

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, 225, 77, 178, 215, 90, 339, 807, 203, 364, & 797, Please send us your complete Name, Address and phone number for tax receipt purposes.



Parish Advent Reconciliation Service will be held on December 14th at 6:00pm at St. Paul's Church.

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 December 23rd. 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 9, 2018 - Second 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—December 2, 2018)

Loose Bills & Coins	\$ 1,090.35
Envelopes	2,425.00
PAP	2,156.00
Donation / Hall Rental	1,500.00
Total	\$ 7,171.35



THANK YOU!

Come, Lord Jesus. Warm our hearts with your love. Help us to prepare for your coming. Help us to see the good things we can do. Help us to see the good things others do. Come, Lord Jesus!



SECOND SUNDAY OF

Advent



St. Paul RC Parish-
Fort McMurray

Day Adoration

on Friday, Dec. 14th
10am to 6pm

All are welcome to
attend!

LIVING THE CATHOLIC LIFE

FULLNESS OF PURPOSE

Get Free Introductory audio talk! Text word FREE TALK to 1-855-969-5300

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

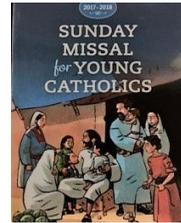
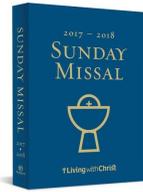


St. Paul Roman Catholic Parish
484 Signal Road, Fort McMurray, T9H 4R7

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 Second Sunday of Advent C— Mountains and Valleys December 9,2018

by: **Deacon Raymond Chan**

This Sunday’s first reading is from the **Book of Baruch**. Baruch had been a disciple of the prophet Jeremiah. This was at the time of the Babylonian conquest and the exile of the people of Kingdom of Judah, about 588 BC. Most of the people were led in chains to Babylon. *Baruch’s* prophecy is that the time is coming when the hand of God would prevail over the captors and the people would return from their exile. And that time did come when Cyrus of Persia conquered the Babylonians and sent all the captives back to their homelands. **“For God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low, and that the age-old depths and gorges be filled to level ground, that Israel may advance secure in the glory of God. The forests and every fragrant kind of tree have overshadowed Israel at God’s command; for God is leading Israel in joy by the light of his glory, with his mercy and justice for company.”** (Baruch 5:1-9)

The Hebrews were brought into exile not just because they were weaker than their neighbours, but because they deserted the God who had formed them into His people. No, they had not stopped worshiping in the Temple, but their faith in God was very much just lip service. They joined in with the pagan customs of those around them. They practiced pagan immorality. They even offered their children as child sacrifice to the pagan gods. They adopted pagan glorification of the material over the spiritual. For all these sins, God let them be in exile. Once in exile, the people realized they were captives of a powerful kingdom and that they were completely dependent on God to free them. They needed Him to work his Power and Might for them. Baruch prophesied that God would deliver them. And he did.

So what does this have to do with us, living 2,600 years later? Why should we be concerned with the historical events 25 centuries ago? Well, historically, these events may not have anything to do with us. But, if we go beyond history and consider the human condition, then the readings are all about us. The condition of the Hebrews is not all that different from our human condition now. So many people give lip service to religion, and live as pagans. So many people join in with the glorification of the material over the spiritual. Immorality attacks us every day. Sometimes it is out in the world. Sometimes it is within our families. Often it is within each of us. We have to fight evil, but it is stronger than we are. So we call upon God to deliver us from evil. He is more powerful than anything that is attacking us. He frees us from all that holds us captive.

In the Gospel reading (3:1-6), John the Baptist also cries out that God is coming among us. **“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”**

Both Baruch and John proclaim the Lord is coming, anticipating the birth of the Messiah, the promised Jesus. They proclaim that God will flatten the mountains and fill the valleys. When we see brokenness in the world, violence and discord and hatred, we are called to mend the broken world, and to trust that God is bringing about His Kingdom in our midst. In the Gospel, John the Baptist prepares himself, and he invites others to join in. God is coming among us, and attention and correction to the roughest places of our lives will smooth a path to the glory of God for us and for the world. The “Peace on earth” we sing at Christmas is both a gift from God and a commitment we make by the way we live. We must humble ourselves and ask Jesus to give us his light to lead the way.

Let us give some attention to the mountains and valleys of our life and our world. How will God bring more life and peace to the world through these unlikely and challenging places? How can we help to make the promise alive?

**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 this month will be held on **December 18th** at 7 pm, at the Portable, St.Paul’s Parish.

The *Sacrament of
Baptism* is celebrated On:
**December 9 & 23
at 2:00pm.**

