**
- **K of C Monthly Meeting (every 2nd Thursday of the month @ 7:00PM) – Next meeting will be Thursday, January 11, 2024**
- **RCIA Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 7PM at Immaculate Conception Church**

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Anticipation of 4th Sun of Advent – Sat. Dec 23, 5:00 PM

4th Sunday of Advent – Sun. Dec 24, 9:00AM only

Christmas Eve – Sunday, December 24

Children's Mass 5:00PM

Christmas Eve 8:00PM

Christmas Day- Monday, December 25 10:00AM only

IC=
Immaculate Conception
Incredible Community

HOME/HOSPITAL VISITS

If you or someone you know are confined to home and are unable to come to Church please call or email the parish office and let us know. Also, when being admitted to the hospital let the registration clerk know that you wish to be visited as the Privacy Act limits the information that hospitals can release and we have no other way of knowing you are in hospital.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD BANK

The focus in **December** is CANNED FISH/MEATS, CAKE MIXES And CEREAL, but **ALL** non-perishable food items continue to be accepted.

There is a box in the foyer for your donations.

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

Located on 2nd Avenue. Shepherd's Corner is a diocesan outreach that ministers to street people. We are supporting the work of this outreach by collecting hygiene items. Suggestions include (small sizes): toothbrushes and toothpaste, dental floss, combs, hand soap, shampoo, deodorant, nail clippers, lip balm, hand sanitizers, Kleenex pouches, hand lotion, feminine hygiene products, disposable razors.....

THERE IS A BOX IN THE FOYER FOR YOUR DONATIONS.

2024 CHURCH ENVELOPES

Please pick up your envelopes in the church foyer. Call or email the parish office if you do not currently have envelopes and would like to use them, or for the Special Collection envelope packages for those who are considering EFT and PAD.

For the current users PAD there are Special Collection envelopes in the foyer.

If you would like to donate by PAD you will find the application [here](#).

Or if you would like to donate by EFT, we are registered through icparish@pgdiocese.bc.ca for a direct deposit. [Click here for instructions on how to e-transfer.](#)

ADVENT RESOURCES

- [Bishop Barron – Journey Through Advent Cycle B](#)
- [CCCB Journey Through Advent](#)
- [Third Sunday of Advent Year B Childrens' activity](#)
- [A Catholic Mom's Life](#)

HOW
TO
Advent

To help us prayerfully prepare for Christmas, Fr.

Matthew will be conducting a series of evening prayer services in the final week of Advent. It is in these days that the official Evening Prayer of the Church uses the "O Antiphons" which we know well from the hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."



Starting at 5:30PM, and finishing by 6:00PM, a brief reflection will be given on the O Antiphon of the day, an explanation of Evening Prayer, then pray Evening Prayer with those in attendance.

So, come all ye faithful, to Immaculate Conception Church, Monday, December 18, through Friday, December 22 - each weeknight of the 3rd week of Advent - for 30 minutes of reflection and prayer as we journey through the last week of preparation for Christmas!

CALLED TOGETHER, GIVING, SHARING, SERVING



OUR PARISH GOAL: \$ 25,623

OUR PROJECT GOAL: \$ 7,500

TOTAL PARISH GOAL \$ 33,123

**TOTAL PLEDGES RECEIVED AS OF
DECEMBER 13, 2023**

\$25,820 OR 77.95% OF OUR GOAL

Diocesan Wednesday Weekly for December 13, 2023

A STATEMENT FROM THE CCCB ON THE NON-PERMISSIBILITY OF MAiD IN HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS WITH A CATHOLIC IDENTITY

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) has released a statement regarding the non-permissibility of MAiD in Catholic Health organizations.

In their statement, they lay out the Catholic position of compassionate and high-quality palliative care, the timely access of which can reduce suffering and attend to patients' spiritual and psychological needs. The CCCB offers "Horizons of Hope" as a tool to assist Catholic communities with this compassionate work: <https://www.cccb.ca/faith-moral-issues/suffering-and-end-of-life/horizons-of-hope-a-toolkit-for-catholic-parishes-on-palliative-care/>

To read the full statement, please visit the CCCB website here: <https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/statement-by-the-canadian-conference-of-catholic-bishops-on-the-non-permissibility-of-euthanasia-and-assisted-suicide-within-canadian-health-organizations-with-a-catholic-identity/>





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Monday to Friday 8:30AM to 5:00PM
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(250) 562 5309

100 Tabor Blvd in **Tabor Plaza**
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