



Welcome to St. Pius X Parish, Kelowna

Priest: Father Obi Ibekwe

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December 17th 2023: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Pastor's Message

Parish Christmas Confessions - Monday, December 17 at 5.30pm

Rejoice Always Pray Without Ceasing

This Sunday is called *Gaudate Sunday*, that is Sunday of rejoicing. We are more than half way to Christmas and we are invited to rejoice because Jesus is near.

How is it possible to rejoice always? There's a lot that happens in life that often takes away our joy. But the liturgy gives an imperative: rejoice!

True joy is not determined by the changing circumstances of life but is a gift from the One who does not change: my Father in heaven. I can rejoice always when I place myself beneath the gaze of my Father who loves me. I don't have to do and achieve and have more than everyone else. I just have to BE, not DO. **The secret of rejoicing is to rest beneath the gaze of the Father who says to me: 'Your worth is not measured by what you do; you are worth the death of my Son.** I rejoice because the Father delights and rejoices in me and there is never a time He ceases to rejoice in me. You are made in His image and likenesses. That is our true identity, and the reason we rejoice: not because life is perfect but because we have a Father who is perfect, who is good and faithful.

Confession is a time to reclaim my identity as the beloved of the Father. A good Confession ends with great rejoicing as the Father Himself says: 'Let us celebrate because my child is home.'

I invite you to come so we can celebrate the love and mercy of our Heavenly Father. With hearts made clean, our Church will be so beautiful on Christmas Day because we have prepared the way for Him interiorly.

In the spirit of rejoicing, we are having our Parish Christmas Party on this Sunday of rejoicing. It begins at 3.30. It's a turkey dinner. Details on the bottom right of this page.

Please note that next Sunday December 24 is the 4th Sunday of Advent but also Christmas Eve. If you are used to attending 11am Mass, and you traditionally attend 4pm Christmas Eve Mass, you might consider attending anticipated Mass on Saturday, the 23rd at 5pm. This will help so that you are not attending back to back Mass the same day. Just a suggestion.

Schedule for Christmas and New Year Masses—page 3.

Pastor's Message continues on the next page.

Confession Times

Every Saturday at 4pm or by appointment .



Third Sunday of Advent: Candle of Joy
God of power and mercy, open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with Joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when He comes in glory, for He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

Advent confession At St Pius X Parish Monday December 18th @ 5:30pm

Parish Christmas Party: December 17 @ 3.30pm

Christmas Party December 17th - There will be a delicious catered turkey and trimmings Christmas dinner, raffle prizes and lots of door prizes.

Wear a Christmas hat, a Christmas sweater, or something red or green, we want to fill the hall with Christmas spirit. There will be entertainment and music so bring your dancing shoes and shake a leg. We have a special guest coming for a visit, Santa will be making his appearance!

If you would like to bring a pan of your favorite cookies or squares for dessert we would really appreciate the treats.

See you all on Sunday, December 17th, **ho,ho,ho!**



Pastor's Message Continues

Something for me to rejoice about this Sunday. Fr. Biju passed his road test. Yooahoo! :) Thank you for praying for him.

Find below an Examination of Conscience to help us in preparing for Confession.

Happy Sunday.....Fr. Obi

Quilters
Christmas
Lunch



PREPARING FOR OUR PARISH ADVENT/CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE:

R/: Lord, we ask for forgiveness

For having spent whole days without thinking of God
For failing to speak to God in prayer, and for failing to pray with all our hearts
For taking God's goodness for granted and neglecting to thank Him for all His gifts
For bad choices that have injured us and those whom we love and who love us
For having not made Jesus the number one in our lives
For believing the enemy's lies that we are defined by our sins and wounds
For not trusting that God is able to restore and transform all things unto good
For our failure to seek our neighbour especially in those in need of help
For our lack of tolerance and charity towards those who do not share our views and opinions
For having injured others by gossip and criticism
For our failure to listen to people
For spreading negativity that does not advance God's Kingdom
For having expected too much of people without trying to understand the circumstances of their lives
For having squandered the talents and opportunities that God has given us
For having been content with a minimum of religious practice
For our not having taken part in the apostolate of the church
For these and for all the many ways we have sinned against God and neighbour.

Response: God, surprise Us Again

When we miss the beauty and the joy of earth's goodness
When we grow too accustomed to life's business
When the goodness of others gets lost in the rush
When our frailty outruns our strength
When the hope in our hearts fade away
When the call to serve others loses its flavor
When we search for the way home to you
When loneliness pursues us
When it seems the darkness will never give way to the light
When the ache of the world wears our compassion thin
When the trouble of others seems more than we can carry
When even you seem far away from us

Response: Walk Closely With Us God.

As we strive to live our lives well
As we journey into the unknown territory of a new beginning
As we hurt in the process of loving our enemies
As we learn to accept our weakness and strengths
As we discover you in those whom we serve.

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE ILLS

Please pray for the sick and injured at home and in hospital, especially for...Tessa McGibbon, June Hanushchak, Christine Zlogar, Vince Cummings, Oliver Fabris, James McGlinchey, Rita Gemin, Betty Klinger, Desjardins Family, Trudy Szulkies, Brenda Campbell, Arlene Pilgrim, Ashleigh Landry, Ernie Poitras, Manuela Ungureanu, Dana Duguay, Cathie Lock, Rick Lock, PJ Cuomo, Evelyn Burzminski, Dan Ryder, Patricia Graham, Anita Kurapatwa, Helen Curran, Heather Duguay, Pamela Renzi, Sandra Martinez, Claudia Albarran, Gloria Moyer, Constance Cournane, Fionnuala Kane, Wilai Basuwan, Jennifer Roa, Rugene Valle, Grace Tumale, Beatriz Hernandez, Dalia Whissell, Betty Yarrow, Patricia Cisakowski, Melissa Arriola, Jin Taggart, Majid.

If you have a loved one that you would like on the prayer list or if you know of someone who no longer needs to be on the list please contact Angelica at the Parish office **250-762-2587** or by Email: spxkelowna@nelsondiocese.org

MERCIFUL JESUS, GRANT THEM A HEALING OF MIND AND BODY, AND RESTORE THEIR STRENGTH AND SPIRIT. AMEN



Condolences: Our deepest condolences to the families of

1). Pattie, for the death of their loved one Jonathan whose funeral will be on Monday, December 18 at 10.30am.

2). Perri, for the death of their loved one Elvira whose funeral was on Friday, December 15 at 10.30am. May their souls rest in peace.



From The Diocese

Rachel's Corner

"If someone has entered into your life and made a mess of your life or maybe you did it yourself... things you have done where you need to forgive yourself; you have broken stained glass windows in your life. Those pieces need to be given to God, and allow Him to pick up those pieces, put them together and He can make something even more beautiful." Fr. Geraci

Are you ready to hand everything over to God? To let Him rebuild what is broken inside and allow Him to help you feel alive again? Join us on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat™.

info@rachelvineyardkelowna.com

www.rachelvineyardkelowna.com

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250-762-2273

Our Parish

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE- 2023

4th Sunday of Advent 23 & 24 December

Saturday 5 PM

Sunday 9 AM, 11 AM



Christmas Eve and Christmas Day 24 & 25 December

Sunday 4 PM, 7 PM and 12 Midnight (midnight for real!)

Monday 9 AM, 11 AM and 4 PM

Holy Family Sunday 30 & 31 December

Saturday 5 PM

Sunday 9:00 AM, 11 AM

Solemnity of Mary (New Year's Day also) 31 December & 01 January (Holy Day of Obligation)

Sunday 5 PM (New Year's Eve Mass)

Monday 9 AM & 11 AM (New Year's Day)

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord 06 & 07 January

(regular weekend schedule in effect)

Saturday 5 PM

Sunday 9 AM, 11 AM & 6 PM

St Pius X Parish QR CODES ARE HERE!!

The QR codes are now in the foyer for anyone who wishes to use them. These have been used in other parishes with GREAT success to enhance donations and ease to parish giving. Here's the general process (each device is different... :)



- 1) With the camera on your phone, place the QR code in the center.
- 2) A yellow "Square Link" box will appear, touch that.
- 3) It will take you to St. Pius X Parish site that you can donate. When requested, use "Sunday Collection" as the reason for the donation. Follow the prompts (it should be relatively simple) and pay with your credit card.
- 4) When complete, you will get a text or an email to confirm your donation.
- 5) NOTE: Because you have to include your name and address during the process, you WILL get a tax receipt for your donation.
- 6) NOTE: This is an encrypted system and has been used with success AND privacy in numerous places before (including churches).

Week Mass Intentions

Saturday Dec 16	5:00 pm	Murray & Doug Lafleche -R-
Sunday Dec 17	9:00 am	Parishioners -INT-
Sunday Dec 17	11:00 am	Crystal Reiter-R-
Tuesday Dec 19	9:00 am	Jim Taggart Health -R-
Wednesday Dec 20	9:00 am	Joseph Huang -R-
Thursday Dec 21	9:00 am	Licia But Dordolo -R-
Friday Dec 22	9:00 am	Yves & Francyne Bernard - INT-
Saturday Dec 23	5:00 pm	Hani Yousif -R-

Prayer Group

Come Lord Jesus come and be born a new in our hearts....
Prayer group will not be gathering for the rest of December....
But will resume in January 2024...
Prayers will continue...Merry Christmas
For more info please call Piera at **250-2157-100**



The Christmas Baking Sale!

Our sincere gratitude to all, who made our cookies baking sale a huge success.
Thank you to all the parish ladies who donated a big selection of delicious baking.
Thank you to the talented ladies who gather in our hall kitchen.
They prepared over 400 butter tarts and mincemeat tarts.
Our profit is in excess of \$ 1,414.00. a portion of this money is donated to "The Bishop fund For Life".
Blessings : Joyce Hunter & Darlene Fisher



Don't forget to bring some baking for dessert at our Christmas dinner.



RCIA

Are you, or do you know someone who is searching, who is asking questions about becoming a Catholic, about deepening relationship with Jesus? Are you a Catholic who has received baptism but not the other Sacraments? Are you from another Church and looking to be received into the Catholic? We look forward to journeying with you in the RCIA program. We would like to hear from you. Please give us a call at **250 762 2587**. Please ask to speak with Fr. Obi. You can also email us at: spxklowna@nelsondiocese.org

Our Parish

CWL December 16,17Announcements



* **Thought for the Week: Sisters**

Have you ever longed for a sister? The Catholic Women's League will bring many women into your life. Some will journey with you through thick and thin, some will come and go. Always, these women will carry and support you with their prayers and sisterly love. Come meet new sisters.

***CWL Membership Renewal:** November is CWL membership renewal month. The 2023/2024 membership fee is **\$45.00**. The envelope in your Sunday Offering Box was printed before this increase was made - so please make note of the fee change. You will be receiving, via email, a renewal form. Please complete it and add it to your envelope so we can update our files and insure that you get the CWL Newsletter. Thank you.

***Bake Sale Update:** Thank you to all of our bakers and our buyers for supporting our 2023 Christmas Bake Sale. It was a huge success - we raised over \$1,600. Happy Holidays everyone!

Christmas Donations can Start

now! If you are getting rid of Christmas items, don't put them away until next year. You can donate them now to our church. Don't hesitate to Call Beryl to help you with that. **250-717-0527**.



For a Eucharistic Life.

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharistic at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationship in very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.



Our Pilgrimage of Faith Goal is \$41,200.00

We have now reached our goal. So far we have received **\$53,244.20** We are so grateful to everyone for your generosity. May our dear Lord bless you abundantly. Any amount we receive over and above our parish goal comes back to the parish.

ADVENT CONFESSION

SCHEDULE 2023

St. Pius X Parish	Mon. Dec. 18 @ 5:30 pm
St. Edwards Parish	Wed. Dec. 20 @ 5:30 pm
St. Charles Garnier Parish	Wed. Dec. 20 @ 5:30 pm
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish	Thurs. Dec. 21 @ 4:00 pm