



HOLY TRINITY CWL

ISSUE DECEMBER/23

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Sing praise to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and melodious song. With trumpets and the sound of the horn, sing joyfully before the King, the Lord.

MESSAGE FROM HT CWL PRESIDENT:

NINA G. CARPIO

Dear Sisters in Christ,

Welcome to the season of Advent 2023! Let us prepare our hearts and stay awake for the coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. God in His infinite wisdom, love, and humility, became a man for our sake. He chose to do this even if He didn't have to, which demonstrated His great love for us. As we celebrate His coming on Christmas Eve, continue to preserve the honored traditions practiced in our Catholic faith and hand them down to the next generation. More than just Santa and material gifts, let us make this a meaningful season by praying more, going to mass more often, seeking forgiveness from God in Confession, and reconciling with others. Whatever it may be, stay focused on the reason for the season, and ask God to guide you, as you anticipate the coming of His birth. He is ready to welcome you with open arms.

To you and your loved ones, may you all have a Joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

"BESIDES THIS, YOU KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS, HOW IT IS NOW THE MOMENT FOR YOU TO WAKE FROM SLEEP. FOR SALVATION IS NEARER TO US NOW THAN WHEN WE BECAME BELIEVERS; THE NIGHT IS FAR GONE, THE DAY IS NEAR. LET US THEN LAY ASIDE THE WORKS OF DARKNESS AND PUT ON THE ARMOR OF LIGHT." – ROMANS 13:11-12

THE MONTH OF DECEMBER IS DEDICATED TO THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The month of December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. "From all eternity God chose with infinite wisdom the woman who would be the Mother of His divine Son. To prepare for the Word Incarnate a spotless and holy tabernacle, God created Mary in grace and endowed her from the moment of her conception with all the perfections suited to her exalted dignity. St. Thomas teaches that through her intimacy with Christ, the principle of grace, she possessed beyond all creatures a fullness of divine life." — Liturgical Meditations, The Sisters of St. Dominic

This feast invites us to meditate on the virtue of purity. "Mary alone — 'our tainted nature's solitary boast'— never saw her soul's purity darkened with the dust of any stain, nor did she see in any part of her triumphal course toward heaven any sin or trace of worldliness. By a unique and singular privilege from God she was preserved from original sin from the first moment of her Immaculate Conception; by another privilege derived from the first, the Lord did not permit her ever to be stained even with those unavoidable failings of human weakness." — Luis M. Martinez

Prayer to Mary

O God, who by the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin didst make ready a fitting habitation for Thy Son, we beseech Thee that Thou who didst keep her clean from all stain by the precious death of the same Son, foreseen by Thee, may grant unto us in like manner to be made clean through her intercession and so attain unto Thee. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen



THE REASON FOR THE SEASON

The month of December is filled with expectation and celebration. Preparation is the key word for the first 24 days of December. Everyone is getting ready for Christmas — shopping and decorating, baking and cleaning. Too often, however, we are so busy with the material preparations that we lose sight of the real reason for our activity.

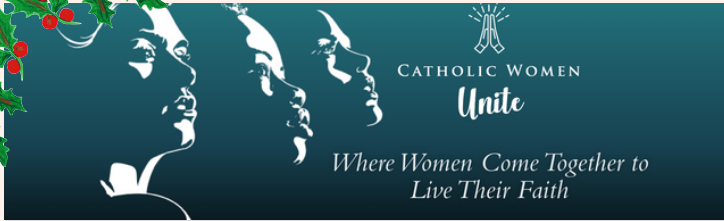
Christmas is a Christian feast — and we must reclaim it as such! In the same way that a family eagerly prepares for a baby, so in Advent should we prepare for the coming of the Christ Child. We should keep Advent as a season of waiting and longing, of conversion and of hope and keep our thoughts on the incredible love and humility of our God in taking on the flesh of the Virgin Mary. Let us not forget to prepare a peaceful place in our hearts wherein our Savior may come to dwell.

The best person we can turn to for help during Advent is Mary, Christ's and our Mother. She awaited the day of His birth with more eagerness than any other human being. Her preparation was complete in every respect. Let's crown our preparation and borrow something of Mary's prayerfulness, her purity and whole-hearted submission to God's will.

The first two days of December fall during the liturgical season known as Ordinary Time and is represented by the liturgical color green. The next 22 days fall during the liturgical season of **Advent** and are represented by the liturgical color purple—a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart. The remaining days of December mark the beginning of the **Christmas** season. The liturgical color changes to white or gold — a symbol of joy, purity and innocence.

By Eliane Miranda
HT CWL Communications

WE are **POWERFUL**
when we are **TOGETHER**



General Meeting **DECEMBER 4TH**

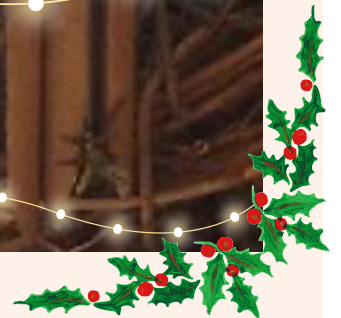
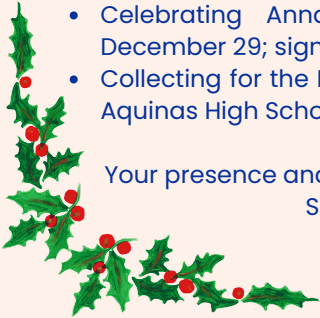
@ 7PM

Holy Trinity Parish Hall

Join us for the CWL December General Meeting

- Dress in festive attire & bring Christmas baking to share. Leftovers will support the 'Men's Shelter.'
- Crafting Christmas ornaments for Dundarave Pier's Parish tree before & after the meeting.
- Celebrating Anna Chutka's 100th birthday on December 29; sign her card at the meeting.
- Collecting for the Pagtanac family from St. Thomas Aquinas High School.

Your presence and generosity are appreciated.
See you there!



UNITE *the* **NATION**

The Largest Catholic Women's Organization in Canada

New Executives for 2024 – 2026

We invite all to prayerfully consider about becoming an executive for the coming new term!

The role of executive involves being a cheerleader, radiating the love of Christ to others, learning new things, sharing what you know, and encouraging other members to serve and enjoy getting to know one another better, among many other things.

NORTH SHORE LOOKOUT HOUSING & HEALTH SOCIETY



Through the generosity of our parishioners & CWL members we will be donating \$503.70 to the North Shore Lookout Housing & Health Society. Thank you to Diane Addison, Roselia Moreno & Rita Shakespeare for assisting during weekend Masses to collect donations.

The Christmas tree decorating at Dundarave Pier will begin on Saturday, December 2nd from 12 noon until dusk.

The tree ornaments will be made at our CWL meeting on Monday, December 4 then added to our tree on Tuesday, December 5. We invite members to drop by and visit the trees displayed throughout the Christmas season. Saturday's provide a great opportunity to visit as generally there is family entertainment which enriches the experience.

Last Sunday's reading from the gospel of Matthew 25 reminded us:

"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me."

Thank you for your support of those in most need.

CALL TO SERVICE:

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe – Dec 10, 2023. Volunteers invited to please come to the Parish Hall Kitchen at 11:30am to help out in food and other preparations for this event. Contact: Roselia Moreno at romoreno6@gmail.com.

CWL Sunday After Mass Coffee Hosting – after the 10:30am Sunday masses on Dec 2023, Jan, and Feb 2024. Volunteers needed for food preparation and service. Please come and wear your CWL scarves, while also taking the opportunity to meet and invite other ladies and guests of the parish to join CWL. Contact Linda Sibau at htcwlpres@gmail.com.

CALL TO PRAY FOR COMFORT, HEALING AND STRENGTH FOR:



Tanya Stratis
Pagtanac and Family
Dr. Ofelia C. Adapon

KEY DAYS IN DECEMBER

- 3. **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
- 6. **Nicholas**
- 7. Ambrose
- 8. **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY, Solemnity**
- 9. Juan Diego
- 10. **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
- 11. Damasus I, Opt. Mem.
- 12. **Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast**
- 13. Lucy
- 14. John of the Cross
- 17. **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, GAUDETE SUNDAY**
- 20. **Ember Wednesday**
- 21. Peter Canisius
- 22. **Ember Friday**
- 23. John of Kanty; **Ember Saturday**
- 24. **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
- 25. **NATIVITY OF THE LORD (Christmas), Solemnity**
- 26. Stephen, Feast
- 27. John, Apostle, Feast
- 28. Holy Innocents, Feast
- 29. **5th Day in the Octave of Christmas;** Thomas Becket
- 31. **Feast of the Holy Family, Feast**

THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2023

For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.



Masses for the Sick – Hosted by La Salette Sisters

Evergreen – 1st Thurs of every month – 9:15 am prep time. 10:30am Mass for residents only.

Lions Gate Hospital Chapel – 3rd Thurs of every month. 11:00 Mass to pray for the sick. All CWL Ladies are invited to attend. Priests from Northshore rotate in celebrating the masses.

Core Values

FAITH – following Catholic teaching **SERVICE** – local, national and international
SOCIAL JUSTICE – actively involved in society

VANCOUVER DIOCESAN CWL PLANS 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

The Diocesan CWL will celebrate 100 years of activity in 2025 and a planning committee has been spearheaded by past president Barbara Renault.

Two events will take place and volunteers are needed in the following capacities:

Saturday, November 23, 2024

Afternoon Tea and Fashion Show (fashions through the ages).

Cost: approximately \$20 per person

Location – TBD

Volunteers needed:

- Décor
- Music
- Tickets
- Advertising & Publicity - make a poster for distribution, promote and advertize in BC Catholic and the Diocesan CWL media platforms

Saturday, May 3, 2025

Formal Gala dinner

Cost: To be determined

Location: Anvil Centre, 777 Columbia Street, New Westminster.

Theme: "Roaring 20's"

Volunteers needed:

- Decorating-to include a photo booth, centrepieces for 30-40 tables
- Music & Entertainment & Photographer- Big Band or DJ
- Registration & Ticketing-possibly on-line/open to spouses and guests
- Media & Communications-advertise/promote in the BC Catholic-submit photos or have the BC Catholic cover the event/publicity before and after the event
- Finance-event will run through the Archdiocesan accounts. This position requires someone to run a spreadsheet of budget and expenses. No seed money required.

If you are interested in assisting in the planning or helping in any of the volunteer areas contact Linda at: htcwlpres@gmail.com or 778-848-5630.

This is a wonderful opportunity to meet and work with CWL members from other regions throughout Vancouver.

LEGISLATION NEWS

Please review and consider supporting the prevention of Health Canada from regulating safe and Natural Health Products (NHPs) in a similar manner as synthetic chemical drugs, which would significantly increase prices of vitamins and supplements, herbal remedies, and force many small to medium-sized businesses to discontinue products and shut down local operations. Post cards will be available at the General Assembly on Dec 4th which can be signed, addressed and mailed to our MP free of postage fees. More information is available online at <https://nhppa.org/>



Core Purpose

Uniting Catholic women to grow in faith, and to promote social justice through service to the church, Canada and the world.

RELIGIOUS ARTICLES FROM DAS (DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICES) OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL SOCIETY

Will be available for the taking at the General Assembly on Dec 4th at 7pm with the option of making a donation. Items include crucifixes, picture frames, books, rosaries, etc.

Happy 100th Birthday, dear Anna Chutka!

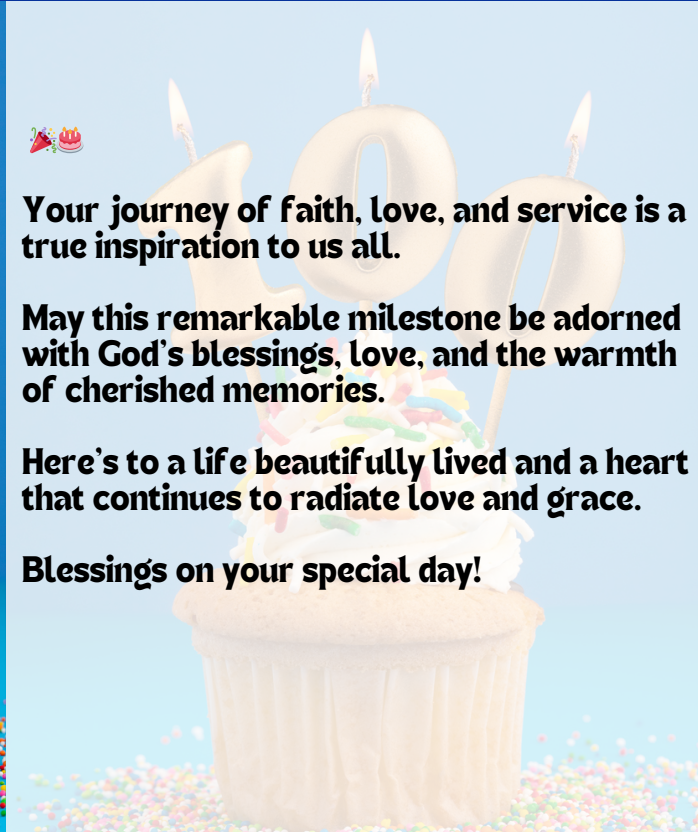


Your journey of faith, love, and service is a true inspiration to us all.

May this remarkable milestone be adorned with God's blessings, love, and the warmth of cherished memories.

Here's to a life beautifully lived and a heart that continues to radiate love and grace.

Blessings on your special day!



PRO-LIFE CORNER

North Shore Pro-Life Society NEWSLETTER Autumn 2023.

Click on the image to read.

- MAID expansion set for March 2024
- What can we do to stop MAID expansion?
- Life Chain 2023
- THE 2023 PATRICK WEBB PRO LIFE ESSAY COMPETITION - WINNERS
- NSPL CHRISTMAS CARDS



NORTH SHORE PRO-LIFE

The members of the Board of the North Shore Pro-Life Society are committed to promoting and defending the right to life from conception to natural end. **We are working to increase the awareness of pro-life issues among North Shore parishioners** Please visit our website for more information at North Shore Pro-life (northshoreprolife.org) or email northshoreprolife@gmail.com for more details.

Mission Statement

The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service.

Happy DECEMBER/JANUARY Birthdays!

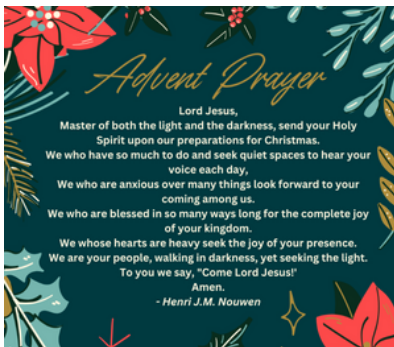


Veronica Bernier
Anna Chutka
Sandra Mayne
Theresa Teufel

Janet Ficocelli
Liliana Garau
Mena Parente
Valerie Remedios
Ivy Remoreras

If someone is missing, please send email to elianests@me.com with name and date of birthday. Thank you.

ADVENT – RESOURCES



The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops presents Journey through Advent with the Most Rev. Bishop Jon Hansen, CSsR, Bishop of Mackenzie-Fort Smith. Join us as we reflect on the Scriptures for the Sundays of Advent 2023.

A joint initiative of the National Liturgy Office, the Office national de liturgie and the Office for Evangelization and Catechesis.

Link: <https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-advent/>

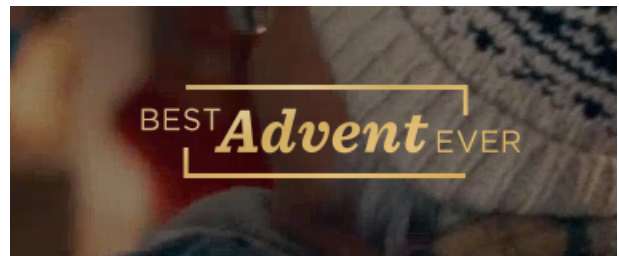


Sign up to receive an email each day of Advent with three items to help you pray: a daily meditation from St. John Henry Newman, a link to the Rosary, and a weekly lectio divina reflection to prepare your heart to receive Jesus anew this season.

<https://amenapp.org/ref/advent>

Prepare for Christmas Like Never Before
Sign up now to get free daily Advent Gospel reflections from Matthew Kelly.

Link: <https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/advent.html>



SHARING THE CORE VALUES

of faith, service and social justice with the next generations!



“Tell your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.”
(Joel 1:3)



Holy Trinity Parish CWL
cwl.holytrinityparish.ca



JOIN CWL FACEBOOK GROUP
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CWL.HOLYTRINITYPARISH.CA