

Sacred Heart Catholic Church



3900 Arthur Drive, P. O. Box 10
Delta, B.C. V4K 3N5 Telephone: 604-946-4522
Email: sacredheartparish@shsdelta.org

Parish Website: www.sacredheartparish.ca
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver
604-683-0281 Website: <https://rcav.org/>

Augustinian Friars in the Parish:

Fr. Francis Galvan, OSA – Pastor
Fr. Michael Martell OSA



The Archbishop of Vancouver, following the Provincial Health Order from Dr. Bonnie Henry, directs that all Masses, whether Sunday or weekday, beginning on Friday, November 20th and until further notice, are to be offered without public congregation.

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Our in-person drive through Sunday Adoration is cancelled until further notice.

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Individual Confessions Saturday from 10am-11am in the Chapel.

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Live streaming of Mass on YouTube, Saturdays at 6pm.

Search:

Sacred Heart Parish Delta

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Chapel is open daily from 10am to 4pm for private prayer. (Except Sundays and holidays)

Baptisms: Please contact parish office for more information.

*Sunday, Dec 13th, 2020
Third Sunday of Advent - Year B*

*Among you stands one whom
you do not know. Mark 1.1-8*

Sunday Reflection: Advent is a season of waiting in **JOYFUL** hope for the coming of the Lord. Gaudete Sunday affirms the value of rejoicing and gives reasons for our rejoicing: God has given hope to his people waiting for redemption. We wait with rejoicing for what God has already accomplished and will yet accomplish through Christ. **LITURGY OF THE WORD** In the first reading, Isaiah rejoices as he brings glad tidings of God's vindication for his people. In the second reading, Paul encourages rejoicing as God prepares his people for the return of the Lord. In the Gospel, John testifies to the light and cries out in the desert to make straight the way of the Lord.

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near. Phillipians 4.4-5*

Thursday, Dec 17th – Please keep **Pope Francis** in your prayers today as he celebrates his 84th birthday. Jorge Mario Bergoglio was born in Buenos Aires on December 17, 1936, the son of Italian immigrants. In 1958 he joined the Jesuit Order. In 1998 he was appointed Archbishop of Buenos Aires by Pope John Paul II. Since his election on 13 March 2013 Pope Francis has been the 266th Bishop of Rome. We pray that the Lord will bless Pope Francis with continued good health and energy to continue building our Church with unity, love, and peace for all the world.

PARISH CONTACTS

Doug Lynes	Parish Financial Manager	940-0583
Barry Marshall	Maintenance/Rentals	319-4740
John Barker	Choir Director/Music	943-7558
Erin Seddon	Religious Ed. (PREP)	946-2618
Kelly Kozack Brandy Grund	School Principal Vice-Principal	946-2611
Mylene Lock	Lil Saints Preschool	946-4525
Martin Grund	Youth Ministry (Gr 8+)	magsh@axionet.com



Blue Light Campaign This Advent and Christmas the Archdiocese of Vancouver's theme is focusing on **blue light** as a unifying theme with the words:

"Jesus Our Living Hope"

Blue is the colour of the Blessed Virgin Mary and so signifies trust and confidence in God, purity, virginity, innocence, and birth. It also expresses solidarity with those grieving loss and other hardships this Christmas due to Covid.

Here at Sacred Heart Parish during Advent and Christmas we are encouraging our parishioners to obtain **blue lights** and let them shine from their homes as a symbol of the above. Help spread the light of Christ and the love of His Church far and wide, giving as many people as possible renewed **HOPE and JOY** this Christmas.

Blue Light Campaign Photo Contest-Enter to win one of three gift baskets by participating in our Blue Light Campaign photo contest. **How to Enter**- Take a photo of your home, living space, church or office decorated with **blue lights**. Post your photo to Facebook or Instagram using the hashtags #bluelightchristmas #catholicvanchristmas @archvancouver before December 28. Make sure your post is public so we can see it and enter you.



Erin Seddon, our PREP and Religious Education co-ordinator chalk-painted her office window this week.

Advent Reconciliation Times

All in the Chapel

Friday, Dec. 11th and 18th 4-5pm

Saturday, Dec. 12th and 19th 10-11am

***Archdiocesan Day of Mercy** Archbishop Miller has set aside **Saturday, December 12**, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, as a dedicated Day of Mercy. The particular day itself will see vast opportunities throughout the archdiocese for people to prepare their hearts to receive Jesus at Christmas by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Other local confession times can be found at rcav.org/christmas

Congratulations and God's blessings to the children of our parish who celebrated their 1st Reconciliation this week! Please keep these little ones in your prayers as they continue on their journey towards their 1st Holy Communion next spring.



Do you know of a parishioner who cannot access email or the Internet but would like to stay in touch with the parish news? If they would like us to postal mail them a weekly bulletin please let us know. Please contact us here in the parish office and we will be glad to do that for them.

2021 Donation Envelopes – Due to COVID and the cancellation of Masses we are asking parishioners to please pick up their offertory envelopes this year from either the front of the Monastery or Chapel area. There will be boxes available 7 days a week. If you are unable to get here please call the parish office and we can arrange to get the box to you. Thank you for your ongoing financial contributions to the parish.

"At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving others with God's own love and concern." St. Mother Teresa

A Message from Our Finance Committee:

As we are now into the Advent Season and approaching the end of 2020, we want to let our parishioners know that our Sunday donations through envelopes and PAP is down significantly due to COVID. As of November 30, our donations were down 30% year over year. If you would like to top up your donation to the parish to help reduce this deficit, you can do so by calling the office, mailing or dropping off an envelope or arranging to join the PAP (preauthorized payment plan). As well, there is an online option through the Archdiocese that allows you to use your credit card and get your travel points:

<https://support.rcav.org/parishes/parishoffertory/>.

All donations received prior to December 31 will qualify for a 2020 donation tax receipt, which you will appreciate at tax time!!! Many of our parishioners will often make additional contributions at this time of year and can do so using the same information provided above. If you are unable to drop off or mail in your donation please call the parish office and we can make arrangements to have it picked up from you. If you wish to earmark it for a special project or other use, please mark on the envelope or enclose a note for the office. Many thanks for your kind consideration.

SUNDAY COLLECTION REPORT

Year to date up to November 22nd, 2020

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Year to Date	\$385,538	\$539,750	-\$154,212

Our pastoral staff would like to thank everyone for their continued prayers and support for our parish community. Your support has been and will continue to be important to our parish during this difficult time. If you wish at this time to make a donation, please use one of the following methods.

- 1) Secure mailbox in front of Monastery.
- 2) Mail to Parish: **PO BOX 10 Stn. Main, Delta B.C. V4K 3N5**
- 3) Join our PAP program by calling or emailing the office.
- 4) If you are unable to drop off or mail in your donation please call the parish office and we can make arrangements to have it picked up.

Please join us for our newest **Bible Study, "Jesus' Parables: Reading with Ears to Hear,"** facilitated via Zoom starting January 12, 2021. We will meet on **Tuesdays from 12:00pm to 1:30pm** and watch a short video followed by discussion. Dr. Brant Pitre, a Catholic scholar and professor, supplemented with Bishop Barron audio sermons, present the course. Cost: \$15.00. For more information and registration, please contact Sue Steevie at 604-644-6219 or Nancy Tait at 604-946-8873.

Sunday Missals and 2021 Catholic Calendars are available to parishioners in COVID friendly ways this year. Ordered and picked up through the parish office. We would like to thank Gardens of Gethsemasni and Kearny Funeral Home for supplying us with this year's calendar. Please call the parish at 946-4522 Ext 100.

St. Monica Guild Corner - Thank you to all who participated in our successful first zoom general meeting. We warmly welcome all ladies of the parish to join us at our next meeting, which will be on Monday, February 1st. On behalf of the executive, we wish everyone a blessed and joyous Christmas. For more information on our St. Monica Guild please email or call Lynne Willox at (604)-789-2912 saintmonicaguild@shsdelta.org



"Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus

for you." – 1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 18 This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God. *From RCAV- Copyright © 2020 Archdiocese of St. Louis*



Catholic Charities Annual Report 2019 The Catholic Charities Annual Report for 2019 is now published online at support.rcav.org/ccannualreport2019

Archdiocesan Annual Report 2019/2020 The Archdiocese of Vancouver's Annual Report for 2019-2020 is now published online at annualreport.rcav.org

Volunteers Needed for Men's Shelter We are excited that the new Men's Shelter is relocating to the Comox building on the current St. Paul's Hospital site. We will be receiving guests starting on December 8th and due to the larger size of the Shelter and our desire to provide more support for the men, we are looking to build up a great team of volunteers. If you would like to be part of this Ministry and are able to volunteer for a few hours each week or each month, please contact humanresources@rcav.org or call 604 683 0281 ext. 50426.

Hope for All - Advent Reflection for Ministry to Divorced and Separated "I am definitively loved and whatever happens to me - I am awaited by this Love. And so my life is good." (St. Josephine Bakhita) Join us for a time of prayer and reflection on hope during this Advent Season. Together, we will explore the way hope brings light into darkness and allows us to see God's loving presence in the moments of our life. Join us on Wednesday, Dec. 16 from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm online. Sister John Mary Sullivan, FSE, will lead this time of reflection and prayer for those who have been impacted by separation or divorce. Register online at beholdvancouver.org/events

"A Gift of Hope" St. Matthew's Christmas Concert The annual St. Matthew's Christmas Concert, typically attended by 600-700 people, is our largest fundraiser for the Society of St Vincent de Paul which helps local families in need. This year's concert, however, will be presented online and available to everyone! Prepare a cup of hot chocolate, gather your friends, put on your favourite Christmas sweater and join us on Saturday, Dec. 19 at 7:00 pm. We have been blessed to bring together very talented performers from two of our Sunday choirs and from St. Matthew's Elementary School. Let your hearts--and voices--stay warm! Join us for 'a gift of hope': a concert open to all who wish to capture the spirit of a traditional Christmas filled with the peace and joy of the coming of Jesus, our living Hope. Follow the link below:
<https://saintmatthews.ca/events/st-matthew-s-christmas-concert>

Pope Francis: Amid suffering Jesus is the "Sign" that God gives the world - "The feast of Christmas reminds us that Jesus is our peace, our joy, our strength, our comfort." Those were Pope Francis words on Friday morning to a delegation that presented this year's Christmas Tree and Nativity scene to the Vatican. The majestic spruce tree, which takes pride of place in St Peter's Square, comes from the forests of Kočevje, a town on the Rinža river in Slovenia, while the ceramic crib has been donated by the Italian town of Castelli, in Italy's Abruzzo region.

Tree and crib a sign of hope - Thanking those present ahead of the formal inauguration on Friday, the Pope said these "icons of Christmas" are more than ever "a sign of hope for the people of Rome and for those pilgrims who will have the opportunity to come and admire them." The tree and Nativity scene help to create a "favourable Christmas atmosphere for living in faith the mystery of the Redeemer's Birth," he said.

Humility of the Holy Family. Pope Francis noted that when we contemplate the Holy Family, "we are attracted by their disarming humility." He went on to say that there is no room for them, not even a small room, yet "they keep vigil." Mary "keeps everything in her heart," while Joseph "looks for a place for her and the Child who is about to be born." In order to receive the gifts of peace, joy, strength, and comfort, said the Pope, "we need to feel small, poor and humble like the characters in the crib." Highlighting the difficulties people are facing this Christmas in particular, Pope Francis stressed that "in the midst of the suffering of the pandemic, Jesus, small and helpless, is the 'Sign' that God gives to the world."

To watch the Nativity Scene and Tree Lighting Event at the Vatican follow this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KtqYMv9QFFc>

