**WELCOME!**

If you are new in our parish, registration forms can be found on the table in front of the Sacristy when you enter from the outside doors. You may place your completed form in the collection basket at the weekend Masses or drop it off at the Parish Office. Donation envelopes will be left on that same table for the next weekend, if they are requested. Please join us for refreshments after the 8:00 & 10:00am Sunday Morning Masses in St. Joachim’s Room of the Parish Centre. Please notify the Parish Office if you are moving from the parish.

**SACRAMENTS**

**Baptism**
Baptisms usually take place on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month at 1:15pm. A baptism course is required for parents of their first child & Godparents are welcome to attend. Registration required. Teenagers & adults are asked to contact the RCIA coordinator.

**Marriage**
Please contact one of the priests through the Parish Office before making any plans for your wedding. We require at least 6 months advance notice before your wedding date, since a marriage preparation course & paperwork are required.

**Priesthood or Religious Life**
Please contact the Vocations Office at: rcav.org/vocations

**CONFSSION**
Monday - Friday 20min before Mass Saturdays
10:00am - 11:00am & 4:00pm - 4:35pm

**MASS TIMES**

**Weekends**
Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 8:00am, 10:00am & 12:00pm

**Weekdays**
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Fridays 8:00am
Tuesday Evenings 7:00pm
(Perpetual Novena to St. Ann)

**OTHER**

Spanish Mass - 2nd Sat of month 7:00pm
Korean Mass - Last Sat of month 7:00pm
(served by St. Andrew Kim Parish)
First Fridays 8:00am & 7:00pm
Saturdays & Holidays 9:00am

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**
First Fridays 8:30am - 6:50pm
Benediction to follow 6:50pm - 7:00pm

**IMPORTANT CONTACT INFO**

**Altar Servers**
Bob Kaszonyi 604-864-9443
Linda Harder 604-556-3643
Lucy Kaszonyi 604-852-5696

**Altar Society**
Pat & Mariz Carlos 604-853-2474
Bev Katchner 604-557-0309

**Bookstore**
Brian McNeil

**Couples for Christ**
Cheyanne Brinson 604-744-8555

**CWL-Catholic Women’s League**
Depta Fye 604-855-9284

**Info Tech**
Mary Phillips 604-852-3437

**Knights of Columbus**
One Body in Christ Praise & Worship Ken/Mena Beatch

**Mayfair Sunshine Club**
Parish Office 604-852-5602

**Migrant Workers**
Claire Wilkie 778-928-1406

**Mayfair Sunshine Club**
Monique Navarro 604-853-3028

**Migrant Workers**
Carl Gomes 604-859-6729

**One Body in Christ Praise & Worship**
Jody Garneau 604-852-5602

**Parish Education Committee**
Angela 604-852-5602

**Parish Outreach**
JoAnn Nixon 604-852-5602

**Parish Screening Coordinator**
Gabrielle Hoffer 604-864-0745

**Parish Vacation Committee**
Paula Fischer 604-850-3506

**Preschool**
Anna & Benoit Wauthy 604-852-6198

**Project Advance Fundraising**
Extension 227 604-852-5602

**Prolife Reps.**
Jody Garneau adultfaith@stannsbabbotsford.ca

**Prison Ministry & Victim Support**
Jennifer Pucek prep@stannsbabbotsford.ca

**Project Advance Fundraising**
George Sweeney 604-852-5602

**Parish Vacation Committee**
Therese fvcatholic.ca@outlook.com

**Parish Screening Coordinator**
Matilde Carrao 604-850-1782

**Prolife Reps.**
Kirsten von der Buhs youthministry@stannsbabbotsford.ca
The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all” (Tit 2:11). The words of the Apostle Paul reveal the mystery of this holy night: the grace of God has appeared, his free gift. In the Child given to us, the love of God is made visible. It is a night of glory, that glory proclaimed by the angels in Bethlehem and by ourselves as well, all over the world. It is a night of joy, because henceforth and forever, the infinite and eternal God is with us. He is not far off. We need not search for him in the heavens or in mystical notions. He is close at hand. He became man and he will never withdraw from our humanity, which he has made his own. It is a night of light. The light prophesied by Isaiah (cf. 9:1), which was to shine on those who walked in a land of darkness, has appeared and enveloped the shepherds of Bethlehem (cf. Lk 2:9).

The shepherds discover simply that “a child has been born to us” (Is 9.5). They realize that all this glory, all this joy, all this light, converges to a single point, the sign that the angel indicated to them: “You will find a child wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger” (Lk 2:12). This is the enduring sign for all who would find Jesus. Not just then, but also today. If we want to celebrate Christmas authentically, we need to contemplate this sign: the frail simplicity of a tiny newborn child, the meekness with which he is placed in a manger, the tender affection with which he is wrapped in his swaddling clothes. That is where God is.

With this sign, the Gospel reveals a paradox. It speaks of the emperor, the governor, the high and mighty of those times, yet God does not make himself present there. He appears not in the splendor of a royal palace, but in the poverty of a stable; not in pomp and show, but in simplicity of life; not in power, but in astonishing smallness. In order to meet him, we need to go where he is. We need to bow down, to humble ourselves, to make ourselves small. The newborn Child challenges us. He calls us to leave behind fleeting illusions and to turn to what is essential, to renounce our insatiable cravings, to abandon our endless yearning for things we will never have. We do well to leave such things behind, in order to discover, in the simplicity of the divine Child, peace, joy and the luminous meaning of life.

Let us allow the Child in the manger to challenge us, but let us also be challenged by all those children in today’s world who are living not in a crib, caressed with affection by their mothers and fathers, but in squalid “mangers that devour deity”. Children who hide underground to escape bombardment, on the pavements of large cities, in the hold of a boat overladen with immigrants… Let us allow ourselves to be challenged by those children who are not allowed to be born, by those who cry because no one relieves their hunger, by those who hold in their hands not toys, but weapons.

The mystery of Christmas, which is light and joy, challenges and unsettles us, because it is at once a mystery of hope and of sadness. It has a taste of sadness, inasmuch as love is not accepted, and life discarded. Such was the case with Joseph and Mary, who met with closed doors, an escape bombardment, on the pavements of large cities, in the hold of a boat overladen with immigrants… Let us allow ourselves to be challenged by those children in today’s world who are living not in a crib, caressed with affection by their mothers and fathers, but in squalid “mangers that devour deity”. Children who hide underground to escape bombardment, on the pavements of large cities, in the hold of a boat overladen with immigrants… Let us allow ourselves to be challenged by those children who are not allowed to be born, by those who cry because no one relieves their hunger, by those who hold in their hands not toys, but weapons.

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