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E-Pulse: Newsletter of St. Mark, Ocean Park

December 25, 2022

Prayer Corner for December 25, 2022

We light the candles of HOPE, PEACE, JOY and LOVE We light the CHRIST candle

"the angel said to them, ... I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord." *Luke 2:10-11*

Let us - with our minds, hearts, souls, and voices - sing a joyous song of celebration!

Let us worship our unfathomable God who has given himself to us in Jesus Christ, the Messiah – our Wonderful Counsellor, our Redeemer and King, the Prince of Peace and Wholeness.

Let us, like the angels and shepherds, share the good news with any who will listen.

The Christ child - who was born in a stable because there was no room at the inn - knocks at the door of every heart and enters where welcome, bringing fullness of life with gifts of Hope, Peace, Reconciliation, Healing, Joy and Love. (ref. Revelation 3:20)

Praise and Thanksgiving be to God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit! May we experience and be agents of a Merry and Blessed Christmas

Parish Life Notices

<u>Readings for Sunday, January 1</u> – Numbers 6:22-27, Psalm 8, Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:15-21

Please Note - Wednesday 10am Eucharist

There will not be a service on December 28th

<u>Flowers for the Altar</u> are given today by Bea Ross to the honour and glory of Almighty God, and in memory of Niall, much-loved son and brother. Flowers are also given by Doris MacKellar and family, to the Glory of God and in remembrance of husband/father "Bob".

The Lunch Basket for Hungry Children is provided this week by Joy Prior: "The eyes of your understanding enlightened: that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints and what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power (Ephesians 1:23) which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all. Ephesians 1:18-19

Also by Don Boyd and Patti Thorne: giving thanks to God for Many Blessings in our lives and wishing everyone a Peaceful, Loving and a very Merry Christmas.

Ministry Report Deadline for the 2022 Annual Report

To date, two Ministries Leaders have kindly submitted their 2022 Reports. Thank you! Please submit your 2022 Ministry Report to: office@stmarkbc.org by the deadline: Monday, January 9, 2023

SAVVY Seniors Get Together with chat, and a variety of games that include cribbage, scrabble, bridge and rummicube. in the Parish Hall. The next gathering is **Wed. January 4** from 1pm-3:30pm. Contact: Sue Indridson, email: sinder@shaw.ca or phone 604-531-4931

<u>Sunday School Coordinator</u> — St. Mark's is actively seeking someone to coordinate our Ministry to Children (Sunday School) beginning in early January. If you, or someone you know would be interested in this part time position, please speak with our Priest-In-Charge, Stephen Laskey.

Please remember that St. Mark's is a scent free zone

A number of our parishioners are adversely affected by perfumes and product scents. Please refrain from using such products before coming to church services, or other events, so that everyone is able to enjoy the gathering without having to leave because of allergic reactions or asthma problems.

<u>Prayer Chain</u> – The Coordinator for the prayer chain is Lynne Hurd at <u>lynneh1@telus.net</u> or you may phone at 604.542.2772.

<u>Sunday Intercessions</u> – Do you want to be included in the Sunday Intercessions? If so, please contact the Office at 604.535.8841 OR contact Michael Klaver at Tel: 778.386.1973 Email: klaverfamily@shaw.ca

The Lunch Basket for Hungry Children provides funding for lunches to 8 single mothers and 13 children. Please help support these families by choosing a date to support these families and have a dedication in the weekly Pulse. The suggested donation of \$70 can be made by e-transfer, the Donation Station, or by dropping off a cheque in the mailbox at the church office. email or phone Darlene W. or Barb G. with your dedication.

Note of Thanks regarding the Lunch Basket — If you ever wonder what difference your donation to the Lunch Basket might make, a note was received by the Bible Study in reference to their offering Here it is: 'My deepest gratitude for your overwhelming generosity to my family this Christmas. This will make such a huge difference for us! It's been a hard year for so many and I know it's a good reminder that there are caring people still out there to help those of us who need it so bad. Thank you! Truly from the bottom of our hearts.'

Thank You for your Donations to our Sunday Flowers

We encourage people to donate to have flowers on the Altar. The Altar Guild is willing to purchase the flowers and have them arranged. Please contact Kathryn Smith: 604-560-1455 or e-mail <a href="https://docs.nich.org/nc.2016/bit.2016/b

<u>To Reach Rev Stephen Laskey</u>, our Priest in Charge, send an email to: PinCStephenLaskey@outlook.com or call him at the Church

Office (604.535.8841). If your call goes to voicemail, leave a message and your telephone number for Reverend Laskey. He will check voicemail messages and will return your call.

St Mark's Family, Youth and Children's Time

Subscribe to our youtube channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLHs8LO-SfLIO i0FX3hJNg or follow the link from our webpage. http://stmarkbc.org/

We Live Stream our Sunday Worship. To access the online Service go to our Church's website: www.stmarkbc.org On the homepage, click on the service's video, where it says: "St Mark Online Worship Services". To watch or listen to older services, go into the YouTube archives through our Parish website www.stmarkbc.org and click on "St Mark Online Worship Services". Alternatively you can use these links: tinyurl.com/St-Mark-Online-Video Channel OR

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLHs8LO-SfLIO i0FX3hJNg

St Mark's Youth Group

December 30th is the next gathering of the youth group, not December 23rd.

I would like to take a moment, to thank everyone for your ongoing support, kindness, and presence for our Youth. My sincere gratitude to the Men's Club, for stepping up to help fund our Halloween Event, the Creation Care committee, for coming to share with us about all creation, the ACW and Women's Guild for their ongoing support and inclusion in their events. The Altar Guild welcoming us to be a part of their important ministry. And to all the parents and parishioners who have stepped up to support us, with their time and energy to help make our program a success.

Any ministry is a team effort, and I am so blessed to have one of the very kindest and most supportive parishes I could imagine to help support this important ministry.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas!! Warm Blessings; Sarah, Youth and Family Ministries Coordinator