

31TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NOVEMBER 5TH, 2017

WHY ARE WE CALLED TO PRAY FOR THE DEAD?

The souls in Purgatory are completely engaged with the beautiful yet difficult cleansing of themselves, to be made pure and whole for life in Heaven, and there are no "shortcuts" for them to access for themselves in this process (we have plenty on earth – the sacraments, spiritual devotions, indulgences, etc.). Also, each person's degree of purgation will match the degree to which they have sinned – just as in a legal system the severity of jail time is supposed to "match" the severity of the crime – and in this way justice is achieved. However, in God's infinite mercy, He allows the Church Militant (you and I) to "pay the debt" of each other's sins through our sacrifices of prayer, fasting, and especially the Mass. This grace extends to the suffering souls in Purgatory, and in this way we can lessen their suffering and speed their entry into Heaven.

WHY DO WE LIGHT CANDLES?

Candles have been used in Christian worship since the beginning, and for many reasons. First and foremost, they remind us of Jesus, who said: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (Jn. 8:12). Jesus also said that we, the faithful, are "the light of the world", and that our light must shine before others, so that others will see the good that we do and will praise our Father in Heaven (Mt. 5: 14-16). The candle, as it flickers and sways, also reminds us of life, and its delicate beauty. Its upward orientation and the curls of smoke that ascend from its tip signify our prayers, which rise up to Heaven. Lighting a candle, therefore, is a way of extending our prayer and showing solidarity with the soul for whom the prayer is offered. For these reasons, Christians all over the world and throughout history have been placing candles on family graves. It is especially appropriate to do this during the Halloween Triduum and throughout the Month of Holy Souls. The Catholic Church even offers an indulgence on behalf of a soul in Purgatory for anyone who visits a cemetery during the first eight days of the month of November to pray for the deceased.

IS A FUNERAL MASS REALLY NECESSARY?

Yes! The Catholic Church is constantly reminding us of the dignity of the human person – we are created in the image and likeness of God, and we are called to participate in His very life and love for all eternity. The Mass, the memorial of Christ's death and resurrection, is the principal celebration of the Christian funeral. This is because the community turns for spiritual nourishment at the table of the Eucharist: "In partaking of the body of Christ, all are given a foretaste of eternal life in Christ and are united with Christ, with each other, and with all the faithful, living and dead. "Moreover, through baptism, a Christian's very *body* becomes a temple of the Holy Spirit; through reception of the Eucharist, a person's body becomes a tabernacle carrying our Lord; and even in death, we believe that someday the body will be reunited with the soul and become a glorified body for all eternity. The human body is therefore a vessel destined for unimaginable glory and eternal happiness, and as such is worthy of noble treatment here on earth, even after death. For these reasons, a Catholic funeral service has a beautiful form and set of guidelines to uphold and celebrate this dignity.

Please remember in your prayers the repose of the soul of Alfred Buhr, father of Carol Ellis who passed away last week.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN'S

MASS will be celebrated at Bevan Village on **Tuesday, November 7th at 10:00 a.m.**

MASS will be celebrated at the Mayfair Seniors Home on **Thursday, November 9th at 10:00 a.m.**

MASS will be celebrated at Maplewood House on **Friday, November 10th at 4:00 p.m.**

HISPANIC MASS will be celebrated on **Saturday, November 11th at 7:00 p.m.** Reception to follow in Parish Centre.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST will be prepared by our Knights of Columbus on **Sunday, November 12th** after the 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. Masses.



CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY AND VESPERS on **Sunday, November 12th at 3:00 p.m.** in the Sacred Space at Abbotsford Regional Hospital Please join us in praying for the Doctors, Nurses, hospital workers, and most especially the patients and their families.

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS Sunday, November 26th @ 3pm

St. Ann's will be hosting an Archdiocesan Holy Hour for Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life. All are welcome to join Fr. Rodney Nootebos, Director of Vocations and Seminarians, in an hour of prayer before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, asking Him, with one voice as a parish, to "send forth labourers into the harvest."

FAMILY BOWLING: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH 1:30 – 3:30 PM



At Galaxy Bowl on Simon Avenue; Bowling & shoe rental is free. **RSVP** to John Galay at 604-853-0746 by **November 20th. Limited space so reserve early.** Please bring a non perishable food item for St. Vincent de Paul Society. **Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus**

YOU CAN PAINT THIS! NOVEMBER 30TH, 7-9PM

\$45PP/Price includes a glass of wine, 1 12 x 16 canvas and supplies. Come join us for a fun evening with friends, wine, and painting of a Nativity scene perfect for the Christmas Season. **Register at the Parish Office by November 20th. This is a fundraiser for St. Ann's Preschool.**



RCIA for this year will begin regular classes on **November 30th.** If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith and considering becoming Catholic they should contact Jody Garneau in the RCIA office to arrange an interview (604-852-5602 ex. 227) or email adultfaith@stannsabbotsford.ca These classes would also be recommended for anyone who has not completed their sacraments (holy communion or confirmation) and wishes to do so. We also welcome those who want to be involved in Faith Formation through RCIA as sponsors, hosts, and helpers. We will meet on Thursday evenings for the remainder of the school year.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR NOV 6TH TO NOV 12TH, 2017

Monday
8:00am Dec. relatives & friends of Sartor fam.

Tuesday
7:00pm Martin Lanigan, rip.

Wednesday
8:00am Dennis Loeppky, rip.

Thursday
8:00am Shirley Bourque, rip.

Friday
8:00am Fr. John McCarthy, int.

Saturday
9:00am Johanna Arts, rip.
5:00pm Francesco Bottignole, rip.

Sunday
8:00am Danuta Mlodzikowska, rip.
10:00am Intentions for the Parish
Noon Nicholas Goodman, rip.

LifeTeen (Gr. 8-12)

Nov 18 – Illumination – 6-8pm

In the Old Testament, God makes promises to humanity. God keeps these promises even when humanity fails to be faithful to Him. This points us to God's covenant with us fulfilled in Jesus. When we doubt God's promise we can look to Sacred Scripture to the stories of those who believed and their promise was realized. We can always return to the Eucharist to be present to God's promise fulfilled to us today.

Junior Youth (Gr. 5-7)

Nov 11 – Leaders Who Serve – 6-8pm

Jesus tells us to forget about titles and status and rather focus on serving others. We are challenged to be leaders who serve rather than leaders who are served.

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 and help us out please contact Kirsten at youthministry@stannsabbotsford.ca. We meet for practice at 4pm on Saturdays and will be starting to have weekday practices as we approach the Christmas season.

FEAST DAYS & READINGS NOV 6TH TO NOV 12TH, 2017

Monday
Romans 11:29-36; Luke 14:12-14

Tuesday
Romans 12:5-16a; Luke 14:15-24

Wednesday
Romans 13:8-10'; Luke 14:25-33

Thursday: Dedication of Lateran Basilica
Ezekiel 47:1-2,8-9,12; John 2:13-22

Friday-St. Leo
Romans 15:14-21; Luke 16:1-8

Saturday-St. Martin of Tours
Romans 16:3-9,16,22-27; Luke 16:9-15

Sunday–32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time:
Wisdom 6:12-16; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13



2 EVENTS COMING UP AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY

1) On **Saturday, November 18th**, Westminster Abbey and the Seminary of Christ the King will host Cristina Barba and the Culture Project team for two free talks. These recent college grads bring a youthful and vibrant message: life is beautiful and fully human when it integrates chastity and virtuous choices! The talks at the Abbey are entitled "Culture & Virtue: Challenging the Status Quo" (**10:15 – 11:40 a.m.**) and "The Culture Project: On How to Be Human (& Saints)" (**1:30 to 3:15 p.m.**). For more information see "Latest News" on www.sck.ca or call 604-826-8975.

2) "Come Away with me" **WOMEN'S RETREAT**, Westminster Abbey Mission, **Friday Feb 9th 7pm- Sunday Feb 11th 4pm 2018.** Speaker: Sr Flolyn Catungal OSA. Celebrant Fr Joseph Hieu Nguyen. **Finding 'JOY' through God's Mercy.** Space is limited; **please register by Nov 20th** for early rate, \$185. Standard rate \$200 Includes private room and 5 meals. Contact Joanne McGowan 604 946 2932 - email mcgowanj@dccnet.com or Linda Dixon 604 946 7268, email gltdsd@eastlink.ca

ANNUAL MASS FOR DECEASED BISHOPS, CLERGY AND CONSECRATED MEN AND WOMEN will be held at Holy Rosary Cathedral on **Thursday, November 9th at 12:00 noon.** All parishioners are welcome to attend.

Today , The Catholic Women's League of Canada (CWL) is holding a membership drive for new members. Look for members at the back of the church who will answer your questions, or call Bev Katchmer (Council President) at 604-557-0309 for more information about the CWL and its activities in this parish.

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.