



OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH

MASSSES & 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

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 Olphchurchvancouver



OLPH Church, 2465 Crown

December 25, 2021

The Nativity of the Lord

A Christmas Filled With Love and Joy

Dear Parishioners,

In spite of the challenges of the pandemic, let us not allow these difficulties to dampen our spirits at this time of the year. Perhaps we may not be able to have as many gatherings as we had planned. Some Christmas greetings may have to be on the phone or over Zoom. Let us not forget, however, the good news of the coming of the Lord is that all suffering and tears will be overcome one day. Let us hold on to hope, joy and the promises of the Lord in his incarnation today and always.

Our understanding from Tuesday's announcement by the Public Health Officer is that there are no further restrictions being imposed on worship services. If you or family members are more comfortable attending Christmas Masses online, these are being offered at Holy Rosary Cathedral. Some of you may already be familiar with other parishes in the States or around the world offering online Masses. Let us persevere with patience and prayer for the end of Covid-19.

On behalf of the Redemptorists, thank you for your Christmas gifts and greetings. Warm wishes to all for a Christmas filled with love and joy and a bright New Year! Our next bulletin will be on the Sunday of January 9.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Babu Mathew, CSsR

CHRISTMAS MASSES VACCINATION NOTICE

Please note vaccinations are required for all over 11 years of age attending Christmas Eve 4pm Children's Mass and Christmas weekend masses EXCEPT for the masses on Christmas Day at 5 pm and Sunday, December 26th at 5 pm. At these two 5pm Masses, attendance will be limited to 200 congregants. Ushers will use clickers to keep track of the number of people being admitted. Thank you for understanding.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

FRI DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE:

4pm (Children's Mass) / 7pm /
 9:30 pm Caroling & 10 pm Mass
 (No midnight Mass)

SAT DEC 25 CHRISTMAS DAY:

9am / 11am / 5pm
 (No anticipated Mass for Dec 26)

SUN DEC 26 FEAST OF THE HOLY

FAMILY: 9am/11am/5pm

MON DEC 27 – FRI DEC 31:

Morning Mass 8am

SAT JAN 1 SOLEMNITY OF MARY,

MOTHER OF GOD: 9am & 11am

5pm Anticipated Mass for Jan 2

SUN JAN 2 EPIPHANY: 9am / 11am / 5pm

MON JAN 3: Morning Mass 8am



Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. – Psalm 96



2021 CHRISTMAS MESSAGE ARCHBISHOP J. MICHAEL MILLER

Dear Friends in Christ,

As the great feast of our Saviour's birth draws near, all of us are acutely aware that this will once again be a "pandemic Christmas." We will celebrate this most sacred night radiant with the splendour of the true light amidst a crisis that has indiscriminately struck the health, economy and social fabric of the whole world.

While some might call for Christmas to be "cancelled" for safety reasons, the most significant aspect of Christmas can never be cancelled or eliminated: the "Child born for us, and the Son given to us" (cf. Is 9:8) on that first Christmas remains forever our Living Hope. Jesus Christ is "the same yesterday and today and forever" (Heb 13:8). Even in the midst of great loss and suffering, God is still here with us, for he is Emmanuel.

Although the start of a third year of living with this pandemic is certainly a time of trial, let us remember that it is a mere blink of an eye in salvation history – the 2,000 years since the Nativity and the even broader picture of God's plan of salvation.

Christmas is more than the celebration of an event from long ago, the moment when the Son of God was born of Mary. It calls us to remember that the Risen Lord, even after his ascension, continues to come among us today and every day. What began with the Incarnation was made immortal in his Resurrection. It is not the Baby Jesus, but the resurrected Jesus Christ, who reigns in heaven, and we rejoice because he is always near to us.

Throughout history, as in the present moment, some people wait for another saviour, whether it be a political leader or an ideology that they can put their trust in. During this particular moment of fear, confusion and division, let us remember that Christmas is a time of special grace which illuminates the arrival of the Messiah. Jesus is God, and there is no other God but him.

This Christmas I recommend to you one of our most cherished traditions, one that, thanks be to God, is completely unaffected by COVID-19. I'm referring to the Nativity scenes that we put up in our homes, as Christians have been doing since the custom began with St. Francis of Assisi in the 13th century. These scenes are, in the words of Pope Benedict XVI, a "simple yet eloquent invitation to open our hearts and minds to the mystery of life" and to the beauty of God who is so deeply in love with his people.

To pause with your family, standing or kneeling, before a Nativity scene in your home or parish church is a beautiful way to celebrate God's closeness during this trying times. Such a gesture can rekindle your conviction that God is alive and active in your life, that Jesus is close to you.

This is the time to invite the Holy Family into your home, and into all of your joys, worries and sorrows. When you gather together as a family, I urge you to place yourselves in the Lord's hands, to speak to him silently of the people and situations that burden your heart, to take stock with him of the difficult year now ending, and to share with him your fears, hopes and dreams for the coming Year of the Lord.

Above all, ask him for the grace to repeat to your loved ones and communities what the shepherds heard the Angel declare: "I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: [for] to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Christ, the Lord" (Lk 2:11). Come, come, let us adore him, as we celebrate this Christmas.

With my prayers and blessing, I remain

✠ J. Michael Miller, CSB
Archbishop of Vancouver

PROJECT ADVANCE & PARISH YEAR-END DONATIONS

Please make sure that your Project Advance or Parish year-end donations reach us by Thursday Dec 30 to allow time for processing so that you may be able to receive a 2021 tax receipt. To find out more about this year's Project Advance goals or make a donation, please use this link.

2022 DONATION ENVELOPES FOR PICK-UP

Donation envelopes for 2022 are available for pick-up in the church foyer before and after Masses this weekend till the end of December 2021. Please make sure you get the correct donation box as some last names and first names may be similar to your own. During the week and after the year-end, boxes will be available for pick-up at the parish office during office hours. If you are not able to find your box please email reception.olph@rcav.org.

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