



THE REDEMPTORISTS

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church

### 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 – 1:30pm

### CLERGY & STAFF

Pastor  
Fr. Babu Mathew, CSsR  
Associate Pastor  
Fr Alfredo Medina Ramos, CSsR

Office Manager  
Virginia Fong  
Pastoral Coordinator  
Bertilla Watanabe, MA PS  
Bookkeeper  
Corinna Siy

OLPH School Principal  
Lora Clarke  
Jr. Kindergarten Director  
Maria Cortese

### CONTACT

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OLPH School: 604-228-8811  
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 Olyphchurchvancouver



OLPH Church, 2465 Crown Street, Vancouver BC V6R3V9

December 11, 2022

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

## Looking Ahead with Joy on Gaudete Sunday

### Dear Parishioners,

Today we celebrate *Gaudete Sunday*, a time to look forward with joy as Christmas is almost here. We have a mini pre-Christmas celebration after the 11am mass as we gather gift cards for Strathcona Community School. There will be food, beverages, carols and fun activities for the kids. It would be great if you could all bring some desserts to share. Drop off your desserts in the hall between 10:30 and 11:30am. You can drop your gift cards into the collection basket at all Masses together with your envelopes.

This past week I had a unique experience on the feast of St Barbara. I was asked to celebrate Mass in the SkyTrain tunnel under construction as part of the Arbutus station. The dangerous work of building a tunnel makes St Barbara, patron saint of miners and architects, particularly important to this group of, mostly, men. A simple altar was set up with a statue of St Barbara also present. It's the first time I've celebrated Mass in a hard hat and work boots! If that wasn't odd enough, our Music Director, Yenny Lee, our very proficient opera singer, was also dressed in similar gear. The acoustics in the tunnel were amazing and made it totally worthwhile. It is beautiful to see the traditions of our faith treasured and upheld by particular groups within our community.

Still speaking of last Sunday, after joking with parishioners about how generous the congregation gets when I go away on vacation, I discovered there was an error in our Project Advance status report. The correct figure is \$92,255 which is still a fairly decent total but not quite over the \$100,000 mark that I thought we were at. We still have two weeks before the end of the year to add to our numbers. If you have not contributed yet, please know that even a modest donation would mean a lot.

With joy, let us continue with our prayers and devotions in preparation for the coming of the Christ child.

Yours in Christ,  
Fr Babu Mathew, CSsR



### OLPH RELIQUARY

*A new reliquary has been blessed and installed in the ambry. It contains the relics of several saints. A relic is a piece of the body of a saint, an item owned or used by the saint, or an object touched to the tomb of a saint. The veneration of relics has long been a tradition of the church. It is believed that the power of the saint when accompanied by prayerful intercessions can bring about healing and other miracles. The relics of the saints in the reliquary are listed below.*

#### Top Row:

**Bl. Peter Donders 1809 - 1887**

Born in Tilburg, Holland. Worked as a Redemptorist with lepers in Dutch colonized Java and Surinam. Feast: January 14

**St. Peter Canisius 1521 – 1597**

A Jesuit author, popular preacher, gifted educator and insightful church diplomat. Feast: December 21

**St. John Neumann 1811-1860**

Born in Czech Republic. Joined the Redemptorists in 1842. Patron of sick children and immigrants. Feast: January 5

**St. Maria Goretti 1890 – 1902**

Born in Corinaldo, Italy. A child and virgin, martyred at age 12. Patron saint of girls, chastity, rape victims, purity and forgiveness. Feast: July 6

*Continued overleaf...*

Lord, come and save us. – Psalm 146



### Thank You for the Music and Meditations

A big thank you to the Music Ministry, singers and instrumentalists as well as the young readers and volunteers who made the Advent Concert and light-up such a beautiful celebration. Thank you also to those who donated to the Icon of Love Scholarship Fund which supports young liturgical musicians of our parish.

#### Tuesday Office Hours

The Parish Office will be closed from 12pm - 3pm on Tuesday December 13.

#### Sock Sunday

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Socks and Jacket Drive for the Archdiocese Men's Shelter. It was a great success and will serve about a hundred men seeking shelter there this Christmas.

#### Sunday Coffee

If you can help with coffee after the 9am Mass from January to March 2023 [please use this link to sign-up.](#)

#### Giving Tree Gift Card Collection & Celebration. Bring A Dessert to Share!

This Sunday Dec 11 is the final day for our Giving Tree donation drive. Your Gift card from Superstore or No Frills will benefit underprivileged families of Strathcona Elementary School. Please drop your gift card through the mail slot of the parish office this week before Friday or drop it into the Collection basket at Mass this weekend. Gift cards will be delivered 9am Monday morning so please do not miss this important deadline. Join us for lunch, refreshments and fun activities for the children after the 11am Mass. Please bring a dessert or Christmas cookies for the potluck dessert table. Drop off your dessert between 10:30am and 11:30am in the parish hall on Sunday.

#### Redemptorist Associates Reflections On the Crib & Penitential Service

Prepare your hearts for the coming of the Christ child with inspiring reflections from the writings of St Alphonsus. Saturday Dec 17: 9am Mass | 9:30am Coffee | 10am Crib Reflections | 11am Penitential Service with Confessions

#### Relics In Middle Row:

**St Alphonsus Liguori 1696 - 1787**  
 Founder of the Redemptorists, a moral theologian, prolific author of spirituality and dogmatic theology. Patron of theologians and vocations. Feast: August 1

**St Mariam Theresia 1876 - 1926**  
 Born in Kerala, India. Founder of the Congregation of the Holy Family, an order dedicated to prayer, strict penance, helping the sick and poor. Feast: June 8

**St Gerard Majella 1726- 1755**  
 Joined the Redemptorists in 1749 at age 23 and was a professed lay brother. Patron saint of expectant mothers. Also sought for children, motherhood and good confessions. Feast: October 16

#### Relics in Bottom Row:

**St Angela Merici 1474 – 1540**  
 Founder of the Ursulines, a teaching order of women. Patron of the sick, disabled and those who grieve the loss of parents. Feast: January 27

**St John Vianney 1786 - 1859**  
 Born in Dardilly, France. He spent many hours in priestly and pastoral work, listening to confessions and educating the faithful. Patron of parish priests. Feast: August 4

**St Anne 55BC – 12AD**  
 St Anne, mother of Mary. She conceived Mary at an advanced age hence she is hailed the patron of women in labour. The relics of St Anne were brought to St Anne de Beaupré in 1670 by Bishop Francois de Laval. St Anne is the principal patron of the province of Quebec. Feast: July 26

**St Clement Hofbauer 1751 - 1820**  
 Clement Mary Hofbauer joined the Redemptorist congregation in 1784. He founded the first house of the Redemptorists in Warsaw, Poland followed by others in Germany, Switzerland and Romania. He made significant contributions to the church in Vienna through his gifts of spiritual direction, preaching and confession and works of charity. Feast: March 15

## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE



#### CHRISTMAS NOVENA

Friday Dec 16 – Sat Dec 24  
 Prayed at all Masses

#### ADVENT REFLECTIONS ON THE CRIB

10am – 11am Saturday Dec 17  
 Presented by Redemptorist Associates of OLPH Parish

#### PENITENTIAL SERVICE

11am – Noon Saturday Dec 17  
 Weekly Confessions:  
 Saturday 4pm-4:45pm

#### CHRISTMAS MASSES

Saturday Dec 24  
 4pm Children's Mass  
 7pm Mass  
 9:30pm Caroling / 10pm Late Mass  
 Sunday Dec 25  
 9am Mass, 11am Mass  
 5pm Mass

#### NEW YEAR'S MASSES

Saturday Dec 31  
 5pm Anticipated Mass  
 Sunday January 1  
 9am Mass, 11am, 5pm

