



MASSES & SERVICES

Saturday Anticipated Mass: 5pm Sunday Masses: 9am, 11am, 5pm

Mon – Fri Masses: 8am Thurs OLPH Novena: Following 8am Mass Sat & Holidays: 9am Mass Sat: Adoration 9:30am - 10am

Reconciliation

Sat 4pm – 4:45pm Or by Appointment: Call 604-224-4344

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 9:30am-4pm Friday 9:30am – 2:45pm

CLERGY & STAFF

Pastor

Fr. Babu Mathew, CSsR **Associate Pastor** Fr. Joseph Horo, CSsR

Office Manager

Virginia Fong

Pastoral Coordinator Bertilla Watanabe, MA PS

Bookkeeper

Corinna Siy

OLPH School Principal Lora Clarke Jr. Kindergarten Director Maria Cortese

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folphchurchvancouver



December 5, 2021

Second Sunday of Advent

A Time of Reflection and Encounter this Advent

Dear Parishioners,

What does God want this Advent? Simple. He wants you. He wants a personal encounter with you. The Advent with *Rejoice! Finding Your Place in the Advent Story*, promises to teach us about the places, people, and events that shaped the story of the very first Advent and shape our own lives today. Together with the guided meditation videos, this study explores how the people, places, and events of the first Advent affected Jesus' story. Your own life story too will be seen in a different perspective in the process. The first of 3 sessions will begin on Monday Dec 6. 10am - 11am. Two of them will be over Zoom and the third will be in person. Please sign up here for the Advent Study.

Last week I mentioned the Advent Prayer Service and Church Light-up on Sat Dec 4 at 7pm. This has all the elements of a festive celebration leading up to Christmas - prayer, music, festive lights, hot chocolate and cookies. It is already a tradition for some families who have been coming every year. If you have not attended before, please join us this year.

The other thing we have coming up is the Advent Retreat being organized by the Redemptorist Associates on Sat Dec 11 from 10am - 11:30. Please take these opportunities to make Advent a time of reflection and encounter as we await the coming of the Lord.

May our Blessed Mother aid us in our preparations for Christmas.

Yours in Christ, Fr. Babu Mathew, CSsR



NEWS & NOTICES

STRATHCONA SCHOOL CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

Our annual appeal to aid families of Strathcona School in eastside Vancouver is here again. The school pantry which provides for families in need, has requested gift cards from No Frills or Superstore so that they can stock their pantry with items as needed. The school has been very appreciative of the generosity of our parishioners in the past. We hope you will help again this year. You can drop your No Frills or Superstore gift card through the Parish office mail slot. Please write "Strathcona" and the dollar value of your gift on the envelope. The deadline for gifts cards is 5pm, Sun Dec 12. Gift cards will be taken to Strathcona early Monday morning.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Meal Prep Helpers: We are looking for more helpers for the Meal Prep Program. Please contact Lara Garcia, <u>olphchurchvolunteers@gmail.com</u> if you are interested in helping

PROJECT ADVANCE

Please note the deadline for Project Advance is Thursday Dec 30 if you wish to receive a 2021 tax receipt. Our parish goal for Project Advance this year is \$106,000 which will go toward education bursaries for families affected by the pandemic as well as infrastructure development. To make your donation, read Fr Babu's message and find out about our parish appeal, please use this link.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT TREATS FOR OUR ELDERS

Our school's virtual Christmas Concert will be available for online viewing from Thursday, December 16. In lieu of the traditional, in-person celebration of our grandparents and elders, we are offering boxes of sweet treats to be enjoyed while viewing the concert virtually. Orders may be placed by emailing olphtreatbox2021@gmail.com on or before December 8, 2021. Please include the name and email address of the recipient (so we can send the concert link on Thursday, December 16) and the name and mobile phone number of the person who will be picking up the treats. Boxes will be available for pickup at the school on Wednesday, December 15 from 9:00 until 10:00 a.m. and from 12:30 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.

ARCHDIOCESAN EVENT

Advent 2021 Retreat for Ministry to Divorced and Separated

Join the Archdiocese of Vancouver's Ministry to Divorced and Separated for their first in-person event, an Advent retreat with Father Mark McGuckin – "Prepare the Way of the Lord." "Advent is a time for arising. It is such a joyous season, such a loving season! Let us enter into its joy." (Servant of God, Catherine de Hueck Doherty). Saturday, December 11 at 9:30 a.m. Learn more and register at beholdvancouver.org/events.



ADVENT MEDITATION & CHURCH LIGHT-UP Saturday Dec 4, 7pm - 8pm in OLPH Church

Join us for an evening of prayer and music presented by OLPH Music Ministry with readings from Henri Nouwen and Fulton Sheen. The event will close with the Christmas light-up of the church. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served. A free will offering will be taken up during the service for the Icon of Love Scholarship Fund.



REJOICE! FINDING YOUR PLACE IN THE ADVENT STORY Mon Dec 6, 13 & 20 OLPH Church

Go deeper into what it means to prepare for the coming of the birth of Jesus. 3 Mondays Dec 6, 13 & 20. The first two sessions are on Zoom, 10am-11am. The third session is in person at OLPH Parish Hall 11am - 12:30pm. Masks required. Sign-up Link:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050B4BAFAA2DA1FB6-advent2

Zoom Link: https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/81785908328 for first two sessions



ADVENT RETREAT Sat Dec 11 from 10am - 11:30am in OLPH Church

Join us for a Saturday morning meditation with readings from the writings of St Alphonsus on the Crib, the birth of the Lord. Presented by the Redemptorist Associates and friends. Admission is free.

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Weddings

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