

OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION PARISH MOUNT ROYAL, QUEBEC



LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Sunday Mass:

Saturday (vigil)	5:00 pm
Sunday	9:00 am
	11:00 am

Weekday Mass:

Tuesday	8:30 am
Wednesday	4:00 pm
Thursday & Friday	8:30 am

Reconciliation: Saturday 4:30-4:45 pm;
Sunday 9:30-9:45 am, or anytime on request.

BAPTISM

Please call to make an appointment.

MARRIAGE

Please contact the parish before setting the wedding date.

VISITING THE SICK

Please contact Fr. Robert if you or a family member is homebound or in the hospital. He will gladly visit.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Father Robert Clark

Email: fr_robertclark@hotmail.com

Secretary: Mary Ohanessian

Telephone: 514-738-1080

Email: info@annunciationparish.ca

Parish Catechetical Leader:

Mary Ohanessian

Email: faithed@annunciationparish.ca

Office Hours: Please see inside for details

Office Entrance: 1125 Alexander Road

Mailing Address: 75 Roosevelt Ave.,
Mont-Royal, QC H3R 2G9

Website: www.annunciationparish.ca

Music Director: Lavrenti Djintcharadze

Wardens:

2020: Fiore Egiziano, John T. Sullivan;

2021: John Issa, Kurt Reckziegel;

2022: Karolina Weclas, Lori-Ann Zemanovich.

What do we need to do to receive the grace God is offering us this Advent season? Do we always put God first in our life? If God is not first, we are missing out on the grace He is freely giving to us. Many people do not like Christmas because their wishes for happiness are never realized and many are happy when Christmas is over. It is a time of year when some people are lonely or depressed. This may be the case for many of us over this COVID Christmas. Some will try to fill up that loneliness with things. They do not give the impression of having received the grace that God is offering. Are they seeking the grace of God or instead seeking something worldly that will never satisfy like the grace God gives? Nothing in this world will fill the longing in our hearts for the grace of God. Only Jesus will fill our hollowness. Let us spend time with the Lord this Advent in order to allow him to make us whole.

Father Robert



ELECTION OF WARDENS ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH AT 12:15 PM in the church proper, a meeting of parishioners will be held for the purpose of electing two Church Wardens. To be eligible to be nominated as a Church Warden, the person must be 18 years or older, a Roman Catholic and living in boundaries of the parish. Fiore Egiziano is up for re-election; John Sullivan's second term is expiring. We thank him for his six years of service to

the community. Nominations, duly proposed and seconded, will be accepted at the meeting. Please note: due to covid-19 governmental restrictions, we are limited to 25 participants including candidates and Father Robert. To reserve your spot or propose a nominee, please contact the office. Spaces are granted on a first come, first served basis. Thank you for your understanding.

MASSES THIS CHRISTMAS: Father Robert will celebrate 2 Masses on Christmas Eve, at 7 and 9 pm, and two Masses on Christmas Day, at 9 am and 11 am.

CHANGE TO RESERVATION SCHEDULE: The Eventbrite links for the Christmas Masses will go out on Friday December 18, around noon. Attendance remains restricted to 25 people per Mass. Due to tighter governmental restrictions, we will not allow walk-ins at these Masses. You must reserve a spot in order to attend a Christmas Mass.

If you are unable to reserve a seat, please watch Mass on television or live stream and pray the Act of Spiritual Communion - see below. **DO NOT COME** to the parish. Only people with reserved seating will be permitted to enter. The police will be visiting parishes and handing out fines for non-compliance. We thank you for your understanding.

REASON TO CELEBRATE: Alex and Kayla are receiving their First Communion this weekend! A great big thank you to Jo and Ed for their vocal accompaniment and to Mr. Marco for coming to support our kids. Keep Adamo in prayer as he will receive his First Communion next week.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS RESPONSE! Last week's collection was \$2,730! If you can afford to, please continue to support us regularly during the pandemic, even if you are unable to attend Mass in person. Your contributions pay our staff, including Father Robert, and all of our administrative and liturgical expenses, including heat, electricity, telephone, internet, etc...

If you know of someone who would like to receive our **WEEKLY EMAILS**, please have them call or email the office to be added to our email list.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy
Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.



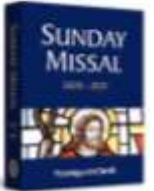
CONFESSION: Advent is traditionally a time of reconciliation. This year, because of Covid restrictions, the Diocese is advising parishes not to hold reconciliation services. That being said, Father Robert is available before and after Masses for confession. If this schedule does not suit you, please contact the office to schedule an appointment.

2020 WEEKLY DONATION ENVELOPES: If you used our donation envelopes in 2019, your 2020 box is ready for pick up on the communion rail as you exit the church. Boxes are in alphabetical order. Please note that your number may be different from last year. Need more information about envelope usage? Please feel free to contact the office or speak directly with Father Robert. Tax receipts will be issued in February. **Please note** that the envelopes will not be available for pick up during the Christmas and New Year celebrations.



The **2021 CALENDARS** are in! Please be sure to take one on your way out of church today! One per household for now! You will be able to take more in the new year.

SUNDAY MISSAL 2021: Copies of the Sunday Missal are on sale for \$5 for you to take home, as covid restrictions prevent us from leaving the missals in the pews, as we are accustomed to. You can purchase a copy from Wayne as you enter the church for Mass or call the office to make arrangements. **Please write your name** on your copy so that we can return it to you if you leave it behind.



REVAMPED ANGEL TREE: COLLECTION ENDS: DECEMBER 20TH AT 12 PM.

Because of the pandemic, the Father Dowd home cannot accept individuals gifts as they usually do. Their residents, however, have a great need of socks, either non-skid or warm pairs. If you can afford more than one pair, they need warm pairs 2 to 1 over non-skid. Starting next weekend, and continuing throughout Advent, please drop your new pairs of socks in the boxes in front of the Angel tree, near the icon of Mary. Thank you for your generosity.

Because of the pandemic, our local food banks are no longer allowed to accept food items. **OUR SECOND COLLECTIONS** in November and December are for our Helping Others Fund. All donations received go to local food banks, including Multicaf.

Dear Friend(s), A WORD FROM THE PILLARS TRUST FUND: Our condolences to those of you who may have lost a loved one during this pandemic. We pray for the safety and well-being of all our donors and friends. Despite all upsets, we at Pillars Trust listened to the community and we were quick to react to COVID-19. We were there for several parish initiatives and for parishes which started live streaming to spread the Good News to their parishioners. We gave several grants for spiritual programs as well as grants to purchase audio-visual equipment. Our ongoing financial commitments remain: The Newman Center at McGill University, the home for spiritual and intellectual life at McGill; The Ignatian Centre, dedicated to bringing the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola to the population of greater Montreal; The Diocesan Priesthood Guild of Montreal which financially supports seminarians; Camp Caritas, a dynamic youth sports camp with a difference; Parish Vitality, spearheaded by Terrel Joseph to improve parish life; The English Speaking Catholic Council, which advocates for Catholic values in society and to our governments. All the above are supported by the Pillars Trust Fund, and despite the challenges of the pandemic, all of these groups are energized and continue to help our community. Pillars Trust will not allow the pandemic to hurt our spirit or to stop making Montreal a caring community, so we are sharing good news. We are proud to be working with the Nazareth Community in a major project this year. The Nazareth Community provides a home for those who would otherwise be homeless. We are matching donations (up to \$75,000) made to the Nazareth Community for the purchase and renovation of John's House, a new residence for young Montreal men, who without this home would be living on the street, struggling with mental illness and/or addiction. John's House will be opening in November and is named after the late Fr. John Emmett Walsh. So again this year we say thank you to our donors. We literally couldn't do all these things without you. If you haven't given in the past, please give generously this year. Your gift will really help in continuing to spread the Good News and to help those most in need. For more information, go to www.pillarstrust.org.



Mass Intentions

Saturday December 12, 2020 – Third Sunday of Advent

5:00 pm Pro Populo

Sunday December 13, 2020 – Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 am Evelyn McMenamin

11:00 am Ferruccio Farese

Tuesday December 15, 2020

8:30 am Baldomer Ambayec

Wednesday December 16, 2020

4:00 pm Evelyn McMenamin

Thursday December 17, 2020

8:30 am Vincenzo Mattii

Friday December 18, 2020

8:30 am Antonio Alves Dos Santos

Saturday December 19, 2020 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

5:00 pm Dr. John Neemeh

Sunday December 20, 2020 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 am Pro Populo

11:00 am Gaetano Martinez

*The Estate
Berthe Farese*

Regina Ambayec

the Estate

Andrée Mattii

Regina Ambayec

Marie Neemeh

his family



SANCTUARY LAMP: The Sanctuary Lamp signals the Presence of the Lord Jesus in the Tabernacle and burns for seven days. Have the Sanctuary Lamp memorialized in the name of a sick person, a deceased loved one, or a special intention for a donation of \$20. The amount is eligible for a tax receipt. Please contact the office to arrange a memorial for the Sanctuary Lamp. This week the lamp burns for all holy souls.

STEWARDSHIP: **Our collection last week was for \$2,730.** Thank you for your offerings in support of our parish as a place of Christian worship, instruction and mission.

“Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” – 1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 18

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. “Rejoice always” means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. “Pray constantly” means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. “Give thanks in all circumstances” means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

PRAYERS:

For the sick: the Beauregard family, Jean-Pierre Belair, Mike Callard, André and Marie Coupal, Chuck Lawton, Nona Moussa, Marchita Obregon, Patricia Paul, Hilda Rejwan, Jacques Viau, Marina Zogalis.

For vocations Rejoice always! Our Savior is near! The call to priesthood and/or religious life is a source of great joy to those who embrace their call with their whole heart, mind and soul. (1 Thes 5:16) If you feel that God is calling you to the priesthood, please contact the Diocesan Vocations Office at 514-903-6200.

On a lighter note:

I'm going to buy some Velcro for my shoes instead of laces.
Why knot?

Pope Francis' Payer Intention for December

For a Life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.



THE CFE BLOG...

A place where families grow, live and walk by faith in JESUS!

The Candle of Joy for Advent Week 3

Otherwise known as the Shepherd Candle, this third candle of Advent reflects the joy that comes through Jesus' arrival, and through the salvation he has gifted us. The third candle is known as the candle of joy. Instead of the previous two weeks of purple or violet candles, this week the color of the candle will be different: it's pink. As a reminder, three candles are purple, one is pink, and the one in the center is white.

What Is the Candle of Joy?

Otherwise known as the Shepherd Candle, this candle reflects the joy that comes through Jesus' arrival, and through the salvation he has gifted us. During this third week of advent, this Sunday celebrates the passage (*Philippians 4:4-5*), its verses celebrates the joy of Christ's coming to earth. During a time where depression is at an all-time high and people seem to be in the most despair, this candle offers a bright light during a dark time. It is also known as the Shepherd Candle to highlight the joy

the shepherds experienced when they received the good news about Christ's birth (*Luke 2:8-20*). During the middle of the night, the darkest time, the shepherds encountered angels.

What Does the Bible Say about Joy?

It goes far beyond momentary happiness. Like the happiness a child might experience when they unwrap a gift that they'd hoped for on Christmas day. It is an extreme happiness that cannot be deterred by present circumstances. This type of joy comes from God alone. Joy can often be experienced when a Christian thinks about salvation, eternal life, or Jesus. It is an eager anticipation about wonderful things to come. The shepherds experienced this as they ran to Bethlehem to see Jesus. With the definition of joy established, let's dive into what Scripture says about joy:

- God fills us with joy (*Romans 15:13*). We cannot will ourselves to experience joy. It comes from God alone.
- It's a fruit of the Spirit (*Galatians 5:22*). We experience more joy when we spend time with God. We have to keep in mind that joy only comes from God, but when we spend more time with him, we allow him to fill us with it.
- No one can take joy from us (*John 16:22*). Given to us by God himself, no one has the ability to rob us of our joy. No matter what circumstances we encounter, no one can take this away.
- Joy rests in things from God such as salvation and righteousness (*Psalms 51:12*).

Depending on the translation, joy appears more than 100 times in the Bible.

Why Does This Matter?

This matters because, while we wait for Christ to come again, we don't have to despair. God has given us a joy that no one can take away. No matter what happens in this dark world, we can experience light. We experience difficulties differently than the world. We have light even in the darkest moments. Joy is essential to the Christian experience. We cannot get far without it, and we need it as we, like the shepherds, anticipate the coming of our Savior.



My Prayer

Heavenly Father,

This third week of Advent, let us remember that the good news of Jesus' birth has the power to bring us great joy this Christmas season. Our joy isn't dependent on what is going on in our life, in our world, or the people that we are with. It doesn't depend on the gifts we give or the gifts we find under the tree. No earthly thing can ever give us complete joy. Our joy comes from you. That joy that flooded the hearts of the shepherds, the angels, the wise men, the hosts of heaven, and Mary and Joseph is the joy that still has the power to overwhelm our hearts with rejoicing. Those who gathered around the new baby were blessed because they believed

that you had fulfilled your promises. Mary and Joseph believed and were able to feel the joy of holding baby Jesus in their arms. The shepherds and wise men believed the angles and the signs and experienced the great gladness of worshipping their Messiah.

Father, you offer that same joy to us now if we know you and recognize Jesus as our Savior and Lord. You gave us a reason to celebrate when you gave us the unspeakable gift of Jesus Christ. You came to dwell among us. You went to Calvary's cross for us. You overcame death and rose from the dead for us. You forgive our sins and give us eternal life when we believe in you. Our joy doesn't come from our jobs, our family, our relationships, our finances, or our success. Our joy doesn't come from what we have on earth or who we are with. Our joy is a gift. It is the gift that you gave us that first Christmas in Jesus Christ. Our joy is encompassed in our Savior, King Jesus. Flood our heart with joy this Advent season as we reflect on the good news of Jesus' birth. In Jesus' precious name we pray. Amen

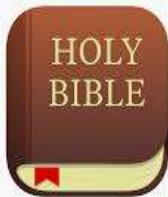


Song of the Week...

This week's featured song story comes to us from Matthew West, *The Heart of Christmas*. A Christmas song people find themselves returning to year after year, and as they do, may find their hearts returning to the true meaning of this wonderful season. However, in addition to the usual warm and fuzzy sensation we get from songs about snowflakes and Santa's sleigh, Matthew West takes time to synthesize the normal sentiments of the season with an overarching message expressed in several of his songs: In the mystery of Jesus' birth, "There is peace on earth for every heart to find." Hope this song warms your heart, It's one of my favorites... https://youtu.8be/tho8r0n_y6Y

Gospel Story of the Week

In this Sunday's Gospel, people ask John the Baptist who he is—the Messiah or a prophet. John answers by identifying himself as a voice in the desert, crying out, "Make straight the way of the Lord." He insists that someone more important than he is coming. The Gospel asks us to recognize Jesus among us by answering his call to be our best Christian selves. View this short [video lesson](#) about turning back to God.



Click on the link below to view, print and complete the activity on this week's gospel story.

<https://thekidsbulletin.files.wordpress.com/2020/11/the-kids-bulletin-3rd-sunday-of-advent.pdf>

View this short [video lesson](#) about the "light of the world..."

<https://youtu.be/x5Obvw3MRxo>



Family Focus of the Week

Enjoy family traditions or come up with activities that can become traditions to draw your family closer together during the Christmas season.

<https://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/updating-tired-traditions/>

Family Activities You Can Enjoy At Home!

Activities, puzzles, and joke pages from Clubhouse and Clubhouse Jr. magazines will give your family some great ways to play and laugh together, and they are FREE to view, download, and print. Enjoy!

<https://www.focusonthefamily.com/clubhouse-magazine/>

<https://www.focusonthefamily.com/clubhouse-jr-magazine/>

It's not too late, if you haven't already, get your free Advent digital calendar delivered straight to your inbox....

<https://www.focusonthefamily.ca/content/count-down-to-christmas-with-our-digital-advent-calendar>



The Legend Lives on...

Do you know the story behind the Candy Cane? Find out why we have Candy Canes at Christmas. Do they have a special meaning? Candy Canes are a reminder of the real reason we celebrate Christmas. Click on the link and listen to the story.

<https://youtu.be/OwGHh6UK2mY>



Free Advent and Christmas Coloring

Coloring pages at your fingertips. Click on the link below and download free Advent and Christmas coloring pages to keep your little ones busy and creative during these colorful times...

<https://www.googlece=univ&tbm=isch&q=free+advent+colouring+pages&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiEktqR37XtAhW7FVkfHffWCqgQjJkEegQIAxAB>

Things to do and places you can go this coming season...



<https://www.noelmontreal.ca/en-ca/home/>

[Illuminated-christmas-village-is-coming-back-this-year](#)



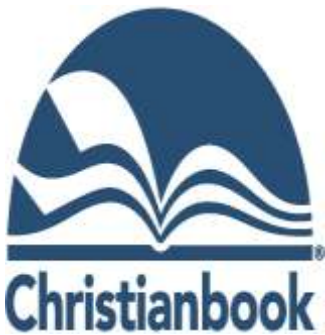


Here are some fun things to do as a family to make dealing with COVID-19 a little more hopeful and whimsical. You can now visit **ILLUMI** by car!!! Reserve your visit online and let the *LIGHTS* do the rest! <https://www.illumi.com/en/>



Christmas shopping? Decorating ornaments? Looking for that special, personalized gift from the heart? Get inspired! Ceramic Cafe is the one stop shop for all your crafty holiday projects. The best part is that you can do it all from home as a family...great fun for the kids! Check out their website and start creating! <https://leccs.com/en/>

Resources For Couples, Parents & Families



Canada - Christianbook.com

Everything Christian, anytime, all the time! Save at [The Family Christian Bookstore - Christianbook.com](https://www.christianbook.com) Fast Shipping. Low Prices. Excellent Value. Christmas Sale. See This Week's Specials. Shop Promotions Now. Types: Bibles, Gifts, Homeschool, Church Supplies.



FYI ... The Hallmark Channel

Looking for some family Christmas movies? The Hallmark channel is in full swing in their countdown to Christmas. Get the Hallmark Channel schedule, enter sweepstakes, celebrate Christmas, and find original Hallmark movies, series and so much more family stuff! <https://www.hallmarkchannel.com/>



Helping Families Thrive

At [Focus on the Family Canada](https://www.focusonthefamily.ca), families are equipped with practical advice grounded in Biblical truths so they can thrive. When families are strong, they leave a valuable imprint on society for generations to come. [Focus on the Family](https://www.focusonthefamily.ca) is committed to helping Canadians nurture, protect and invest in their families so they can thrive, even in the messy brokenness of our world.

<https://www.focusonthefamily.ca>



Contemporary Christian Music radio stations are listener-supported ministries to be a Biblical, Christ-centered communications and educational ministry dedicated to reaching people and igniting transformation within by affirming faith, inspiring hope and equipping each person to live an intentional life in Christ.

The vision is to see individuals, families, churches and nations of the world transformed – as evidenced by individuals living an intentional life in Christ.

<https://www.myflr.org>

<https://www.siriusxm.ca/channels/the-message>

<https://www.klove.com>



At Intentional Living, they hold a passion to help people live intentionally in the five essential areas of life: Faith, Relationships, Health, Finances and Work. Ever since their establishment in 2007 they have been motivated by their God-given mission, vision and message.

<https://www.theintentionallife.com>



Pure Flix is an Evangelical Christian film production and distribution studio founded by David A. R. White and Russell Wolfe, inspired by Netflix. Pure Flix produces Christian films, including God's Not Dead, Do You Believe?, Woodlawn, The Case for Christ, and Unplanned. Positive entertainment that changes lives, inspires hearts, and lifts the spirit. Premium streaming with no ads or interruptions.

<https://www.pureflix.com>

Merry Christmas everyone! Stay tuned for the **CFE Blog** in the weekly church bulletin. Please provide feedback, questions, suggestions or comments at info@annunciationparish.com.

In faith,
Lynda

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 OR IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO WOULD,
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