



Fr. Reynaldo Usman, Parish Priest  
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8:30am - 4:30pm



## First Sunday of Advent (Year B) | December 3, 2023

### Pope Francis' Mass Reflection

Dear Brothers and Sisters, good afternoon!

Today we begin the journey of Advent, which will culminate in Christmas. Advent is the time we are given to welcome the Lord who comes to encounter us, and also to verify our longing for God, to look forward and prepare ourselves for Christ's return. He will return to us in the celebration of Christmas, when we will remember his historic coming in the humility of the human condition; but he enters our heart each time we are willing to receive him; and he will come again at the end of time to "judge the living and the dead". Therefore, we must always be vigilant and await the Lord with the hope of encountering him. Today's liturgy introduces us precisely to this evocative theme of vigilance and waiting.

In the Gospel (cf. Mk 13:33-37) Jesus exhorts us to take heed and watch, so as to be ready to welcome him at the moment of his return. He tells us: "Take heed, watch ... for you do not know when the time will come.... Watch therefore ... lest he come suddenly and find you asleep" (vv. 33-37).

The person who takes heed is the one who, amid the worldly din, does not let himself be overwhelmed by distraction or superficiality, but lives in a full and conscious way, with concern first and foremost for others. With this manner we become aware of the tears and the needs of neighbours and we can also understand their human and spiritual strengths and qualities. The heedful person then also turns toward the world, seeking to counter the indifference and cruelty in it, and taking delight in its beautiful treasures which also exist and are to be safeguarded. It is a matter of having an understanding gaze so as to recognize both the misery and poverty of individuals and of society, and to recognize the richness hidden in little everyday things, precisely there where the Lord has placed us.

The watchful person is the one who accepts the invitation to keep watch, that is, not to let himself be overpowered by the listlessness of discouragement, by the lack of hope, by disappointment; and at the same time it wards off the allure of the many vanities with which the world is brimming and for which, now and then, time and personal and familial peace is sacrificed. It is the painful experience of the people of Israel, recounted by the Prophet Isaiah: God seemed to have let his people err from his ways (cf. 63:17), but this was a result of the unfaithfulness of the people themselves (cf. 64:4b). We too often find ourselves in this situation of unfaithfulness to the call of the Lord: He shows us the good path, the way of faith, the way of love, but we seek our happiness elsewhere.

Being attentive and watchful are prerequisites so as not to continue to "err from the Lord's ways", lost in our sins and in our unfaithfulness; being attentive and being watchful are the conditions that allow God to permeate our existence, in order to restore meaning and value to it with his presence full of goodness and tenderness. May Mary Most Holy, role model for awaiting God and icon of watchfulness, lead us to her son Jesus, rekindling our love for him. [03.12.17](#)

### MASS SCHEDULE

**WEEKDAY**  
Monday to Friday 9 AM

**WEEKEND**  
Saturday 9 AM | 4:30 PM  
Sunday 9 AM | 11 AM

**FIRST FRIDAY 6:30 PM**

**SPANISH MASS**  
3rd Sunday of the Month 4 PM

**EXPOSITION AND ADORATION  
OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
First Friday 3PM to 6:15PM

### CONFESSION SCHEDULE

**Saturday**  
9:30 to 10 AM | 4 PM to 4:25 PM

**Sunday**  
8:30 AM to 8:55 AM  
10:30 AM to 10:55 AM

**Monday to Friday – 15 mins.**  
Before weekday masses  
By Appointment

### SACRAMENTS

**BAPTISM**  
Baby and Child – 10:15 AM  
(2nd and 4th Saturdays)

Note: Contact Parish Office to register  
Adults – Please enroll in RCIA or contact  
Parish Office for more information.

**MARRIAGE**  
Please do not finalize wedding plans  
prior to initial meeting with Fr. Rey Usman.  
A minimum of six months advance notice  
is needed.

**ANNOINTING OF THE SICK**  
Please contact parish office  
or if after office hours,  
email Fr. Rey at pastor@pbparish.ca.

# Around the Parish

## Weekly Calendar

December 3, 2023

Volume 45, Issue 01

### PARISH MINISTRIES

#### ALTAR SERVERS

Marie Klaponski | pbaltarserver@gmail.com  
Steve De Jong | sjdejong@shaw.ca

#### CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

preciousbloodcwl@gmail.com

#### CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Melissa Banovich  
melissabanovich@gmail.com

#### COUPLES FOR CHRIST

Jason & Rency Soliven | rencrd@yahoo.com

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY

Caroline Begley  
pbparish.emhc@gmail.com

#### SPANISH MINISTRY

Luisa Cenedese - 778.878.5429  
luisaorea@hotmail.com

#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Grand Knight: Jason Border  
preciousbloodkofc@gmail.com  
2nd Wednesday of the month

#### LEGION OF MARY

Nancy Mathias (Saturdays, 10 AM)  
nattymathias@gmail.com

#### LECTOR COORDINATOR

Joanne Bueno | jbueno@schoolathome.ca

#### MUSIC MINISTRY

Linda Smith - 604.319.6141  
smithbach10@gmail.com

#### PROJECT ADVANCE

Alex Ramirez - 778.999.3926

#### PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

Vera Elbers - elbersv@telus.net

#### ST. THERESA'S CIRCLE

Anne Macht - Macht1007@shaw.ca

#### SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Wendy Sprague  
preciousbloodssvp@gmail.com

#### YOUTH MINISTRY

Alvin Apreco - 604.574.4363  
youth@pbparish.ca

#### CATECHISM

#### PARISH RELIGIOUS

#### EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP)

Wednesdays 6:30 - 7:45 PM  
Rency Soliven - 604.574.9623  
prepepbparish.ca

#### RCIA (Catechism for Adults)

September to May  
Parish Office - 604.574.4363  
ofce@pbparish.ca

### Parish Schedule

#### Mon, December 4

9 AM Intention of Josephine Kho

#### SENIORS CARDS

10:30 - 2:30 PM,  
Columbus Rm.

#### Tues, December 5

9 AM Intention of Marilyn Ori

#### SSVP FOOD DIST. PROGRAM

10 - 11 AM,  
Vestibule  
CWL MONTHLY MEETING  
7 - 9 PM, Columbus Rm.

#### Wed, December 6

9 AM Renato Bernardino †

#### PREP PROGRAM

6:30 - 8 PM,  
Auditorium

#### Thur, December 7

9 AM Mark Siu †

#### RCIA PROGRAM

6:30 - 8 PM,  
Bushey Rm.

#### Fri, December 8

**Feast: Immaculate Conception of the Bl. Virgin Mary**

9 AM Mark Siu †

#### Happy 28th Priestly Anniversary Father Rey!

9:00 AM—CCS SCHOOL MASS

#### Sat, December 9

9 AM Intentions of Terrence,  
Connie, & Clarence Figueroa  
4:30 PM Roy Macleod †

#### LEGION OF MARY MTG.

10:00 - 11:30 AM,  
Cenacle Rm.

#### Sun, December 10

#### First Sunday of Advent

9 AM Intention of  
Precious Blood Parishioners  
11AM Bill Sprangers †

UKRAINIAN MASS, 2PM  
by Exul. of the Holy Cross

**SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR NEXT SUNDAY, DEC. 10, IS FOR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY.** The Society of St. Vincent De Paul (SSVP), a Catholic Charity group supported by donations from our parish, has been providing food, milk, eggs, and essentials of daily living to needy families, as well as the homeless single men and women in the Cloverdale area. Every Tuesday, you would see our selfless volunteers serving those in need with a smile. More than the material support they provide, the respect and dignity they give to those who come truly manifest what it means to be men and women for others.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR



*The sick & shut in; Norman Jansen, Debbie Davis, David Thiele, Leandro Rodino Jr., Delorus Lee, Dawn Epaarachchi, Gracie Formby, Jim O'Brien, Velma Cronin, Silvia Gallagher, Helen Gaska, Bernadette Leclair, Dario Dira, Carol Armstrong, Rejeanne Lajoie, George Blakey, Lily Gallant, Lucy Gallant, Carol LeBlanc, Corry Van Den Brand, Roy Gregory, Jenna Faykosh, Artemio Abrogena, Sue Broerken, Christopher, Grace, Anna & Josh Lasell, Norma MacInnes, Margaret Mccreadie, Andrea Haley, Brenda Curran, Fran & Maureen, Gary Hopper, Lori Beaulieu Smith, Angela Todo, Anna-Lisa Bailey, Rosa Santos, Susan Harasyn McEvoy, Maximiliano O'Brien, Ney Antonio Villegas, Katherine, Polly Voon, Xenia Mallari, Peter Taillon, Ana Defrias, Richard Jones, Barbara Taylor, Stan Begley, Ed & Eleanor Carrol, Joyce Krahnbel, Gigi Swalehe & Dar Maddatu, Nelly Wiemer (Madeline's mom), Judy Bothwell, Craig Stevenson, James Borkowski, Roger Gagner, Catherine Tolmozoff, Barbara Naef, Wilson Borbon, Alma Zinger, Bob & Deanna Fernandes, Elaine Lauzon, Anne O'Hagan, Rose Javier, John Lloyd, Eladio Tria, Malcolm Da Silva, Dominik Basiak, Pablito Basit, Rosana Ruiz, Bonnie Watson, Deanna Maceda Silva, Katrina Craig, Norah Aucoin, Thelma Urbano, Ron Hart & all who have asked for our prayers... May our Lord sustain, comfort & heal them through faith.*

### A GUIDED TOUR THROUGH ADVENT

“Wait for it....” It’s a popular phrase along pop-culture landscapes. The problem is nobody likes to wait, and yet waiting is a part of life.

We wait at the DMV or the grocery store checkout, in line at the post office to mail Christmas packages, for an appointment, a diagnosis, a resolution, a solution, an opportunity, the light at the end of the tunnel, a birth, a death.

“Wait for it. . . .” It is the cry of Advent. As we enter Advent, we sing, “Wait for the Lord whose day is near” (Taizé chant) and “Patience, people.” Yet, Advent is not a good time for waiting! It is the very time when our social and shopping calendars kick into high gear. We cannot possibly “have no anxiety at all” (Phil 4:6) and rest in some blissful holding pattern.

We’re not going to stop buying and mailing Christmas presents, visiting with friends and relations, or adding extra charitable activities for the sake of those who are not as fortunate as we are. We will not be able to avoid the noise and excitement in the air between Thanksgiving and Christmas (or, as it is increasingly now, between Halloween and Christmas). We will hurry, perhaps frequently. But we can also listen deeply to words from our Advent Scriptures and create a plan to insert moments of patient waiting into our busy days. Here are some possibilities.

### FIRST WEK OF ADVENT

“The days are coming—oracle of the LORD—when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah” (Jer 33:14).

Life and its burdens can be overwhelming. We may feel unfulfilled, incomplete. We may ache, yearn. Psalm 25 for the first Advent Sunday supplies us with the gift of a simple prayer to breathe over and over again this week: “For you [Lord] I wait all the day long.

Try praying it whenever you find yourself waiting for anything, stuck in traffic, fretting over an anticipated phone call or a delay in service, or standing in line. Turn each waiting moment into a sacred moment. When you feel particularly spiritually stressed, find the longest line!



Happy 28th  
Priestly  
Anniversary  
Fr. Rey on  
December 8!

### CHRISTIAN PRESENCE IS IN DANGER IN THE HOLY LAND

Christianity in the Holy Land made about 20% of the whole population 70 years ago. NOW they are less than 1.0%.

It is also a way of preserving a local cultural heritage which is in danger of being lost, as more Christians feel pressured to leave their homeland for economic and political reasons.

**THE WAR RIGHT NOW MADE BETHLEHEM AND OTHER AREAS SIEGED PLACES, THUS MOST CHRISTIAN FAMILIES COMPLETELY LOST ALL THEIR INCOMES.**

These religious articles sold at your **Parish Bazaar** can be used as gifts for first communions, Christmas and other occasions.

Please note that **ONLY CASH, E-TRANSFER, OR CHEQUES** are accepted as payment at this time.

Thanks again for your support, and God Bless.

**Holy Land Group**



### CCS PARENT FUND RAISING GROUP

Family Movie night returns to the CCS Gym on December 8th! Doors open at 5:30pm. Concession & Popcon all night long. Limited hot food unless pre-ordered - forms go home next week. All CCS + Precious Blood families welcome!

Purdy's Chocolate Pick up is also on December 8th from 3-5pm. Order before the 25th to get your chocolates!

<https://fundraising.purdys.com/join.aspx/1591586-108021>



### CLOVERDALE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

We will be opening up registration for the 2024/2025 school year in early January. If you are interested in booking a tour of the school, please email Mr. Heah at [cheah@cisva.bc.ca](mailto:cheah@cisva.bc.ca). Spaces for the 2024/2025 school year are very limited, so please keep your eye on our school website ([www.cloverdalecatholicsschool.ca](http://www.cloverdalecatholicsschool.ca)) for registration opening date!



## Advent Wreath Prayer

The following are the Advent wreath prayers that change every week. They are prayed at the lighting of each candle every day during Advent.

### Week One:

The first candle is lit, and the prayer for the first week is said.

#### Let us pray:

Stir up Thy might, we beg Thee, O Lord,  
and come, so that we may escape through Thy protection  
and be saved by Thy help from the dangers  
that threaten us because of our sins.  
Who livest and reignest for ever and ever.

#### All: Amen.

(Pray One Our Father, One Hail Mary, and One Glory Be.)

### Week Two:

Two candles are lit on the second Sunday and allowed to burn as before. The prayer for the week is:

#### Let us pray:

O Lord, stir up our hearts  
that we may prepare for Thy only begotten Son,  
that through His coming  
we may be made worthy to serve Thee with pure souls.  
Through the same Christ our Lord.

#### All: Amen.

(Pray One Our Father, One Hail Mary, and One Glory Be.)

### Week Three:

Three candles, including the rose candle, are lit on Gaudete, the third Sunday, and during that week. The following prayer is said:

#### Let us pray:

We humbly beg Thee, O Lord,  
to listen to our prayers;  
and by the grace of Thy coming  
bring light into our darkened minds.  
Who livest and reignest for ever and ever.

#### All: Amen.

(Pray One Our Father, One Hail Mary, and One Glory Be.)

### Week Four:

All four candles are lit on the fourth Sunday and allowed to burn as before. The prayer said the fourth week is:

#### Let us pray:

Stir up Thy might, we pray Thee, O Lord, and come;  
rescue us through Thy great strength so that salvation,  
which has been hindered by our sins,  
may be hastened by the grace of Thy gentle mercy.  
Who livest and reignest for ever and ever.

#### All: Amen.

(Pray One Our Father, One Hail Mary, and One Glory Be.)



**DREAMING OF A WHITE CHRISTMAS?** ...come heat up the snow and ice at the Cloverdale Winter Ice Palace on Saturday, December 30, 11-12:30pm. **FREE FOR FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS!** If you have family in town they skate for free (no donation necessary). Bring a small donation and cash if you need rentals (skates \$5 or Helmet \$5). Under 13 must wear a helmet. **IT'S TRADITION TO BRING EXTRA CHRISTMAS GOODIES TO SHARE.** Our Parish's Skating Christmas Celebration Fundraiser is going to be so fun. All proceeds will go toward helping to replace our Parish heating machine.

Feeling Generous? Sponsor this event with your business, personally or anonymously as it would really help us make it a financial success for years to come. Thank you for supporting our parish.



## Drawing Closer to God: A Catholic Art Show for Kids

Find out more by signing up on [FORMED](https://formed.org). Please visit [formed.org](https://formed.org) and follow the steps below:

1. Click on Sign-up.
2. Click Sign-up as a parishioner.
3. Find Precious Blood Parish and then click NEXT.



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Please support our **KofC Shopping Card Program** by purchasing your grocery & gas, and other gift cards for yourself or to give as gifts. Available after each mass or pre-order from Earl (604-576-6306 / [ecoatta@telus.net](mailto:ecoatta@telus.net)) if you want to pick up at the Parish Office. See available cards at <https://pbparish.ca/gift-card-fundraising-program>.




## PRECIOUS BLOOD BAZAAR THANK YOU!!



A HUGE thank you to everyone who made our annual bazaar another success! We raised over \$3,300 for our parish!

Proceeds from the bazaar will go towards replacing the parish's HVAC system. We want to especially thank the following people:

- Fr. Rey for his support
- Our office staff Nancy, Rency, and Alvin for assisting with communications and the planning of the bazaar
- Stacey for being our runner all day
- Marie for assisting with our volunteers
- Our money counters Deborah and Michelle
- The Society of St. Vincent de Paul for the welcome table
- Knights of Columbus for breakfast, lunch, and the amazing St. Nick photo booth
- St. Nicholas for making a special appearance 
- St. Theresa's Circle, Audrey McLeod, and CCS/Parish families who donated amazing baking
- Rency for organizing games and concession
- Face painters Carissa and Haley
- Legion of Mary for assisting with the used religious articles
- Vera and Mark Elbers for providing wonderful pro-life resources
- CCS student craft coordinators and their volunteers for making beautiful crafts with the students
- Beautiful performance by the Cloverdale Catholic School Choir, Cheryl, Keely and Mike all your hard work.

Wishing your families a blessed Advent Season!

Lucia



**To donate to Precious Blood, pls. send via e-transfer to**  
**[autodeposit.pb@rcav.org](mailto:autodeposit.pb@rcav.org)**

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