



**Masks are
mandatory in
the Church**

Bulletin

**Sacred Heart Parish
Eucharist Schedule: Saturday 4:00**

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**December 05th, 2020
Second Sunday in Advent**

Jerusalem

In Palestine Christians gather today in Jerusalem for the celebration of holy Mass. In Rome they proceed to the stational church "Holy Cross at Jerusalem" which serves to give the atmosphere of the Holy City.

Why "Jerusalem"? Excavations of ancient sites often reveal a number of strata. When enemies destroyed a city, a new one would rise on the same location, so that today there are several layers of remains, one city, as it were, above the other. Our Jerusalem likewise has four strata. The bottommost layer is the Jerusalem of the Jews, that venerable land where the Lord Jesus began His mission of redemption, where He suffered and died. This is the historical Jerusalem so dear to us Christians. Anyone making a pilgrimage to the Holy Land enters that ancient city with holy awe. That Jerusalem, however, lies buried deep.

For us another has been built upon it, the Jerusalem of Christians, God's kingdom on earth, the holy Church. This city still stands; it is the one which the divine King will enter at Christmas. Now we understand why we will hear so much about Jerusalem during the coming week. We should now clean and adorn our city, improving its streets and avenues through which the Savior will make His entrance. As a motto we should take the words of the precursor, St. John the Baptist: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths; let every valley be filled, every hill be leveled." Holy Mother Church's message today is that the Savior is coming to the Jerusalem of the Christians, to the Church.

Above the second stratum there arises a third, the heavenly Jerusalem at the end of time. Already now the Church sings of this Jerusalem. For during Advent we await the Savior who will appear on the Last Day to take all into "the new Jerusalem coming down from heaven."

“As the journey of Advent continues, as we prepare to celebrate the nativity of Christ, John the Baptist's call to conversion sounds out in our communities. It is a pressing invitation to open our hearts and to welcome the Son of God Who comes among us to make divine judgement manifest. The Father, writes St. John the Evangelist, does not judge anyone, but has entrusted the power of judgement to the Son, because He is the Son of man.

“And it is today, in the present, that we decide our future destiny. It is with our concrete everyday behavior in this life that we determine our eternal fate. At the end of our days on earth, at the moment of death, we will be evaluated on the basis of our likeness or otherwise to the Baby Who is about to be born in the poor grotto of Bethlehem, because He is the measure God has given humanity.

“Through the Gospel John the Baptist continues to speak down the centuries to each generation. His hard clear words bring health to us, the men and women of this day in which even the experience and perception of Christmas often, unfortunately, reflects materialist attitudes. The 'voice' of the great prophet asks us to prepare the way for the coming Lord in the deserts of today, internal and external deserts, thirsting for the water of life which is Christ.” — Benedict XVI

Finally, there may be recognized a fourth Jerusalem, our souls in sanctifying grace. This city too must be adorned and prepared, for the King will want to enter. That is our present task.

On Epiphany, the climax to the current season, the Church will cry out: "Arise, shine, O Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has risen upon thee." That is the goal. Today we must prepare for the great King's visit to our city. The whole coming week must be devoted to it. The Church prays: "Awaken our hearts to prepare the way for Your only-begotten Son that we may serve Him with purified hearts."

In the time of the Roman Empire, rulers rode from city to city for the purpose of official visitations. Their appearance, called epiphany or parousia, was a great event, one preceded by months of preparation. Something analogous takes place in the Jerusalem of our souls. From a high watchtower we see the Lord coming afar off. Suddenly John the Baptist appears; he hurries into the city to announce the King's approach. God condescends to manifest Himself to us in grace; but He demands the proper reception.

Excerpted from *The Church's Year of Grace* by Pius Parsch

From Bishop Kirkpatrick's Letter dated Nov. 25, 2020

“As you know in addition to Christmas, January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God is also a Holy Day of Obligation in Canada. I also grant a dispensation for those who are unable to attend Mass on these Holy Days of Obligation.

I might suggest those are unable to attend Christmas Mass, they might consider attending one of the Octave Masses of Christmas as part of the extended Feast of Christmas.

Collection: November 28th, 2020

Envelopes	\$470.00
Loose	\$20.00
Donation	\$150.00
	\$640.00

Notices:

1: Christmas Bake Sale: Sacred Heart Ladies Group will be hosting a Christmas Bake Sale on Sunday December 6th. Come and do some Christmas Baking without the hassle. We will also be looking for donations to the Bake Sale, so if you have time to help bake that will be greatly appreciated. Time: 12pm – 2pm. This will be our last event for the year.

2: Missals: We did not receive our new Missals this year, but Fr. Yake brought extra from St Peters. The missals will cost \$5.00 this year. You can put that amount in your envelope and write on the outside that \$5.00 of the collection is for the missal.

3: Mother of Sorrows Pioneer Shrine: The gift shop at the Mother of Sorrows Pioneer Shrine in Mabou will be holding a Christmas Shopping Sale. WHEN ~ On Saturday, December 5th and on Sunday, December 6th from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. With Public Health Protocol in place. All merchandise in stock will be 50% OFF for these two days only. The Shrine remains open year round and at this time we thank-you for your wonderful support during this unprecedented year. If you wish to enrol someone in "Friends of the Shrine", call 902-945-2221, leave a detailed message and we will return your call. If requesting an enrolment as a Christmas gift, we must set a deadline of December 14th for mail outs .
Wishing al

4: Church Decorating: We will decorate, the church, for Christmas on Sunday December 20th, at 10am. All volunteers are welcome to come and help.

5: A COVID CHRISTMAS: Christmas is typically a homecoming event as much as it is a high religious feast so family members will gather to celebrate their faith in God and each other. This Christmas, however, is somewhat different due to COVID-19 restrictions that have limited available space in churches. Christmas Mass at Sacred Heart is scheduled for Thursday, December 24th 6:00pm. Those wishing to attend this Mass must pre-register and include any visiting family members. Because we may not be able to accommodate everyone with self-distancing registration has to be on a “first-come, first-served” basis. We hope that this procedure will work; we do not want to limit each family as to the number of persons they may add. To register please call 535-3107, email louise.campbell@stpeterscable.com or leave a note in your collection envelopes. – **Only a few seats are left.**

6: Winter 2021: Due to Covid19 self-distancing regulations we will not be able to have mass in the Guadalupe Chapel (vestry) this winter. At a recent parish council meeting it was suggested that we move to the Parish Hall for January – March. We decided to check with our regular church goers to see if they would prefer to stay in the Church (Main church) or move over to the hall. You can leave a note in your envelopes as to your preference. This decision will not need to be made until January, but the sooner we know the better.

7: Christmas/New Year's Schedule:

Christmas Eve: Thursday, Dec 24, 2020:

L'Ardoise: 4:00 pm – Sacred Heart: 6:00 pm

Potlotek: 12:00 am Celebrated by Rev Duncan MacIsaac

Christmas Day: Friday Dec 25, 2020

River Bourgeois: 9:00 am – St. Peters: 10:30 am

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God: Thursday, Dec. 31, 2020 - Holy Day of Obligation

River Bourgeois: 5: 30 pm

St. Peters: 7:00 pm

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God: Friday, Jan. 1, 2021 - Holy Day of Obligation

World Day of Peace

New Year's Day

L'Ardoise: 9:00 am – Sacred Heart: 11:00 am