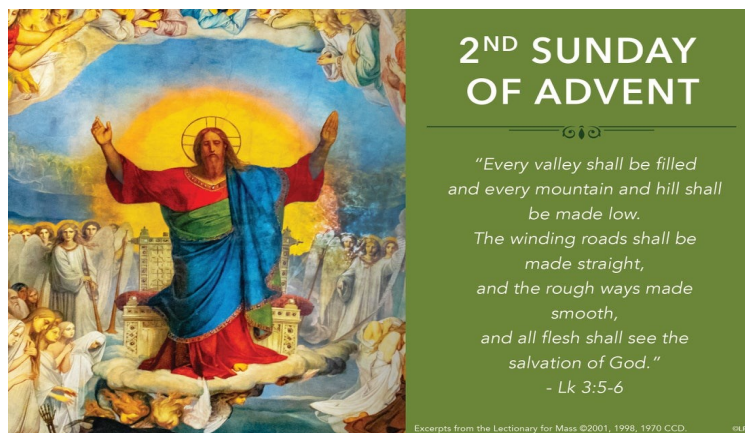


Sunday December 5th, 2021



Sat. Dec 4	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions Second Sunday of Advent
	5:00pm	✠ Margaret Marfics (Margaret Laslo & Gloria Egert)
Sun. Dec 5	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am	✠ Antonio Addario (Vince Addario) ✠ Anthony, Sybil & Wayne Rebeiro (Rebeiro Family)
Mon. Dec 6	9:30am	NO MASS
Tues. Dec 7	9:30am	✠ Dorothy Racz (Racz Family)
	7-8pm	HOLY HOUR & Confessions
Wed. Dec 8	9:30am	Intentions of Joseph Mullin (Teresa & Colin Walters)
	12-1pm	HOLY HOUR & CONFESSIONS
Thurs. Dec 9	9:30am	✠ Helen Albanese (Vince Addario)
Fri. Dec 10	9:30am	Amer, Divya & Praanjali (Divya G.)
Sat. Dec 11	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions Third Sunday of Advent
	5:00pm	✠ Nicola Colangelo (Rosa Colangelo) Vince Addario (Lena Addario)
		Third Sunday of Advent
Sun. Dec 12	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am	Happy 60th Birthday Blessings for Lena Addario (Vince Addario) Birthday Blessings for Jyotirmaya Sudha Thakur (Divya G.)

Confessions from 9-9:25am before all weekday Masses.

Offertory November 20th & 21st, 2021

Envelopes: \$1,414.00
 Deo Gratias \$ 270.00

Offertory November 27th & 28th, 2021

Envelopes: \$3,300.00

Second Sunday of Advent

St. Ambrose shares some wisdom on our need to prepare the way and open the door for Christ. "You see that when the Word of God knocks hardest on your door, it is when his hair is wet with the dew of the night. In fact, he chooses to visit those who are in tribulation and trial, lest one of them be overwhelmed by distress. So, his head is covered with dew, with drops, when his body is laboring hard. It is important to keep watch so that when the Bridegroom comes, he is not shut out. If you are asleep and your heart is not keeping watch, he will go away without knocking; but if your heart is alert for his coming, he knocks and asks for the door to be opened to him." When life gets overwhelming and difficult and we find ourselves feeling a bit downhearted and miserable, these words can bring great comfort. We sometimes choose to remain stuck in our uncomfortable darkness and being stuck becomes our norm. In this time of self-focus our hearts are closed to the graces and life God desires to give us. Wrapped in the robe of mourning and misery, we fail to see the mercy, justice, and love the Bridegroom wants to bring. If we take seriously the need to prepare the way for Christ and open our hearts in preparation for his visit, we can hear God's gentle voice calling us deep within. It beckons us to seek out its source and discover the inner calm and peace that can prevail over the darkness of despair. Sometimes our darkness is so dark that it may seem unsurmountable. Trusting in the spiritual friends who journey with us, and God's promise may bring a glimmer of light even when it is most difficult to keep our hearts' doors open. Sometimes, the only light in the darkness is found in trusting the faith of others both past and present. We have to trust that God has already begun the accomplishment of good work in us and that humanity is on an incredible journey to something wonderful and awesome. God is not done. When we open the doors of our hearts, straighten the paths of our lives, and prepare the way, Jesus can come with God's simple gifts of peace, grace, and joy. Life throws a great deal at us. It is easy to get tired and confused. We have to train our hearts to keep watch, discern what is of value, and forge ahead. Not allowing ourselves to become so weighed down by things and brought out of focus is a tremendous goal to achieve this Advent season. God is knocking. Answer the door. You will see and understand life in ways you never thought possible before.

The National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples will be celebrated on December 12, 2021, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas. This year's theme is "We are called to Healing, Forgiveness, Reconciliation." The text will be published in the December 2021 issue of *Living with Christ*, and will be posted on the CCCB website.

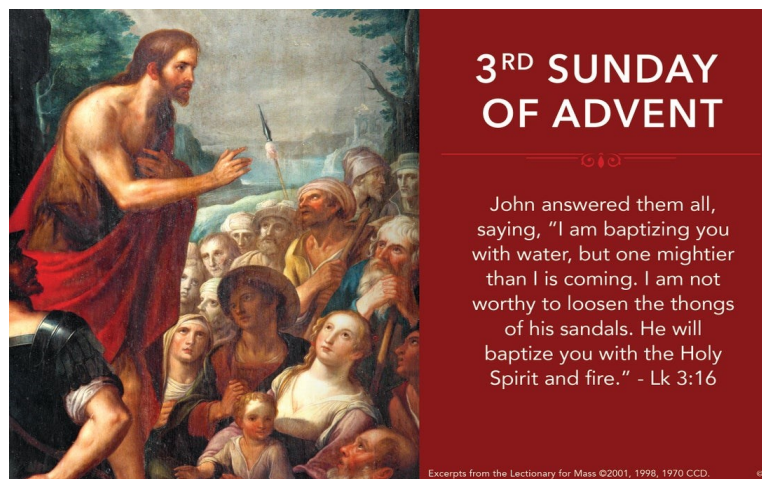
CWL news.... A sincere thank for your donations to the 'Warm-ember' collection! I was overwhelmed by your generosity and the staff at Pelham Cares was as well. They don't usually accept clothing other than coats and boots but they made an exception and will distribute all the lovely, warm items. (Donna Larocque, CWL President)

Do you know that Christian-themed Christmas postage stamps are an example of successful resolutions by the Catholic Women's League (CWL) of Canada?



Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Dec 8th. We will have Holy Hour from 12-1pm. Confession will also be available during this time.

Sunday, December 12th, 2021



Mon. Dec 13		NO MASS
Tues. Dec 14	9:30am	Tania Theodose (Divya G.)
	7-8pm	HOLY HOUR & Confessions
Wed. Dec 15	9:30am	✠ Armand Mei (Patti & Cyril Simek)
Thurs. Dec 16	9:30am	✠ Helen Lelievre (Racz Family)
Fri. Dec 17	9:30am	✠ Angelina Addario (Vince Addario)
Sat. Dec 18	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions Fourth Sunday of Advent
	5:00pm	✠ Isaiah (Magazzeni Family) ✠ Betty & Les Szabo (Jan & Lana)
		Fourth Sunday of Advent
Sun. Dec 19	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am	✠ Ashely Lelievre (Racz Family) ✠ Anthony, Muriel & Wayne Rebeiro (Rebeiro Family)

Confessions from 9-9:25am before all weekday Masses.

Offertory envelopes for 2022 are now available.

Volunteers will hand them out as you enter the church or phone to arrange pick-up. E-transfer will continue to be available to make your donation. Check your envelopes for Special Collection dates. **FOR THE YEAR 2022, USE ONLY THE ENVELOPES ASSIGNED TO YOU FOR THAT YEAR.** This will ensure that donations are credited to the proper person. **If a box has not been prepared for you, let the office know.** Also, please do not begin using your new envelopes until 2022. Thank you!

All Church contributions/donations for 2021 must be received on or before Dec. 31st, 2021 to be applied to your 2021 tax receipt. It is best to make your last donations of the year on the weekend of Dec 25/26 as the office will be closed from Dec 24-Jan 1st. Donations received after that weekend will be applied to your 2022 tax receipt. Thank you!

Donations to Pelham Cares: If you would like to donate gift cards for Pelham Care, please drop them off in the St. Vincent de Paul donation box at the church entrance or bring to the office.

Third Sunday of Advent

*"From silly devotions and sour-faced saints, good Lord, deliver us!"
 St. Teresa of Avila*

We've all heard the adage, "Laughter is the best medicine." In many ways, it really is. When was the last time you really laughed? The gift of imagination allows us to see possible things that are yet to be. Imagine a world filled with laughter. We take life too seriously sometimes. Fear, uncertainty, pressure, negativity, disappointment, and myriad other human experiences can rob us of the joy needed for laughter. God never promised us an easy road, and we do have to take the course of our lives seriously. However, there is a balance to be sought and a possible joy that can be brought even to the darkest and most challenging of encounters. St. Therese of Lisieux reminds us that, "Joy is not found in the material objects surrounding us but in the inner recesses of the soul. One can possess joy in a prison cell as well as in a palace." Falling in love with God, who is present in all of creation, allows us to bring a depth of understanding to everything we do and experience. We can more easily see above and beyond things while pursuing the only One who can truly satisfy our hearts. When we realize that God, the king of Israel, is in our midst and with us, there is no further misfortune to fear. We can celebrate the wonder and beauty of God's gift of joy. It is no wonder that many saints radiate joy and have no reservations expressing laughter. They are happy because they have found a pearl of great price. We celebrate with joy today with hearts filled with expectation, wonder, awe, and beauty as we ready ourselves, even more excitedly, for the coming of our Savior. Do not fear and do not be discouraged. If you haven't laughed in a while, why? Something is preventing you from expressing the magnificence of your soul and the presence of God who dwells within. God's power and presence within us assures us that we are loved and kept in that presence. What more is really needed? Rejoice and laugh in the presence of God! It really is the best medicine and a most perfect way to convince others that God is really with us. "Go ahead, laugh! Live your life with joy and serve the Lord with laughter! Joy, with peace, is the sister of charity. Serve the Lord with laughter." (St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina)

Christmas Liturgical Celebrations
Christmas—The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord

Friday, December 24th, 2021:
 5:00pm Christmas Eve Mass
 8:00pm Christmas Eve Mass

Saturday, December 25th, 2021:
 Midnight Mass
 9:30am Christmas Day Mass
 11:00am Christmas Day Mass

Solemnity of Mary, The Most Holy Mother of God

Friday, December 31st, 2021:
 5:00pm Mass
Saturday, January 1st, 2022:
 9:30am Mass
 11:00am Mass

Reservations required for these Masses. Phone or email the office to reserve a spot.

Christmas Flower Memorial Envelopes: We invite everyone to make a gift towards the cost of the Christmas greens and flowers that will decorate our parish this blessed season. Envelopes are in your offertory boxes or use a plain envelope with your contact information included.

