



St. Francis of Assisi Parish
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2nd Sunday of Advent – December 5, 2021

READINGS

1st Reading: Baruch 5, 1-9

2nd Reading: Philippians 1, 3-6, 8-11

Gospel: Luke 3, 1- 6

Humility Prepares the Way for Christ

“A voice of one crying out in the desert. ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.’” Luke 3:4

On this Second Sunday of Advent, we are given the person of St. John the Baptist to ponder. What a gift he is! Jesus Himself stated that “among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist” (Matthew 11:11). What a compliment!

What is it that made John so great? We can point to two things in particular. The first has to do with his calling and the second has to do with his virtue.

First of all, John was great because he was the transition from the Old Testament Prophets to the New Testament. He was the bridge that prepared for the new life to come. His unique mission makes him truly great.

But John was great not only because of his unique calling, he was also great because of the virtue he had in his life. And it is this gift that is worth pondering for our own inspiration more than any other.

The particular virtue that John had was that of humility. He saw himself as nothing other than a “voice of one crying out in the desert.” And the Word he spoke was Jesus.

John acknowledged that he was not even worthy to stoop down and untie the sandal straps of Jesus (Mark 1:7). He was praised by many and followed by many and yet he continuously said of Jesus that “He must increase and I must decrease” (John 3:30). John was not in it for praise and honor; rather, his mission was to point everyone to the Savior of the World. He could have

sought the honor and praise of many and he would have certainly received it. They may have even made him king. But John was more than willing to fulfill his mission and then submit himself to the cruel sword of his executioner. His humility was such that he was focused only on Jesus and desired only to point to Him.

Reflect, today, upon this humility in your own life. Do you tend to point to yourself or to Christ? Do you seek the praise of others or do you humbly point all praise and glory to God? Humility is the path that St. John the Baptist took and it's the path we must strive for each and every day.

Lord, thank You for the gift of St. John the Baptist. May his witness of humility inspire me in my Christian walk. Help me, Lord, to always point others to You rather than to myself. Jesus, I trust in You. (mycatholiclife.com)

Mass Special Intentions:

- Saturday Nov 27: 5 pm: For Carmine Gasdia (R.I.P) – The Bledig Family
- Sunday November 28: 9 am: For Francesco Morrone (R.I.P) – Margherita Bafaro
- Tuesday Nov 30: 9 am: For All souls – Paul Pham
- Wednesday Dec 1: 9 am: For Nicolino & Reno Borrelli (R.I.P) – The Bledig Family
- Thursday Dec 2: 9 am: For Dominic Donato (R.I.P) – Stewart & Jane Hoffman
- Friday Dec 3: 9 am: For Dominic Donato (R.I.P) – Maureen Beruschi & Family
- Saturday Dec 4: 5 pm: For Neil Pedersen (R.I.P) – Jean & Sonny Pedersen

Catholic answers to Catholic questions

Q. What is a "Holy Day of Obligation"? Is it the same in every country?

A. A holy day of obligation is a specific feast Day when Catholics are obliged to go to Mass. In other words, they should treat a holy day of obligation as a Sunday.

The obligation of attending Holy Mass on a holy day of obligation can be fulfilled by going to Mass on the holy day itself or on the evening of the previous day. "On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are obliged to assist at Mass. They are also to abstain from such work or business that would inhibit the worship to be given to God, the joy proper to the Lord's Day, or the due relaxation of mind and body." [Canon Law # 1247]

The observances of Holy Days of Obligation within the Catholic Church vary from country to country. In Canada, besides of Sundays, there are two Holy Days of Obligation:

- **Christmas**
- **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

ADVENT RECONCILIATION - PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

This Advent Reconciliation will be on Thursday December 16, 2021 at 7:00 pm. The liturgy continues to be important for the Faithful during a pandemic. The current guidelines still need to be followed regarding the size of the assembly, the wearing of masks, social distancing while maintaining the seal of confession, etc. Please do not hesitate to ask God for His mercy.

"There are people who are afraid to go to confession, forgetting that they will not encounter a severe judge there, but the immensely merciful Father" (Pope Francis)

If you cannot make it that evening, please phone the office to book for your appointment.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

- Friday Dec 24, 2021: **Christmas Eve Mass at 8:00 pm** (Children receive 1st Holy Communion)
- Saturday Dec 25, 2021: Christmas Day: **No Mass in Revelstoke**
- Sunday December 26, 2021: Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph : **Mass at 2:00 pm**
- Saturday January 1st, 2022: New Year Day, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation) **Mass at 9:00 am and no Saturday evening Mass**
- Sunday January 2nd 2022: Epiphany of the Lord, **Mass at 2:00 pm**

PER-ORDER HOMEMADE FOOD ITEMS

The following is available for order. Please phone the vendor directly:

- Call Mindy Brugman at 250 837-7070 for Apple Strudel (Vienna style)- \$10/ 3 servings

To date, those who made homemade food items have raised \$2797 with more yet to come in. To date the non-bakers have brought in \$550 have raised.

PRE-CHRISTMAS PARISH RAFFLE - DRAW DATE - DECEMBER 12

Thank you to these businesses for generously donating gift cards for our upcoming raffle.

FIRST PRIZE: Regent, Zalas, Save-On, Southside and Daspys (\$362 value)

SECOND PRIZE: Hillcrest, Emos, Southside, Save-On. and Rev. Family Pharmacy (\$300 value)

Contact Marisa for ticket books (250 837-4139)

RECEPTION AFTER SUNDAY MASS - DECEMBER 12

Join us in the parish centre for coffee and refreshments after mass next Sunday. The draw for the parish raffle will be made at this time. Don't forget to turn in your tickets before the draw.

Christmas Flowers Offering

Each year as we gather to celebrate Christmas Eve, our sanctuary is enhanced by poinsettias, trees, and greens. Your generosity makes this possible. Your gift may be made in memory of or in thanksgiving for God's blessings. If you want to offer these gifts to the Church, please send a note to the office and then bring them to the Church **no later than December 20, 2021**. The Decoration Day will be on December 21, 2021.

Pilgrimage of Faith – 2021

2021 Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal: Journeying Together in Faith & Hope. We have had 24 families donate to Our Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal. **Our goal for 2021 is \$10,850 and we have raised \$13,100 which is currently 120% of the total.** Thank you for your generous contribution to this Diocesan program. The parish got **\$ 2,250** back from the amount above.

The parish is also thankful to the Knights of Columbus council # 4721, who contributed the amount of **\$ 5,000** to reach our goal.

The 2022 Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal with the theme: "**Walking with Jesus, Our Hope and our Salvation**" will begin on January 1, 2022

If you have any announcements you wish to include in the Bulletin, please contact the Church office by noon on Thursdays. Email: sanfran@telus.net or call 250 837-2071

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