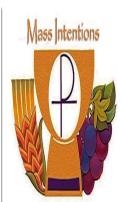




Come, Lord Jesus. Come and visit your people. We await your coming. Come, O Lord.

SUNDAY READINGS
First Reading: Samuel 7: 1-5, 8-11, 16
Psalm 89: "Forever I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord."
Second Reading: Romans 16: 25-27
Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38

THIS WEEKEND



Saturday Dec. 19th
4 pm + Miguel Faller

Sunday Dec. 20th
11 am + Ann Melo

Please note that facial coverings, as well as physical distancing and gathering restrictions are mandatory.

REFLECTION

In today's Gospel, we read the story of how God intervened in human history, through the faith and courage of one woman. Through the annunciation made to Mary, we are reminded that Christ is not born amid pomp or fanfare but at a moment in

history when people had every reason to be afraid.

This is why we are told "Do not be afraid." It is people of humility and faith like Mary, who trust in God's justice and love. And those who live in this way are favoured by God, sheltered by the Holy Spirit and are fruitful. They will live forever. This is the promise that was made to King David, to our Blessed Mother Mary and now to us.

PREPARING THE WAY

4th Week of Advent:



Today we celebrate the fourth and final week of Advent. As we celebrate the Eucharist this weekend, let us thank the Lord Jesus for his real presence among us, not only in the bread and wine which will become the body and blood of Christ, but also in ourselves and in one another as together we receive the Body of Christ in Holy Communion. And let us realize that the Lord's real presence with us in the Eucharist is the most important of all of the Christmas presents we will ever receive.

PANDEMIC UPDATE

York Region in Lockdown ~ As of December 11, 2020 the Province of Ontario has placed York Region (**St. Anthony's Mission Church**) in lockdown once again. Due to these measures **PUBLIC MASSES MUST BE TEMPORARILY CANCELED.**

We must endeavour to balance this frustration with the fact that we are still in the midst of a pandemic, 13,000 Canadians

have lost their lives to the virus and hospitals in many regions of the archdiocese are approaching or exceeding capacity. Our reverence for the sanctity of every life compels each one of us to follow the restrictions out of love for our neighbour, to reduce the spread of COVID19 and to help us return to full ministry as soon as possible.

At the time of bulletin printing Durham Region (St. Joseph's Church) was still in the "Red Zone" with Masses continuing with restrictions of 30% capacity without making reservations. If this changes or if you are unsure if the church is open, please visit our website for current updates @ www.stjosephsbeaverton.ca, or call the parish office for a recorded voice message @ 705-426-7424.

PARISH

We offer our condolences to Lauren Maxwell and family in the passing of her husband + Gordon. Gord passed away in hospital on December 10, 2020. A private family service was held. *May his soul rest in eternal peace.*

CONGRATULATIONS

With great joy, we welcome Mr. Jim Haesen into the Catholic Church. Through the processes of RCIA and Adult Confirmation, Jim has shown great commitment, spending time learning about the teachings and traditions of the Catholic faith as well as deepening his relationship with his Savior, Jesus Christ and the community of St. Joseph's. Please join us in welcoming our newest brother!

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES 2021

Offertory envelopes are available for pick up at the back of the church. Once you take them home, **why not take a minute to write your name on the first few weeks in January?** Thank you for your continued support. For those who prefer to switch to preauthorized giving (PAG) at this time, forms are available on our website or contact the parish office.

Donations made after December 29, 2020 will be allocated to the NEW YEAR 2021.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

To reserve a seat for Christmas Eve, Day and New Year's Day Masses, contact the office ASAP. Please do not show up at the church doors without a reservation, you will be turned away. If Durham goes back into lockdown, please disregard all Masses.

Christmas Eve (Dec. 24)
Seating available only for 9:00 pm @ St. Joseph's, Beaverton
Christmas Day (Dec. 25th)
Only a few seats still available
St. Joseph's, Beaverton - 11:00 am

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Building Fund	\$ 500.00
Flowers	175.00
Christmas Hampers	860.00
Offertory	3,769.00

THANK YOU to all parishioners for your generous contributions!