**December 25, 2022**

**The Nativity of the Lord**

**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.**

**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 24th (6:30 p.m.) **SI** Cameron McDonald

Saturday, December 31st – **+**Eleanor Magnan

Sunday, January 1st (9:00 a.m.) **+**Eleanor Magnan

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

**Parish office is closed December 26th & 27th & January 2nd**

**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.

**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.

**CHRISTMAS MASS PARKING**

Please remember to be kind, courteous, and thoughtful when parking your car for Christmas Mass.

What can you do to help?

1. Be kind and see Jesus in your neighbour, even the neighbours who are driving.

2. Consider which Mass to attend: Christmas Eve 4PM is always busiest and fills up very early. Don’t come just in time for 4PM Mass and expect to find parking in our lot.

3. Arrive early

4. Carpool with your wider family and church friends

5. Consider parking legally in the adjacent neighbourhoods and walking. Do not park illegally or in adjacent business parking areas.

6. Do not block the fire lanes, hydrants, or access ways.

Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas!

We warmly welcome all of you to St. Vital Parish this Christmas. The days of Advent have been a busy time. As we gather with family and friends, I pray you to have time to relax and celebrate the true reason we come together – the birth of our Saviour. The days of Christmas are filled with light. We are God’s people – redeemed by the Light of the World. May Jesus, the Messiah, guide our lives.

Thank you for your generosity and for celebrating Christmas with us. I wish you and your family a blessed Christmas!

Fr. Paul Kavanagh

**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.**

To you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. Luke 2:11

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year**

**The deadline for submitting entries for the Knights of Columbus Christmas Coloring Contest has been extended by a week.  Entries will be accepted at any of the Christmas masses this weekend.  Please place art work in the box at the back of the church**.

**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.

**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)

**Stewardship Corner Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord December 25, 2022**

Amidst the beautiful Christmas readings at today’s Masses is a reading from a small New Testament letter from Saint Paul to his protégé, Titus, read at Midnight Mass. Saint Paul reminds Titus that God has given us a gift in the person of Jesus Christ. This gift represents God’s active presence in our lives and in our world. This gift redeems us from evil and death. This gift purifies us as God’s people. This is a gift that also comes with an expectation: That we receive it with thanksgiving, allow it to transform us into Christ’s image; and from it, learn how to live a life “eager to do what is good.” Take time the next few days to reflect on the marvelous gift we celebrate at Christmas, and how we might become better stewards of this gift.

**“ADOREMUS & CREDO”**

• Adoremus (“Let us Adore”) is held at St. Joseph Basilica (10044 - 113 Street NW) from 7:00 - 8:30 pm on the first Saturday of every month. The next one is on January 7. Join other young adults for a evening of Eucharistic Adoration, music, reconciliation, and prayer.

• Credo (“I Believe”) will be from 7:00 - 9:00 pm at Newman Theological College (10012 - 84 Street NW) held monthly on Thursdays. The next one is on January 19. Join other young adults and dive into the mysteries of our faith! This cultural apologetics series will focus on a different topic each month. A social and light refreshments will follow. All are welcome! For more information, contact Dr. Ryan Topping: ryan.topping@newman.edu

**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!