



# Welcome to St. Pius X Parish, Kelowna

**Priest:** Father Obi Ibekwe

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## December 10th 2023: 2nd Sunday of Advent

### Pastor's Message:

#### **Prepare the Way of the Lord**

This winter hasn't been that cold. It has given me the opportunity to go around the neighborhood and enjoy the Christmas lights. People really put in a lot of effort in making their houses look nice. It's beautiful and I can feel that Christmas is in the air. People are baking: I was in the kitchen to say hi to the ladies as they were busy baking for the Christmas bake sales (Check page 4 for details). They were very kind to me: they allowed me to taste some of the short bread and butter tat. The cookies were so good that I wanted another one, but they chased me out of the kitchen. ☐..... Not quite like that, but the way I was going, they might not have enough to sell on the weekend. I tasted love in the cookies. Our decoration crew have also taking some time in putting Advent decoration in our Church. These things make me happy. **As we engage in these preparations, John the Baptist shows up in the Gospel today with a definitive invitation: Prepare the way of the Lord. He is calling us to the inner preparation: the preparation of our hearts and souls for Jesus this Christmas. This truly is the greatest preparation for Christmas.**

As we prepare our houses, it really honours those who come to visit us this Christmas.

#### **How can we prepare and honour the greatest GUEST this Advent and Christmas?**

One of the great ways is by going to Confession where we show Jesus that we love Him, that we truly want Him to come to us in a new way this Christmas.

I remember years ago when I fell from a mango tree. I love mangoes but Mum had warned me to stop climbing. I didn't listen. I fell - so badly. She heard me crying, rushed to me, carried me back into the house. I remember her asking me with a tender voice: **"Where does it hurt." That comforted me. She didn't shout and say: "I warned you." No. She ended up by asking; what do you want to eat?"**

This is truly what Jesus does for us in Confession. He picks us up with great tenderness and comforts us as Isaiah says today (Comfort ye my people). He desires to heal us and bring us to the Eucharistic feast. Imagine what it will be like to receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist this Christmas after Christmas Confession. ...Continues page 2

### **Knights of Columbus - St. Pius X Parish**

You are more than welcome to join us for the Best Breakfast in town on December 10<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 12:30 at St. Pius X Hall.



### **Confession Times**

Every Saturday at 4pm or by appointment .



#### **Second Sunday of Advent: Candle of Peace**

For to us a son is giving, and the government will be on his shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Amen

### **Advent Confession St. Pius X Parish**

Monday December

18th @ 5:30pm



EVERYONE IS INVITED TO  
2023

# Christmas PARTY

DECEMBER

SUNDAY 17 3:30PM

Turkey Dinner at 4:00pm

Lots of door prizes to be won  
Please write your name on the sign up sheet in the foyer

**St. Pius X Church**  
+ 1346 GORDON DRIVE KELOWNA

**Pastor's Message Continued:**

**I was reminded by my mother that I'm not defined by my wounds. It's as if she was saying: You are still my child.**

**At every Confession, we are reminded that: we are not defined by our sins, failures and wounds but the love of God.**

A young student at Immaculata High School when he heard me speak about Confession: that it is an act of love for Jesus and that we are not defined by our sins, he said: "Fr, I have never thought about Confession like that before. I think this year's Confession will be my best. I'll go and prepare." That was a joyful experience for me seeing our young ones coming to Jesus.

**May our Parish Confession on December 18 at 5.30 truly be a time when we say to Jesus: we your people at St. Pius Parish really want to show You that we love You and that we are serious about preparing our hearts and souls for You this Christmas.**

**I'll tell you the rest of the story on Sunday about me and my Mum.**

**Christmas Festivals and Carols—A Note of Gratitude**

A Note of Gratitude to our Choir Leader and Conductor - Christa, Pianist: Jenny, All our Choir Members, Solo Presenters, Readers and all who helped to make our Christmas Festival and Carols a Grace-Filled Event, My gratitude goes out to you for your contribution to the St. Pius X Parish Christmas Carols & Festivals event on Sunday, December 3.

You made it all happen: your talents and the gift of your voice were truly a blessing to us all.

As we gathered for our inaugural event, my hope was to welcome the Advent season with joy and love. With your assistance, these gifts were abundant in our church on December 3rd!

Our Emcee shared with me that: 'The careful selection of seasonal music and gathering of talent not only touched those who joined us but brought many to tears.'

Jesus was present in our hearts, where He reigns because of your faith that helped make this event come together.

The financial contributions gathered during our event for St. Vincent de Paul will assist our parish volunteers who work to bring simple gifts of everyday items to families in our community who live in challenging times.

Blessings to you and thank you again for helping make our event a blessing to all.

Your brother,  
Fr. Obi

We Raised \$2,509.25 at The Carols Festival . The Parish has given this to St, Vincent de Paul . Thank you St. Vicenta de Paul members for the difference you making in people lives.



**Picture Gallery SSVP , Carols & Baking:**

**BAKING COOKIES**

**SSVP HAMPERS**



**CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL & CAROLS**





## Week Mass Intentions

Saturday Dec 09	5:00 pm	Eleonor Gorges -R-
Sunday Dec 10	9:00 am	Parishioners -INT-
Sunday Dec 10	11:00 am	Trudy Lindner -R-
Tuesday Dec 12	9:00 am	CWL -INT-
Wednesday Dec 13	9:00 am	Betty Jackson -R-
Thursday Dec 14	9:00 am	Ronda Fabbi-R-
Friday Dec 15	9:00 am	Ayla Grace Loseth -R-
Saturday Dec 16	5:00 pm	Murray & Doug Lafleche -R-

### CHILDREN'S CATECHISM LOOKING FOR HELPERS THURSDAY EVENINGS 6 PM to 7:30 PM

It seems only yesterday we were sat down in the hall enjoying the delicious pasta and sauce. I said on Friday to Fr. Obi that last Thursday was probably my most enjoyable catechism night of the year. I was able to observe several interactions between new friends young and old and enjoy good conversation myself. The Confirmation group had a new member. I was taken by the way in which the existing three members welcomed him to the group and listened attentively to his responses.

As all of our catechism groups continue to grow **we are in more need now of helpers on Thursday evenings**. If you can come along and help out our combined classes from time to time please let me, Mike Wilson or Terry Squire know. Your time would be greatly appreciated.

Contact [mwilson@cisnd.ca](mailto:mwilson@cisnd.ca) Tel: [250-859-6718](tel:250-859-6718).

**St. Pius X Parish**, is looking for a helper for Children Liturgy, 2 Sundays for month." No Experience is necessary " We will train you ... Call Theresa @ [250-763-08-69](tel:250-763-08-69)

### 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](tel:250-2157-100)



### Marriage Prep/Course

Are you getting married in the Catholic Church this fall? The next marriage prep session starts Oct 4 at 6:30pm. Attendance can be virtual or in person in Penticton. Contact Deacon Peter d'Aoust or Lynn Hale for more information. [lhaledaoust2012@gmail.com](mailto:lhaledaoust2012@gmail.com) or phone **250**

## 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](mailto:spxkelowna@nelsondiocese.org)

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



*Catholic Moms Connect Presents:*

## PEACE & PREPARATION Womens Advent Retreat

WHERE: SETON HOUSE OF PRAYER

WHEN: DECEMBER 8-9 2023

COST: OVERNIGHT \$120 / DAY RATE \$50

INCLUDES: ADORATION, PRAYER AND WORSHIP, OVERNIGHT ACCOMODATION AT SETON HOUSE OF PRAYER, BREAKFAST & LUNCH ON SATURDAY

### SPECTACULAR SPEAKERS:

FR. SYLVESTER,

FR. GERALD

MARCIA LAWRENCE &

ALANET MCKINNON

TO REGISTER: SEND E-TRANSFER TO [DUCHARMEMDM@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DUCHARMEMDM@GMAIL.COM), PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME & EMAIL ADDRESS IN THE NOTES. REGISTRATION FORM WILL BE EMAILED TO YOU  
QUESTIONS? TEXT MARY 778-581-9898

Our Pilgrimage of Faith Goal is **\$41,200.00**

So far we have received **\$41,115.00** We are so grateful to everyone who have donated. If you are yet to donate, we hope you can prayerfully consider doing so. Together we will work hard to reach our goal. May our dear Lord bless you abundantly for your generosity.

## Upcoming Events

1. **Parish Christmas Party:** December 17. Please mark your calendar.

### 2.. **St. Pius X Christmas Bake Sale**



It's time to fill your cookie jars in preparation for the Christmas festivities and we are happy to help you fill them! Cookies, squares, and tarts will be on sale in the hall on:

Sat. Dec. 9th after the 5:00 mass

Sun. Dec. 10th from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

\*If able, we ask buyers to please bring containers for their purchases.

#### **Also Quilting items will be available for sale.**

Bakers are invited to bring up to 6 dozen of one baked item. Baking is to be dropped off at the church hall, Fri. Dec. 8th between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm. Baking is to be dropped off at the church hall, Fri. Dec. 8th between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm.

Thank you. For more information please contact Joyce (250-762-9689).

## Our Parish

### CWL December 9-10 Announcements

#### \* Thought for the Week: Sisterhood

In this world today, everyone yearns for connections. The Catholic Women's League provides so many ways to form a sisterhood with other women, be it at home, in a parish or through servant leadership. Come join a family of sisters across the country.

\***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.

\***Catholic Women's Leadership Program:** The Providence School of Transformative Leadership and Spirituality, Saint Paul University, Ottawa is pleased to announce that they are accepting applications for the 2024 cohort of their Leadership Program, scheduled to begin in June 2024 at. Details of the content of the different components and timelines can be found on the website at [www.cwlfcanada.ca](http://www.cwlfcanada.ca). If you are or know of a Catholic woman who wishes to be a transformational and influential leader, they invite you to complete the application process by **January 15th, 2024** which can be found at [www.cwlfcanada.ca/participate](http://www.cwlfcanada.ca/participate).

\***CWL Nelson Diocesan Council Bursary:** There are two annual \$500.00 bursaries available from the Nelson Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League. One bursary gives precedence to applicants entering the Medical Science Field and the second is for applicants entering General Courses. For more information please go to the link below and you will find the Guidelines and Application for the bursary. <https://nelsondiocesecwl.org/resources/>

**Feed a Family... Feel the Joy!**

### **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Kelowna Christmas Turkey Drive**

Immaculata Regional High School  
1493 KLO Road

Proudly Hosted by  
**IMMACULATA**  
REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

In Support Of  
Central Okanagan  
Food Bank

**December 15<sup>th</sup>**  
6:30am - 10:00 am

Accepting both frozen turkeys and monetary donations for the direct purchase of turkeys.



### Christmas Donations can Star 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. Thank you for all your support.



### *Rachel's Corner*

*I am so happy I have been able to receive Communion after so many years! I am not more than God to not forgive myself and I need to learn to see myself as God does.* -Testimonial

Join the men and women on a Rachel! Vineyard Retreat, and let God show you how He sees you, loves you and wants to restore you to the son and daughter He created you to be.

[info@rachelsvineyardkelowna.com](mailto:info@rachelsvineyardkelowna.com)

[www.rachelsvineyardkelowna.com](http://www.rachelsvineyardkelowna.com)

f Rachel's Vineyard Kelowna

250-762-2273

### 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.**



### Deepest Sympathy

Our most deep and sincere condolences to Lahay & Rehlnger Family for their loss. Rest in Peace Bibiana Lahay.

