

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 7th, 2019, 5:00PM

† Patrick Doyle by Adeline Doyle..

For the intentions of Dory Cabaneros and family

Sunday, December 8th, 2019, 10:30AM

Thanksgiving in honour of the Holy Family offered
by Cleofe Nicolas Bulan and Family

†Margaret Luyten, on her 40th death anniversary by Betty Luyten-Friedman

Tuesday, December 10th, 2019, 7:00PM

Pro Populo

Wednesday, December 11th, 2019, 7:00PM

† Albert Chapleau by Carole Wepruk..

Thursday, December 12th, 2019, 9:00AM

Blessings to Mike Malanyaon and Lina Fenol,
as they celebrate their 11th year of marriage..

Friday, December 13th, 2019, 9:00 AM

†Adolfa A. Nicolas by Adolfo Nicolas..

for Godofredo S. Clemente and for a successful outcome on his operation,
at Montreal General Hospital

Saturday, December 14th, 2019, 5:00PM

† Souls in Purgatory by Adeline Doyle

Sunday, December 15th, 2019, 10:30AM

†Andrée Agia by Betty Luyten Friedman

†Virginia (Jean) Feledick by Isabel McKeever

A Reflection about Mass Intentions

Giving a "Mass Card" to the family of someone who has died is a traditional, practical, and consoling custom among Catholic people. Arranging to have a Mass offered for the repose of someone's soul respects the mystery of death and pays attention to the truth that we will all be judged by God, mercifully but justly, for what we have done and for what we have failed to do.

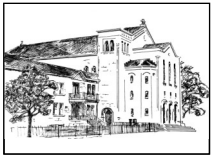
When we die, life is changed, not ended. Do you think that everyone is ready for immediate welcome into the kingdom of heaven? Perhaps some are, perhaps very few. Upon his death, who had more prayers and Masses offered for him than Pope John Paul II? We all have need for divine mercy, and we can benefit from the prayers of our friends. When we die, we will be fortunate and blessed if we have a

St. Willibrord Roman Catholic Church

351 Willibrord Ave., Verdun, QQ. H4G 2T7

Tel: 514-769-9678 Fax: 514-761-1717

Email: stwillibrordparish@videotron.ca Website: www.stwillibrordparish.org



December 8, 2019 — Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday (December 8): **John points to the coming of Christ and his kingdom**

John the Baptist's prophecy of the Messiah

Why did John the Baptist prophesy that the Messiah would come and "baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire" (Matthew 3:11)? Fire in biblical times was often associated with God's presence and with his action in the lives of his people. God sometimes manifested his presence by use of fire, such as the burning bush which was not consumed when God spoke to Moses (Exodus 3:2). The image of fire was also used to symbolize God's glory (Ezekiel 1:4, 13), his protective presence (2 Kings 6:17), his holiness (Deuteronomy 4:24), righteous judgment (Zechariah 13:9), and his wrath against sin (Isaiah 66:15-16). Fire was also used as a sign of the Holy Spirit's power and presence (Matthew 3:11). When the Holy Spirit was poured out on the day of Pentecost, tongues of fire appeared over the heads of the apostles and disciples of Jesus (Acts 2:3). The fire of the Holy Spirit purifies and cleanses us of sin, and it inspires a reverent fear of God and of his word in us. Do you want to be on fire for God and for the return of the Lord Jesus when he comes again in his glory?

John pointed others to the coming of Christ and his kingdom

John the Baptist's life was fueled by one burning passion - to point others to Jesus Christ and to the coming of his kingdom. Who is John the Baptist and what is the significance of his message for our lives? Scripture tells us that John was *filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb* (Luke 1:15, 41) by Christ himself, whom Mary had just conceived by the Holy Spirit. When Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth John leapt in her womb as they were filled with the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:41). Like the prophets of the Old Testament, John devoted his entire life to prayer and the word of God. He was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness where he was tested and grew in the word of God. John's clothing was reminiscent of the prophet Elijah (see Kings 1:8). The Holy Spirit prepared John for the mission entrusted to him as forerunner of the Messiah, Jesus Christ - the Word of God who became man for our salvation (John 1:1,14). John pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who would take away the sins of the world by offering his life on the cross as the atoning sacrifice for our sins and the sin of the world (John 1:29).

John broke the prophetic silence of the previous centuries when he began to speak the word of God to the people of Israel. His message was similar to the message of the Old Testament prophets who chided the people of God for their unfaithfulness and who tried to awaken true repentance in them. Among a people unconcerned with the things of God, it was his work to awaken their interest, unsettle them from their complacency, and arouse in them enough good will to recognize and receive Christ when he came. Are you eager to hear God's word and to be changed by it through the power of the Holy Spirit?

— copyright (c) 2019 Servants of the Word, source: www.dailyscripture.net, author [Don Schwager](#)

Pastor
Fr. Gregory Nunez

Office Staff
Anastasia
Wargachuk
Administration

Nov 16-17—
\$389.50
Nov 23-24—
\$592.40
Annual Bazaar—
\$6,038.60
Bowl-a-Thon—
\$647.00
Nov 30-Dec 1—
\$1,616.20

Raffle Tickets have arrived and we have three weeks to sell 8,500 tickets. The date of the draw is December 28, 2019. We need you. I know that it is an ambitious goal but with your help, we can do it. Please take a few booklets and invite your friends, coworkers and family members to do the same. Spread the word and help us sell these tickets. The money raised will be used to fund our outreach programs such as the Soup Kitchen, Christmas Baskets and emergency food bank

The Prizes are: First Prize, \$1,000.00, Second Prize, \$500.00 and Third Prize, \$250.00

AN ENCHANTING IMAGE



The Latin title of the Letter refers to the “enchanting image” of the Christmas crèche, one that “never ceases to arouse amazement and wonder”, writes the Pope. “The depiction of Jesus’ birth is itself a simple and joyful proclamation of the mystery of the Incarnation of the Son of God”, he says.

A LIVING GOSPEL

“The nativity scene is like a living Gospel rising up from the pages of sacred Scripture”, continues Pope Francis. Contemplating the Christmas story is like setting out on a spiritual journey, “drawn by the humility of the God who became man in order to encounter every man and woman.” So great is His love for us, writes the Pope, “that He became one of us, so that we in turn might become one with Him.”

A FAMILY TRADITION

The Pope hopes this Letter will encourage the family tradition of preparing the nativity scene, “but also the custom of setting it up in the workplace, in schools, hospitals, prisons and town squares.” Praising the imagination and creativity that goes into these small masterpieces, Pope Francis says he hopes this custom will never be lost “and that, wherever it has fallen into disuse, it can be rediscovered and revived.”

THE GOSPEL ORIGIN OF THE CRÈCHE

Pope Francis recalls the origin of the Christmas crèche as related in the Gospels. “Coming into this world, the Son of God was laid in the place where animals feed. Hay became the first bed of the One who would reveal Himself as ‘the bread come down from heaven’.” The nativity scene “evokes a number of the mysteries of Jesus’ life and brings them close to our own daily lives”, writes the Pope.

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2019-12/pope-francis-apostolic-letter-nativity-scene-meaning.html>

ST WILLIBRORD PARISH

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 10:30 am

(incl. Children’s
Liturgy)

Tuesday: 7:00 pm
(Rector)

Wednesday:
7:00 pm

Thursday: 9:00 am
(Rector)

Friday: 9:00am
(Rector)

Adoration
9:30am to 11:30am
(Rector)

**Please note the
Mass, on Tuesday,
Thursday and Friday
will be held in
the Rector**

ST. WILLIBRORD ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Anniversary and Birthday Blessings to all who are celebrating this week.

Happy Birthday to Vincent F., Bernard Fournier and Jackie Bolofer

Happy Anniversary to Susan and Gilles Charlebois

Thank you to Mike, Maria G., Ann, Merly, Ruth, Cora, John, Beng, Susan B., Pedro, Fely, Bong, Melina, Jonas, Beng and all of our volunteers

DATE(S) TO REMEMBER

Sacramental Preparation: Sunday, December 22, 2019, at 9:00AM in the Church (enter side door)

Acolytes Meeting: Saturday, December 14, 2019, at 9:00AM, in the rectory

Flea Market: Saturday, January 11, 2020, 9:00AM to 3:00PM

Parishioners Party & Concert: December 14, 2019



Simbang Gabi (Night Mass)

A devotional series of nine daily masses (Novena) The Simbang Gabi' originated in the early days of Spanish ruled over the Philippines (1669) as a practical compromise for farmers, who began working before sunrise to avoid the noonday heat out in the field. Simbang Gabi marks the beginning of the Christmas Season and honors of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Expectant Mother of God, and in preparation for the commemoration of the birth of our Savior.

Simbang Gabi at St Willibrord’s Parish on Dec 16th, 2019 to Dec 24th, 2019., at 7:00PM

If you would like to sponsor one of the nine masses, please contact the rectory..How can you sponsor a Mass? Let the office know that you are interested and which date of the Mass and

1. Invite family and friends to attend the celebration
2. Make a donation, traditionally the donation is \$15, but any amount would be appreciated.
3. Bring an offering to the Lord that can be brought up during the offering procession, examples: flowers for the sanctuary, food for the needy, gifts to be placed in Christmas Baskets, a bottle of wine.....
4. Participation at the Mass is encouraged but not mandatory
5. Bring food to socialize and eat as a community.

If you are a family, community or a group of people, then it is a good idea to assign a person as coordinator to facilitate this process.

The Giving Tree

The Christmas Basket Season is upon us and the Giving Tree is back!

This project would not be possible without the generous support and enthusiasm of our great Parish and all of you! Should you or someone you know be interested in donating a gift or some food for a family in need. You may select an ornament at the back of the church that has information about who or what you can buy. All donations go a long way to make this year even better!

Please bring all donations by next Saturday and Sunday December 14 & 15. Saturday you may bring in the daytime or to the Volunteers dinner and Sunday after mass.

Volunteers & Drivers Welcome! You are invited to take part this year for Basket Assembly starting next weekend until Dec 19th or join in to help with Delivery Friday December 20.

Volunteer hours: Sunday Dec 16 11:30 onward, Monday December 16 and Tuesday December 17 - evening only. Wednesday December 18 - 10am all day and evening, Thursday December 19 - 10 am all day and evening. Inquire at the rectory or speak with AJ LaFleche or you can email aj.angele@gmail.com

CONFESSIONS will be heard 15 minutes before each Mass weekdays and on weekends.

BAPTISM Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to contact the Parish

Office at 514-769-9678. A meeting with Parents and Godparents is a pre-requisite.

Godparents must be baptized and confirmed in the Catholic Church.

MARRIAGE Please contact the Parish Office or Father Gregory well in advance, as it is important to reserve the church before the Hall.