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

December 11th, 2022

Prayer Corner for December 11, 2022

The Third Sunday of Advent:

We light the candles of Hope, Peace, and Joy

A highway will be there;

It will be called the Way of Holiness
It will be for those who walk on that Way.

Only the redeemed will walk there,

And those the Lord has rescued will return.

They will enter Zion with singing;

Everlasting joy will crown their heads.

Gladness and joy will overtake them,

And sorrow and sighing will flee away Isaiah 35:8-10

The earth, the angels, Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and the wise men experienced great JOY at the birth of Jesus. Yet, their joy could not be complete as there were so many unknowns. We too will rejoice at the birth of Christ amidst our confusion and fears, knowing that fullness of JOY will be experienced only when the Kingdom of God has fully come.

In this in-between time, as we wait with HOPE and pray for PEACE, let our hearts REJOICE in God our Creator and Redeemer who has blessed us and shown us mercy – who walks with us in times of gladness and sorrow.

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near." *Philippians 4:4-5*

Let us pray that God will sustain a people in this parish from generation to generation until Christ comes again. "we your people, the sheep of your pasture, will praise you forever; from generation to generation we will proclaim your praise." *Psalm 79:13*

Parish Life Notices

<u>Shortbread and Mincemeat Tarts</u> Next Sunday, December 18th, the 10am service will be one of Lessons and Carols. This is a great time to invite other family and friends. The fellowship time following will feature mincemeat tarts and shortbread. Any contributions of baking will be gratefully received in the kitchen prior to the service.

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.

The Lunch Basket for Hungry Children - is provided this week by Les and Jean Edmonds with thankfulness for all who are doing so much to bring us back to the way things were be

*** Ministry Report Deadline for the 2022 Annual Report ***
Please submit your 2022 Ministry Report to:
office@stmarkbc.org by the deadline: Monday, January 9, 2023

Readings for Sunday, December 18th - Isaiah 11:1-10, Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19, Romans 15:4-14, Matthew 3:1-12

<u>SAVVY Seniors Get Together</u> 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: <u>sinder@shaw.ca</u> or phone 604-531-4931

St. Mark's Youth Group welcomes youth ages 10 to 16 Friday evenings here from 7-9pm. Come for fellowship, activities, and connection. St Mark's Youth Group now has an Instagram page! You can find us under "St Mark's Youth Group". We will post updates on events and activities here as well as on the Church calendar and FaceBook.

Please connect with Sarah at: yministryrsvp@gmail.com if you want to join us.

St Mark's Youth Ministry welcomes all who are interested in the Safe Adult program to assist with our youth ministry. Please contact Sarah at yministryrsvp@gmail.com for more info.

<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.

<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: <u>klaverfamily@shaw.ca</u>

<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.

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

Subscribe to our youtube channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLHs8L0-SfLI0_i0FX3hJNg or follow the link from our webpage. http://stmarkbc.org/

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 2022 date (see chart below) 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.

December 18	Pat Aiken & Janet Scott
December 24	Joy Prior
December 25	

Thank You for your Donations to our Sunday Flowers

If you would like to have flowers on the Altar, please see the chart below. The Altar Guild is willing to purchase the flowers and have them arranged. Please contact Kathryn Smith: 604-560-1455 or e-mail hkmasmith@shaw.ca

December 11	
December 18	
December 24	
December 25	

<u>WE CONTINUE</u> TO LIVE STREAM our Sunday Worship. To access the online Service go to our Church's website:

www.stmarkbc.org On the homepage that opens, click on the service's video, or where it says: "St Mark Online Worship Services". If you would like to watch or listen to some of our older services you may 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-

<u>Channel</u> OR <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLHs8LO-SfLIO_iOFX3hJNg</u>

<u>How To Reach Reverend Stephen Laskey</u> - Please use the following email address to contact Reverend Laskey: <u>PinCStephenLaskey@outlook.com</u> Also, you can 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.