

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 1- We will resume the "Recycled Bottle drive" for the Church Altar Flowers: We are requesting your generous hearts to donate your empty bottles and cans. Please put them inside the toolshed besides the garage. Thank you.
- 2- For those who are using the following un-registered envelope numbers: 325, 396, 111, 145, 233, 78, 315, 225, 77, 178, 215, 238, 90, 339, 807, 203, 364, & 797, Please send us your complete Name, Address and phone number for tax receipt purposes.



*Catholic Women's League
Welcomes you!*

Why belong?

- CWL is a gift of faith, friendship and support, offering leadership development and affirmation.
- CWL is the voice of Catholic women expressing their values and promoting dignity and justice for all.
- CWL gives members the opportunity to serve God and Canada. Through standing committees, members can feel the pulse of what is happening in church and society.
- CWL invites all Catholic women (16 and over) to share their gifts and make a difference.

Come Join Us!

spirituality sisterhood
hospitality education
social justice

Contact Pat 780-743-0862

Simbang Gabi/ Novena Mass



A Christmas tradition, it is a series of Novena (nine) masses, that starts at **7:00 pm** at St. Paul's RC Parish.

Masses begins on December 15th and ends on the 23rd day of December. All are welcome to attend and bring their own favorite food!

ST. PAUL ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH FORT McMURRAY

480 Signal Road, Fort McMurray, AB T9H 4R7

Ph. No.: 780-791-4305; ; Fax: 587-258-6898

Website : www.stpaulparishwb.com

Email: office@stpaulparishwb.com

December 2, 2018 — First Sunday of Advent

Liturgy Schedule

Monday-Thursday

Rosary & Mass 8:40 am

Friday Adoration after Mass at 7:00pm

Weekend Masses

Saturday 7:00 pm

Sunday 9 am & 11 am

The *Sacrament of Confession* is available 30 minutes before the start of each Mass.

Parish Staff

Parish Priest

Fr. Francis Khai Phan

franciskhai@hotmail.com

Assistant Pastor

Fr. Jestoni Porras

jestoniporras0903@gmail.com

Bro. Jayson Durante

jvdurante@gmail.com

Parish Secretary: *Deacon Joe Simangan*

office@stpaulparishwb.com

COLLECTIONS

(Weekly—November 25, 2018)

Loose Bills & Coins	\$ 1,552.20
Envelopes	2,673.50
PAP	2,738.25
<u>Sale of Articles</u>	<u>292.75</u>
Total	\$ 7,256.70



THANK YOU!



St. Paul RC Parish-
Fort McMurray

12 Hr. Adoration

will resume
on Friday, Dec. 7th
9am to 9pm

with
**Night Vigil Prayer
Meeting at 7:00pm**

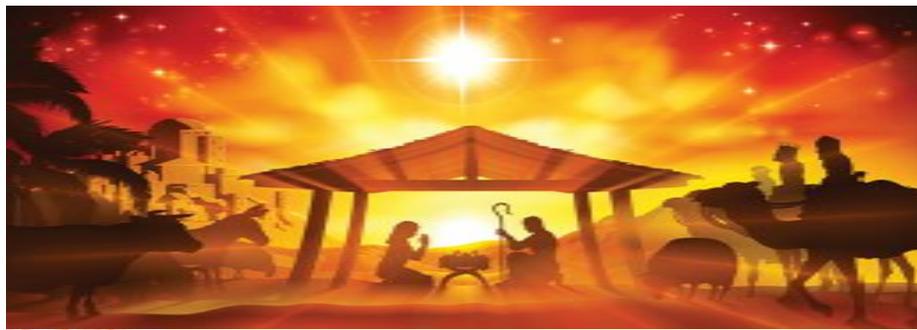
All are welcome to attend!

LIVING THE CATHOLIC LIFE

FULLNESS OF PURPOSE

Get Free introductory audio talk! Text word FREETALK to 1-855-969-5300

**St. John The Baptist Parish
Dec 10-11**
Begins each evening at 7:00 PM

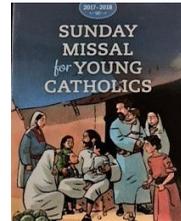
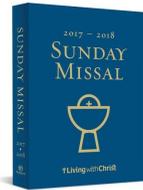


St. Paul Roman Catholic Parish
484 Signal Road, Fort McMurray, T9H 4R7

Christmas and New Year Mass Schedule

- Dec 15 – Dec 23, 2018 Simbang Gabi
(Christmas Novena Masses) at 7: 00 pm
- Dec 24, 2018 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- Dec 25, 2018 11:00 am @ St. Paul’s Church
11:00 am @ Fort McKay
- Dec 31, 2018 6:00 pm Mass of Thanksgiving
- Jan 1, 2019 11:00 am Mary, the Holy Mother of God

For to us a child is born ...he is named Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6)



**SUNDAY
MISSALS,
YOUTH
MISSALS
&
CALENDARS**

**ARE FOR
SALE**

**AT \$5.00
EACH.**

The First Sunday of Advent C—Stay awake, be ready December 2,2018

by: *Deacon Raymond Chan*

“Dad, is he here yet?” “No, be patient.” 10 minutes later. “Is he here yet?” “No, may be another half an hour.” “People in front are so tall. I can’t see a thing!” “Don’t worry, when he is here, daddy will lift you up.” Wait a minute, who is the little boy waiting? It’s just the beginning of December. Santa has made his appearance at the Santa Claus parade last evening and in the malls throughout the city. Christmas is upon us but most people seem to focus on SC (Santa Claus) and not JC (Jesus Christ) Well, not really. For us Christians, we are focusing on the preparation for the coming of the Lord, the Nativity of Jesus. Every year, Brother Knights put in a float in the parade with Nativity scene to remind people to **keep Christ in Christmas.**

Advent is the season of waiting. We place ourselves back into the days of the Hebrew Scriptures and re-read the prophecies of the coming of the Messiah. We join the ancients in waiting for the Lord to be born in our hearts. But that is only one way that we wait during Advent. We also wait for the Lord to come a second time, at the end of time, or, if we don’t live that long, at the end of our own time on earth. We need to stay awake and be ready.

This Sunday’s Gospel reading comes from the apocalyptic section of *Luke* (21:25-28, 34-36). Like the *Book of Revelations*, or the *Apocalypse*, it uses frightening symbols to move people into action. The predictions frighten us. **“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world”** We are meant to become emotionally involved. **“Be vigilant at all times,”** the Lord says, **“and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man.”**

Stay awake. Be ready. These are the themes of the First Sunday of Advent. But how are we to be ready? Perhaps, we can take a cue for our advent preparation from little children. Right now they are making their list to send to Santa. Well, we should also make our list, in our minds if not on paper. But our list is different than the children’s lists. **Our lists must both contain what we need and demonstrate what we are doing to help fulfill our needs. The top priority of our list should be developing a new depth of sincerity to our religion, to make a fresh start at building a closer relationship with Christ. Prayer, penance and works of mercy are necessary preparations for the coming of the Lord.** At the Second Coming, be it at the end of time or the end of our own personal time on earth, the Lord will examine our lists and then look to see if we have done our part to bring each item into reality.

How often, when something new is coming, do we flake out into survival mode instead of preparing well? “You know what? I’m going to keep fit. I’ll exercise, eat right and go to bed on time starting Monday.” “I will donate to that cause with my next pay cheque.” “Life is short; I’m eating dessert first.” We can wait until after Christmas to let the newborn Jesus come into our hearts again –

and He will come, whenever we open the door. But we have a chance now to start preparing ourselves for His arrival. There are lots of things that will call for our attention in the coming Advent weeks: annual Christmas letter writing, decorating the Christmas tree and baking, parties, shopping, wrapping and eager anticipation. In the midst of the stress that can consume us, what if we make a commitment now to prepare ourselves by committing to loving better during this Advent? What if we commit to practising patience in the busy-ness? What if we choose to pray and express our kindness for those whose gifts we are wrapping? What if we try to bake and shop and decorate with joy, peace, serenity and patience? Would we be more ready to hold the Christ Child? **Let’s make Advent a life-giving season of calm and joyful preparation, rather than a mad-dash of survival.**

Advent calls us to prepare for life, the fullness of life with family and friends, and the promise of life eternal. Advent calls us to **“Stay Awake, be ready”** for the One coming who will soon be checking our lists just as Santa is coming to check on children’s lists.

**2019 DONATION
ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE
NOW**

**GRAB ONE AND REGISTER YOUR
NAMES - ADDRESS— PHONE NOS. IN
THE ENCLOSED INFO SHEETS AND
SUBMIT THEM IN THE
COLLECTION BASKET**

Baptism preparation on every
THIRD Tuesday of the month. Next one
will be held on **December 4th** at 7 pm,
in **St. John the Baptist Parish.**

The *Sacrament
of Baptism* is
celebrated On:
December 9 & 23

