

ADVENT GIVING TREE is set up in the Parish Centre with tags for approx. 30 families that the Knights of Columbus have adopted for this Christmas.

Please follow these directions:

1) Attach the tag securely to the gift with tape or staples. These tags are very important as the number on each tag corresponds to a particular family. Each gift is then put in a separate box designated for each family.

2) **PLEASE DO NOT WRAP THE GIFTS.** Return the unwrapped gift with the tag attached and put it in to the sleigh beside the Christmas Tree or bring to the Parish Office no later than **Tuesday, December 12th.**

LIGHT UP FOR CHRIST: the St. Ann's and St. James Knights of Columbus invite you to join us for caroling, the blessing and lighting of the nativity scene and refreshments on **Tuesday, December 5th starting at 6:30pm** at St. James parish.

St. Ann's Preschool **CHRISTMAS POINSETTA FUNDRAISER PICK UP day is Thursday, December 14th**. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTION

As almost half of our PPC committee members are finishing up their term at the end of this 2017, we are looking for 3 elected positions and 2 appointed positions to be filled.

Requirements:

In order to be considered for the ministry of PPC one must:

- Be a baptized practicing Catholic of proven faith and sound morals
- Have been a registered member of our parish for at least 2 years
- Be a participant in the ongoing worship life of our parish, especially Sunday Eucharist
- Be at least 18 years of age

The application and more information about the PPC are available for pickup at both entrances of the Church.

Thank you for your consideration.

2018 DONATION ENVELOPES are available in the Church Foyer. Please pick up asap as we need the space for the Christmas Nativity scene.

YOUTH MINISTRY SUNDAY is today. The purpose of this archdiocesan collection is to assist the work of the Ministries and Outreach Office in providing formation, training, and support for youth ministry. Support the growing number of youth participants who attend leadership training opportunities and youth ministry programs.

To the families of our wonderful community at St. Ann's Parish, my kids and I would like to mark the one year anniversary of our house fire by having the Holy Sacrifice of the **Mass offered on December 11th at Westminster Abbey** in thanksgiving for all who gave us material, spiritual and moral support. Our community has been the greatest blessing. We could not have risen from the ashes without you!

Love and prayers, The Taschereau Family

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN'S

MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED at Bevan Village on **Tuesday, December 5th at 10:00 a.m.**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MEETING : **Thursday, December 7th at 7:00 p.m.** in St. Peter room.

ONE BODY IN CHRIST PRAYER MEETING: Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. in St. Joachim room.

MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED at Maplewood House on **Friday, December 8th at 4:00 p.m.**

HISPANIC MASS will be celebrated on **Saturday, December 9th at 7:00 p.m.** Reception to follow in the Parish Centre.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST will be prepared by our Knights of Columbus next **Sunday, December 10th** after the 8 & 10am Masses.

REVIEW OF THE BASICS OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH /RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS: Have you ever thought about becoming Catholic? Have you been attending Mass with your spouse, a friend, or family member and would like to learn more about joining the faith and sharing in the full sacramental life of the Church or are you a faithful Catholic already and want a review of the basics of what it means to be Catholic? We will use the **SYMBOLON – THE CATHOLIC FAITH EXPLAINED** - a series to be used as the basis of small group discussions. To sign up contact adultfaith@stannsabbotsford.ca for **Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m.**

CHOIR: Come and make a joyful noise unto the Lord at the **10am Masses through Advent and the Christmas Season.** Joanne and the choir will be practicing on **Tuesday evenings at 6:00pm**, just before the 7:00pm Mass. You are personally invited and encouraged to join us in song. There's a place for you in the choir...and also a pew.

ENDOW Women's Group CHILDCARE HELP NEEDED: We are looking for someone who can join their childcare team for their next study. If there are any women who enjoy working with young children, who might be able to volunteer their time for 2-4 hours a month (9:30-11:30 am every second Wednesday), from February to the end of May, please contact Eileen (778-808-5748). Thank you

HOPE FOR WOMEN PREGNANCY SERVICES in Abbotsford, BC's fastest growing Crisis Pregnancy Centre, is in need of Volunteer Peer Counsellors! We will be offering training in the new year. All necessary certification and training are provided for volunteers who qualify and can commit for a period of at 1 year for 4 hours every 2 weeks. For a volunteer package please email laurie@hopeforwomen.ca or call 604-853-0303.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR DEC. 4TH TO DEC 10TH, 2017

Monday	8:00am	Irene Kubas, int.
Tuesday	7:00pm	Patrice Saint, rip.
Wednesday	8:00am	Ken Dale, rip.
Thursday	8:00am	Irene Walls, int.
Friday	8:00am	Maurice Bellec, rip.
Saturday	9:00am	Lisa Stout, int.
	5:00pm	Muriel Doran, rip.
Sunday	8:00am	Intentions for the Parish
	10:00am	Mikszan Family int.
	Noon	Dusan & Olga Jamarik, rip.

JUNIOR YOUTH (GR. 5-7)

Dec 9 – Wake Up! Jesus is Coming! – 6-8pm

Jesus uses a parable of a man leaving his servants in charge as he goes to a far away country and then returns unexpectedly. He uses this parable to deliver a wake-up call to his disciples. Likewise we must remain on guard because our Master may return at any time.

LIFE TEEN (GR. 8-12)

Dec 16 - LifeTeen Christmas Party – 6-8pm

Join us as we celebrate the coming of Jesus in the season of Christmas! There will be games, food, and lots of fun! We will be playing Catholic Double Dare which combines trivia questions with fun (and potentially messy) physical challenges in the style of popular 90's game shows, like "Uh Oh" or "Double Dare." It is going to be an exciting game and we know you will have an amazing time! Bring comfortable clothes to change into after the 5pm Mass.

Wanted: Youth Choir Members

Our youth choir which plays at the 5pm Saturday Youth Mass is looking for members, especially singers! If you or anyone you know would like to join with an instrument or singing, please contact Kirsten at youthministry@stannsabbotsford.ca. We meet for practice at **4pm on Saturday** and have started weekday practices for Christmas and New Years, contact Kirsten for more information.

SWEENEY FAMILY SINGERS Present: "What Sweeter Music" **Monday, December 18th, 7:30 p.m.** at St. James Church. Admission by Donation. Proceeds to benefit "Food for the Hungry" (fcanada.org)

FEAST DAYS & READINGS DEC 4TH TO DEC. 10TH, 2017

Monday	Isaiah 2:1-5; Matthew 8:5-11, 13++
Tuesday	Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24
Wednesday	Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37
Thursday-St. Ambrose	Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27
Friday-Immaculate Conception	Genesis 3:9-15,20; Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12; Luke 1:26-38
Saturday	Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8++
Sunday–2nd Sunday of Advent:	Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

JOURNEY DISCIPLESHIP COURSE

This is a comprehensive course that incorporates prayer, providing in-depth discipleship and spiritual care with the goal of helping individuals experience Jesus in their relationships, sexuality and identity. Each evening consists of worship, teaching, and prayer in small groups. These gender-specific groups are safe places for bringing our struggles to God and each other. There are weekly reading assignments for reflection, study, and prayer.

Location: St. Ann's Parish Centre
Date: **January 11, 2018 – May 3, 2018**
Time: **Thursdays, 7:00 – 9:30pm**
Cost: \$550 early bird*, \$600 regular rate after December 11 (both rates include a non-refundable \$25 application fee)
Details:
There are two day-long sessions (January 20 and April 7). Attendance is required at both in order to take the course.

WHO CAN ATTEND?

This course is for anyone willing to be open with others about their life, and who desires to deepen their relationship with Jesus. It is for those struggling with relational, sexual, or identity issues (such as unhealthy relationships, self-hatred, shame, sexual addiction, pornography, abuse, marital problems, unwanted self-identified same-sex attraction, emotional dependencies, etc).

***Early bird:** Must receive your completed application and \$25 application fee by December 11

HOW CAN I APPLY?

1. Email fraservalley@journeycanada.org to request an application for the Abbotsford Journey Discipleship Course. Apply early because space is limited.
2. Submit your application and application fee, which can be paid:
 - Online via PayPal or Credit Card: www.journeycanada.org/event-payment
 - By cheque made payable to "Journey Canada" and mailed to 300 – 291 E 2nd Ave, Vancouver, BC, V5T 1B8.

Welcome to St. Ann's Parish

Our Vision Statement: to be a Christ-centered community of missionary disciples.

Our Mission Statement: to work and pray to be a welcoming, Eucharistic community that spreads the good news of Christ. We each strive to share our gifts within and beyond the parish for the glory of God.

