



St. Edward's Parish

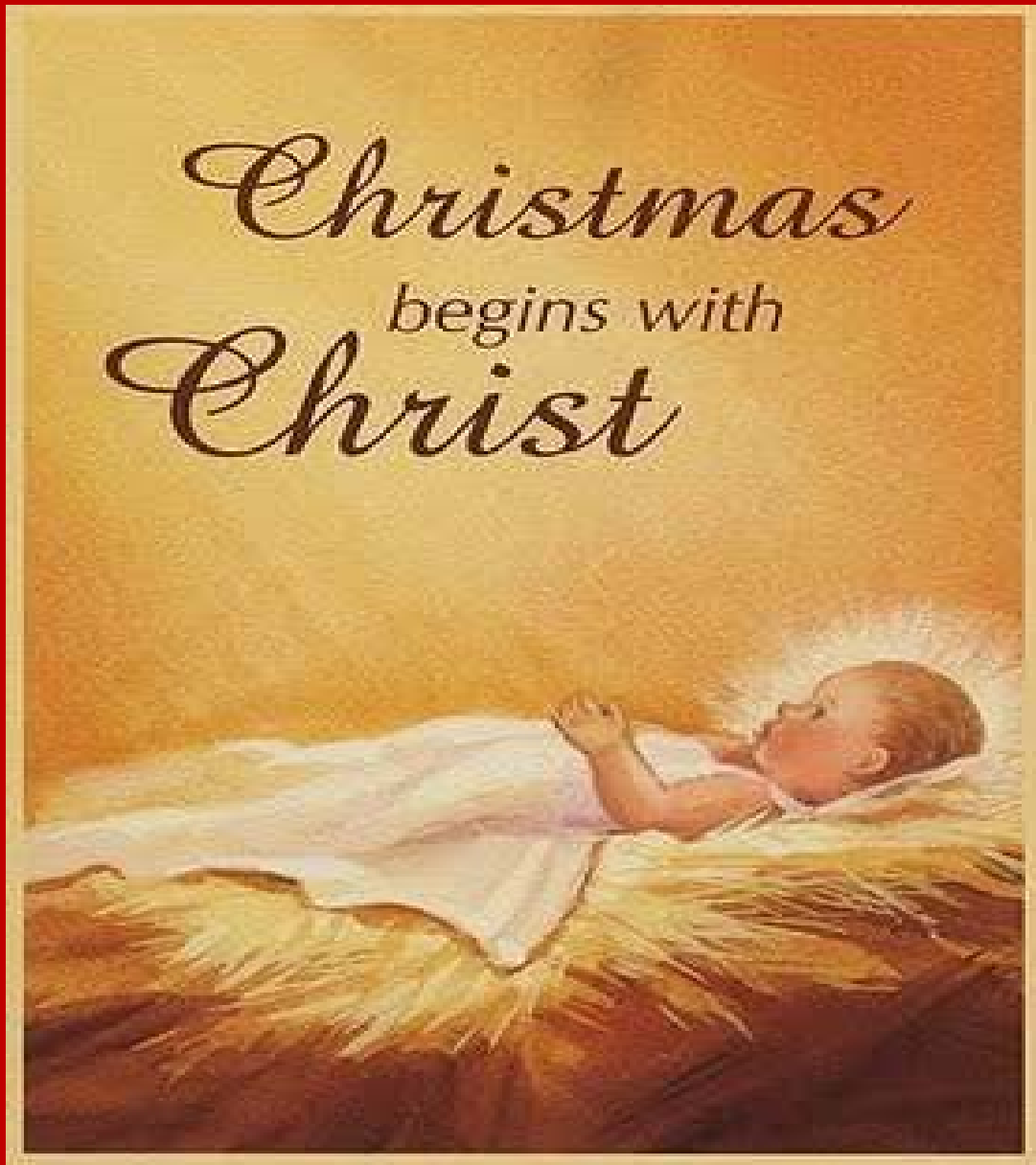
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Pastor: FATHER LUYEN DAU, C.Ss.R.

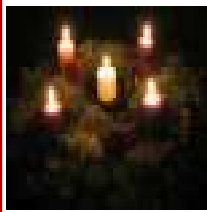
Email: ldau2006@gmail.com

Emergency Only: 250-466-4063

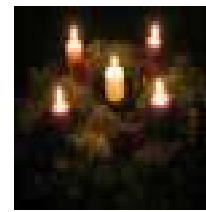
Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord



*God has always shown us in numerous ways:
Through the beauty of creation and the love of our families and friends.
Today, he shows that love in a very special way:
in the birth of His beloved Son into our world—God's gift to all of us.*



Pray, Read, Discuss for This Week
Isaiah 62:11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20



***“Today, we celebrate the Good News of our Salvation:
The birth of Jesus Christ as one of us, a human being.”***

FR. LUYEN’S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

My sisters and brothers in Christ,

There is a story about a young girl who woke up one night frightened and disorientated, convinced that there were spooks and monsters around her in the darkness of her room. She ran to her parents’ bedroom for safety. Her mother brought her back to her own room, put on a light to show her that there was nothing there, and gently tried to reassure her that she was safe. Then just before leaving, the mother said to her, “you don’t need to be afraid. You aren’t alone. God is here in the room with you.” The girl replied, “I know that God is here with me, but I need someone here who has some skin.”

This girl reminds us about our nature that we are not angels nor pure spirits without bodies. We are creatures of senses: touch, sight, hearing, smell, and taste. Everything that enters us goes through one of these five senses, and we need things that we can touch, see, hear, taste and smell. This is true in terms of our relationship with God. We need a God who has some skin, who can be located, who can somehow be physically touched. And God who knows human nature since He created it, respects that need in us and meets us on our own terms through the birth of Jesus Christ. This is the meaning of Christmas: in Christ, God took on concrete flesh and became tangible, physical, someone who can touch and be touched.

St. John in his Gospel, when describing the birth of Jesus Christ, simply wrote, “the Word was made flesh and it lives among us.” This single statement reveals to us the mystery of incarnation and that God took on physical flesh in this world, a story which began with the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem and continues down to this very day. As Catholics, the remembrance of God’s promise to send His only Son to share our nature, and lead us back from the darkness of sin into the light of grace, gives rise whereby the celebration takes its name - Christmas (Christ Mass). It is the gathering of the faithful to celebrate the incarnation of God taking on our nature by His birth to Joseph and Mary in Bethlehem.

At Christmas, we are blessed to welcome the Christ Jesus who was born as a child into our midst. He comes to us without a display of power or outward splendour. Instead, He comes as a baby: defenceless, poor, temporarily homeless, about to be a refugee. God made Himself small so that we could understand Him, welcome Him, and love Him through those who are in need.

Also, at Christmas we are reminded that Jesus Christ, Son of God, was born of the Virgin Mary to reconcile us to one another and to the Father. This is why He came. God will fill us with His peace if there is room in our lives for Him. Let us remember that Christmas invites us to be faithful to the “Good News of Great Joy” that we have heard proclaimed by the angel’s voice to shepherds and to us today.

Christmas invites us to remember that we need the lived experience of the Church community, and the Church community needs each one of us, so that we not only welcome the light, but become the light as well to our world, to all “who still dwell in darkness.”



***May our Lord Jesus Christ, born in Bethlehem,
bless you, your families and loved ones
at this blessed time of hope and grace.
May Mary, the Mother of the Child Jesus and our Mother,
watch over you and our beloved Parish always.
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!***

May Christ abide in your hearts always.

Your brother Priest,

Fr. Luyen Dau, CSSR



Next Week In Our Parish



Please pray for the following who are in special need of God's healing.

Anne Welch	Glen Lowe	Scott Wright
Fred Kelly	Bob Benson	Paul Boray
Thomas Kay	Tschi Fellmann	Ann Waugh
Steve Barkanyi	Eileen Martin	Justin Moore
Annetta Anderson	Fr. Bob Kelly, omi	Arlene Laughren
Jenie Lauzon	David Russell	Tom Phillipson
Kirby Flegel	Terry Christofferson	Tony Aquino
Brenda Whelan	Steven Christofferson	Ashley Pifko
Paulette Nelson	Yvonne Gill	Margaret Fay
Jan Spencer	June Goode	Terry Thorpe
Bob Goehring	Baby Benjamin	Jan Tokorcheck
Tim Cech	Joan Getson	Riet Heemskerk
Steve Reiter	Kim Gunn	Naomi Prodhahl
Dale Stelter	David McMahon	Win Finnie
Chris Barfield	Susan Ferguson	Maurice Foucher
Anne Lee	Laurence Vander Peet	Maggie Bell
Nicole Forest-Klein	Maria Angelina Moniz	Nick Nickel
James Arthurs	Rick Zuback	Victoria Robinson
Saige Brimacombe	Jeannine Vande Wiel	Nell Wright
Evert Jones	Nick Kinsella	Henk Slots
Ray Marquis	Ken McKinnon	Lea Langkamer

Infant Baptism Preparation Fr. Luyen offers Baptism Preparation Classes for parents/guardians at 10:30 a.m. on the **3rd Saturday of each month**. Dates of Baptism will be arranged at this meeting. Please call Parish Office to register.

Anointing of the Sick

Formerly known as Last Rites or Extreme Unction, the Anointing of the Sick is a ritual of healing, appropriate not only for physical, but also for mental and spiritual sickness. please call Fr. Luyen at the Parish Office.

Pastoral Care Visits While in the Hospital Privacy legislation in BC prevents the release of information regarding hospital admissions. If you or someone you love are admitted to a hospital and would like a visit from Fr. Luyen or an Eucharistic Minister, please call your parish office to leave a message for Marilyn Klizs.

RCIA—If you wish to become Catholic, this coming Fall the parish of St. Edward's will offer a series of meetings called R.C.I.A. which means Rite of Christian initiation for Adults. If you are interested in this journey proposed by the RCIA team we meet every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. If you would like more information Fr. Luyen will be most happy to meet with you. 250-746-6831.

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

Fr. Michael and Fr. Joachim are available for sacramental confession or just to talk to a priest. If you are interested, please call them at [778-455-2501](tel:778-455-2501), or contact Fr. Joachim by email at joachim.ostermann@gmail.com

Mass Honouring The Blessed Virgin Mary

On the **1st Saturday of each month** at 10:00 a.m. a special Mass is celebrated in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Before Mass at 9:30 a.m. we begin with the Novena of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and the Holy Rosary. During this Mass there is anointing of the Sick.

Sat	Dec 24th	4:15 p.m. Rosary before Mass at St. Edward's
		4:30 p.m. Christmas Caroling
		5:00 p.m. Nativity Pageant
		Mass at St. Edward's—For all the people
		8:30 p.m. Christmas Caroling
		9:00 p.m. Family Christmas Mass at St. Edward's
Sun	Dec 25th	9:15 a.m. Rosary before Mass at St. Edward's
		9:30 a.m. Christmas Caroling
		10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Edward's — For all the people



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Clare's—Agnes and Frank Laszczyk 68th Wedding Anniversary

Tues Dec 27th
8:10 a.m. Morning Prayer at St. Clare's
9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Clare's—Joan Gala
5:00 p.m. Adoration, Benediction & Rosary **CANCELLED**
6:30 p.m. Mass at St. Edward's— **CANCELLED**

Wed Dec 28th
8:10 a.m. Morning Prayer at St. Clare's
9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Clare's—Ruby Walker+

Thur Dec 29th
8:10 a.m. Morning Prayer at St. Clare's
9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Clare's—Oscare Lattanzi

Fri Dec 30th
8:10 a.m. Morning Prayer at St. Clare's
9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Clare's—Ken McKinnon
11:00 a.m. Mass at Sunridge Place— **CANCELLED**
3:00 p.m. Adoration/Confession/Rosary **CANCELLED**

Sat Dec 31st
4:15 p.m. Rosary before Mass at St. Edward's
5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Edward's—For all the people

Sun Jan 1st
9:15 a.m. Rosary before Mass at St. Edward's
10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Edward's — For all the people

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Tues Jan 3rd
9:15 a.m. Morning Prayer at St. Clare's
10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Clare's— Leah Langkamer
5:00 p.m. Adoration, Benediction & Rosary **CANCELLED**
6:30 p.m. Mass at St. Edward's— Terry Courchene+

Wed Jan 4th
8:10 a.m. Morning Prayer at St. Clare's
9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Clare's—
10:00 a.m. CWL Executive Meeting

Thur Jan 5th
8:10 a.m. Morning Prayer at St. Clare's
9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Clare's—

Fri Jan 6th
8:10 a.m. Morning Prayer at St. Clare's
9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Clare's—
11:00 a.m. Mass at Sunridge Place— **CANCELLED**
3:00 p.m. Adoration/Confession/Rosary

Sat Jan 7th
4:15 p.m. Rosary before Mass at St. Edward's
5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Edward's—For all the people

Sun Jan 8th
9:15 a.m. Rosary before Mass at St. Edward's
10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Edward's — Maureen Kelly+



16th Annual Diocesan Youth Retreat CAMP HOMEWOOD

on Quadra Island
-February 3rd-5th, 2017-
for Grades 7-12
Theme: Amazing Grace

Registration forms at the Parish Office.

Cost: \$150.00

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
ST. EDWARD'S COUNCIL

President
Leanne Forest
250-597-4450



Membership
Francine Tournier
250-748-9831

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS



St. Edward the Confessor Council 4253

Don Snelling, Grand Knight



*We wish you and your loved ones
Christmas Blessings of
Peace, Hope, Joy and Love*

Baptism celebration

*Through the waters of Baptism
we are pleased to welcome
Grace Margaret Teasdale Fitzpatrick,
daughter of Justin Fitzpatrick and Judy Teasdale
to our Roman Catholic Faith.*

ST. EDWARD'S PARISH NEW YEAR'S 2017 DINNER

- Dance and Fun Night -

People had such a great time at last year's St. Edward's New Year Dinner, Dance and Fun Night, that it's happening again this year.

- ▶ Saturday, December 31st, 2016 – St. Edward's Parish Hall
- ▶ Social at 6:00 p.m. (right after Mass), Dinner at 7:00 p.m.
- ▶ Prairie Midnight at 10:00 p.m.
(so you'll have time to celebrate twice)
- ▶ Food, Dancing, Door Prizes, Fun, and Noisemakers provided
- ▶ Dress formal or informal
- ▶ \$25 per person – advance sales only.
- ▶ Contact Mike for tickets:

mike.vandewiel@gmail.com; Tel: 250-701-9579

Cut off date for tickets is Wednesday, December 28th.

*Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 4253
and assisting parish groups.*

Your Parish Council Corner.....

Dear Parishioner:

We would like to thank Carlo Stocco for stepping forward and becoming the Chair of the Maintenance Committee. We are so fortunate to have all this talent in our Church family who are so willing to donate their time and expertise.

Many thanks to Fr. Luyen for all his Spiritual guidance and hard work. May you have a Blessed and Peaceful Christmas.

PPC also thank all the volunteers who give so much of their time to make this parish a loving community.

**A Blessed and Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year to everyone.
May this be a peaceful and loving time for all.**

God Bless,
Carol deBruin, PPC Chair



Peninsula Co-op Membership Card

We are happy to have registered a membership with the co-op. Dividends are received once a year, depending on the amount of purchases.

Please help raise money for our Church by giving the co-op membership # when you fill up.

You may pick up your membership card this at the Parish Office during office hours.

Merry Christmas, The Finance Committee