**December 18, 2022**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Ministry Sign-up Schedule for the month of December weekends is at the back of the church. Please sign up for a mass you will be attending.**

**As we enter the final weeks of Advent we encounter the celebration of many extra masses between Christmas Eve (December 24th) and the Feast of Mary of God (January 1st). There are times when we can get by without some of our ministries but Sunday and Holy Days are not one of them. Please do what is necessary to cover the masses celebrating the birth of our Lord this season to make a vibrant joyful celebration.**

**Sign up sheets for Christmas Masses are at the back of the Church.**

**Weekend Mass Times**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. (English) Sunday 9:00 a.m. (bilingual) 11:00 a.m. (English)

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

**NO WEEKDAY MASSES OR ADORATION**

**Check out our website** [**www.saintvitalparish.com**](http://www.saintvitalparish.com/)**and check it regularly for updates.**

**At the present time Rev. Paul Kavanagh is Parish Administrator. Contact information for Paul.Kavanagh@caedm.ca or 780-469-1010 ext 2153**

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 17th – **+**Charles & Pearl Fluet & Adrien & Jeanne Berube

**SI** Finley Stix

Sunday, December 18th (9:00 a.m.)**+**Francis Berube

(11:00 a.m.) **SI** Grandchildren of the MacDonald family

**† = Repose of the Soul SI = Special Intention**

**Parish office is closed December 26th & 27th**

**Scent Free Makes Sense**

We would like the parish to be sensitive to folks with allergies and refrain from wearing perfume and aftershave at Mass. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

**Beaumont Society for the Arts Christmas Concert – Friday, December 16th @ 7:00 p.m.**

Tickets may be purchased on Eventbrite.ca

**Thank you**

$925.00 and 215 pounds of food was collected and donated to the Beaumont Christmas Elves from the Swiss Men’s Choir Afternoon of Music that was held on Sunday, December 11.

**Keep Christ in Christmas Magnets**.

The Knights of Columbus continue to sell **Keep Christ in Christmas Magnets**.  They are available in both French and English.  Please consider purchasing a magnet for your car from the same table that you can buy grocery gift cards.  They are just $5.00 each and can be used every year.

**Keep Christ in Christmas Coloring Contest**

The Knights are once again sponsoring a **“Keep Christ in Christmas Coloring Contest”** for parish youth in Grades 1 – 9.  There are first, second, and third place cash prizes for three different age groups.  You will need to pick up a form at the back of the church, which provides all the rules as well as an entry form that must be attached to your artwork.  The deadline for submitting your artwork is December 18, just two weeks from now.

**Knight Riders**

 The Knights of Columbus are offering to drive, to and from church, any parishioners who wish to attend weekend Masses at St. Vital Church but are unable due to a lack of transportation.

 As the Knights are using their private vehicles, they cannot offer assistance for people with mobility issues or those with wheelchairs.  Neither can they accommodate car seats for babies or young children.  If you think you can take advantage of this free service, contact Joe Lauer at 780-929-6056 to arrange a ride to Mass and back home and we will do our best to accommodate you.   Alternate contact:  Paul Weisenberger @ 780-929-5150.

Our Lady of the Hill Knights of Columbus will be selling **Sobey and No Frills gift cards** after all masses on the weekend. The weekend of December 17. 18 will be the last opportunity to purchase Grocery Gift Cards prior to Christmas.  This holds true for the Keep Christ in Christmas car magnets.  There will be no sales Christmas weekend.  Sales will resume the weekend of December 31/January 1

**K of C Food Drive**

The Knights of Columbus will hold its monthly food drive in support of the Leduc Food Bank the weekend of December 31/January 1.  Please drop your donation in the bin in the Church vestibule.

Thanks to all the Parishioners who have been supporting this effort over the months.  The needy of Leduc County thank you as well.

**Christmas & New Year’s Masses**

***Christmas Eve (December 24***

**4:00 p.m. – Children’s Nativity Play & Mass**

**6:30 p.m.**

**9:00 p.m.**

**Midnight Mass**

***Christmas Day (December 25th)***

**10:00 a.m.**

***New Year’s Eve (December 31st)***

**5:00 p.m.**

***New Year’s Day (January 1st)***

**9:00 & 11:00 a.m.**

**Tax Receipts**

At year end people like to make “top up” donations. If you want the donation reflected on your 2022 tax receipt, please have it dated no later than December 28th and delivered to the office by December 28, 2022 to be included in your 2022 tax receipt.

Regular donations received after that date will be recorded for 2023.

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2023**

Envelopes for 2023 are at the back of the church for you to pick up, and are displayed alphabetically.

PLEASE NOTE: • Weekly contribution envelopes are only good for the year they are printed as numbers may change. Therefore, please **DO NOT USE YOUR 2022** **ENVELOPES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE MADE IN 2023.**

• If you don’t find your envelopes on the tables once they are displayed, it could be due to the following:

1. No contributions were made in 2022.

2. Your envelopes were never picked up.

• If you are using envelopes from the pews to make contributions, please be sure to write clearly your name, full address and phone number as TAX RECEIPTS WILL NOT BE ISSUED FOR ANY DONATIONS WITH INCOMPLETE INFORMATION.

If you have any questions, please contact the parish office.

**Called to Protect training, an abuse prevention training session will be offered on Thursday January 12, 2023, 7 pm - 9:30 pm.  The two and half session is mandatory for all volunteers and employees of the Archdiocese.  The virtual session will be by zoom.  To register, please use the link below:**

**Registration:** [**https://forms.gle/zdvjRPi92YNcbP6YA**](https://forms.gle/zdvjRPi92YNcbP6YA)

**Star of the North Retreat Centre,**[**www.starofthenorth.ca**](http://www.starofthenorth.ca)**, 780-459-5511**  
  
**In the Moment: Self-Guided Retreats** are recorded retreats intended for people who may want to retreat at home or on the road, have limited mobility, and/or simply seek time alone with God in the midst of a busy schedule. Each video is less than 45 minutes, and may be paused to allow space for deeper reflection and prayer. Available in Spanish, French & English. Quarterly subscription (3 videos): $75 /  Yearly subscription (9 videos): $200 For more information visit: [www.starofthenorth.ca/moment](http://www.starofthenorth.ca/moment)   
  
**Your Whole, Free Heart: A Spirituality for the Wanderers** is a weekend retreat co-guided by Becky Bonham and Clint Porritt, for those who know spiritual struggle or disillusionment. Join a safe space for honouring our journeys toward wholeness, confronting fears and befriending our doubts, as we begin to reframe our “wanderings” as the good work of God in us. Cost: Online $130 / Commuter $205 / Live-In $315. For more information visit [www.starofthenorth.ca/wander](http://www.starofthenorth.ca/wander)

**Aurora Living: Formation Through Word & Creation** is a spiritual formation community at the intersection of faith contemporary issues: creation care, social justice, & reconciliation. Our winter 2023 module (January to March) entitled *Wisdom: The Wells We Drink From* will feature presenters Sr. Priscilla Solomon,Ron Rolheiser, Gisele Baucheand many others. Accepting new applicants, **early registration rates end December 15.** Opening retreat January 20-22, 2023. Contact Star of the North for more information or visit [www.starofthenorth.ca/wisdom](http://www.starofthenorth.ca/wisdom)

**Stewardship Corner Fourth Sunday of Advent Weekend of December 17/18, 2022**

In today’s Gospel we hear of the coming of Emmanuel, which means “God is with us.” We celebrate three Advents: The birth of Christ, His Second Coming, and His presence in the world today. Our daily lives are attended by God’s presence. Indeed, “God is with us.” The Good News of Christ’s Incarnation is that we are the sign, the “sacrament,” of Christ’s presence in the world. People are supposed to see us, see how we love one another, see how we treat the stranger among us, see how we give comfort to the poor and afflicted, and share the Good News with joy. They see how good stewards are the light of Christ. And there can be no possible response except to say: “God is here!