

**Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 24, 2017
Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
December 31, 2017
Mass Schedule Dec 25, 2017 – Jan 7, 2018**

Mon 10:30am	Christmas Day	Parishioners
Tues 7pm	NO MASS	
Wed 9:30am	NO MASS	
Thurs 9:30 am	NO MASS	
Fri 9:30am	NO MASS	
Sat 5pm	John Walsh; DM Edwards Family; Margaret Lacey	Sanctuary Candle: Frank Fleming
Sun Dec 31		
10:30 am	Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph	Parishioners
5 pm	Mary the Holy Mother of God	Parishioners
Mon Jan 1		
10:30 am	Mary the Holy Mother of God	Parishioners
Tues 7pm	Margaret Lacey; Jessica Powell; Maureen Power-Meaney	
Wed 9:30am	Patrick Moore; Imelda & Bernard Farrell; Larry Follett	
Thurs 9:30am	DM Legion of Mary; DM Brien & Carter Families; Frank Collins & Doris Ennis DM	
Fri 9:30am	Patrick O'Flaherty; Frank Densmore; Loretta Kelly	
Sat 5pm	Parishioners	Sanctuary Candle: Robert, Helen & Andy Keough
Sun 10:30am	Charles McCarthy; Frank Fleming; Cyril & Victoria Hayes	

Sacrament of Penance: Saturday, 4:15pm
Sacrament of Baptism: 2nd Saturday & last Sunday of each month. Baptismal preparation course 1st Thurs of every month. Contact parish office for registration.
Sacrament of Marriage: Six months' notice required. Speak with pastor before making any plans.

Vocations: "Be it done unto me according to your word". Docile obedience to the Lord's will is the fruit of humble prayer. If God is inviting you to a deeper consecration as a priest, brother or sister, call Father Jeff Kolonel at (709)745-8183 or Father Ray Earle (709)488-2525 or email: vocations@rcsj.org

We ask that you remember the sick in your prayers... Austin O'Brien, Robert Rowe, Arden Kennedy, Catherine Lang, Jeffery Nofall, Toby Peters, Stephen Sullivan, Mary Perry, Kim Green and Kenneth Tobin
Lord, comfort them in their time of sickness and bless those who care for them.

Offertory Collections

December 17, 2017

Envelopes: \$1,770.00 Loose: \$142.20
 SVDP: \$187.00 Dues: \$6,005.00
 Donation: \$1,190.00 Garden Party: \$20.00
 Flowers: \$28.00 Advent Folders: \$260.00

Acknowledged with Thanks!!

2017-2018 Sunday Missals are now available for sale at the parish office at a cost of \$5 each.

Knights of Columbus Bingo: Thursday nights, 8pm. Two Jackpots #1 \$1,000.00; #2 Escalating jackpot **\$4,845.00** - only \$5.00 for 3 cards. Please support your parish.



Volunteers are WELCOME!! If you are interested in volunteering at the Knights of Columbus Bingo please call Mike Collins at 368-8044 or the Parish Office at 368-9751.



Monthly Rosary The K of C will be holding a monthly Rosary on the 1st Tuesday of every month @ 6:30 pm just before Mass at Corpus Christi Church. **The next rosary will be on Jan 2, 2018.** All are welcome!

Keep CHRIST in Christmas



Relic of St. Francis Xavier A major relic of St. Francis Xavier is coming to Canada from Rome. Relic veneration will be on **Fri, Jan 5th at the Basilica of St. John the Baptist**, Mass @ 12:10 p.m followed by relic veneration. Archdiocesan celebration of Prayer Service, Confessions and Veneration of the Relic @ 7pm. St. Francis Xavier was a famous Jesuit missionary to India and Japan. It is said that he was the greatest missionary since St. Paul the Apostle. It is rare that this relic leaves its usual home, and so this is a unique opportunity to venerate and to thank God for the work of this great missionary.

Expression of Thanks The Family of Bernard O'Dwyer wishes to thank all those who sent mass cards and condolences during their time of grief. Your kind thoughts and gestures were greatly appreciated.

Christmas Office Hours

Closed 4pm Friday Dec 22 and will re-open Tues Jan 2 at 10am.

Any 2017 year end donations must be received by the parish office prior to closure on Dec 22 or donations can be placed in the church offertory no later than Dec 31, 2017. In compliance with CRA regulations, any Donations received after Dec 31, 2017 will be reflected on your 2018 tax receipt.

Christmas Masses

Sat Dec 23 5 pm
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Christmas Eve
 Sun Dec 24
 7 pm & 10 pm
The Nativity of the Lord

Christmas Day
 Mon Dec 25
 10:30 am
The Nativity of the Lord

New Year's Masses

Sat Dec 30 – 5pm
Feast of the Holy Family

Sun Dec 31
 10:30 am
Feast of the Holy Family
New Year's Eve
 5 pm
Mary the Holy Mother of God

New Year's Day
 Mon Jan 1 – 10:30am
Mary the Holy Mother of God

Please note: All masses for the Lord's Day will be anticipated Masses, celebrated on Saturday evening Dec 23. Therefore, the above mentioned Christmas Masses will be the only Masses celebrated after Sundown on Christmas Eve Dec 24.

Christmas Flowers for the Church If you would like to make a donation please drop by the Office or you can include it with your weekly offertory.



*Corpus Christi
Catechetical Program*

Families of all ages and levels of sacramental readiness are welcome and encouraged to attend. So, whether your child is young, old, toddler or teen, not



ready for sacraments, exploring readiness for sacraments, has celebrated some or even all three of these sacraments, our parish FFF sessions are open to all and are a wonderful way to deepen our relationship Our next family Faith Session, exploring the Epiphany, will go ahead on Sunday Jan 14 @

4pm in the parish Centre. Any questions or concerns, please contact Maria Delahunty-O'Brien delahunty_obrien@yahoo.com



World Youth Day – Panama The next World Youth Day will be held in Jan 2019 in Panama. This pilgrimage is for young adults, aged 18-35 and the theme will be "I am the servant of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." (Lk 1:38). If you would like more info on this pilgrimage, please contact Sara at sbroderick@rcsj.org

2018 Collection Envelopes The 2018 collection envelopes are now available for pick up at the back of the church.

Renewal Plan Update The implementation of the Archdiocesan Renewal Plan, "A Promise of New Life...Courage to Renew" has begun. We have hired a full-time Coordinator, Mr. Peter Whittle and a new Implementation Committee, with Monsignor Francis Puddister as Chair and Dr. Rick Singleton as Co-chair, in moving the challenging process forward. Discussions in the first Zone - St. John's East (St. Pius X, Mary Queen of Peace, St. Paul's and St. Francis of Assisi) are going very well. We will begin work with the Mount Pearl – Gould's- Petty Harbour and CBS zones in January. Your support of this process will ensure the renewal of pastoral life in our Archdiocese. We pray for the courage and guidance of the Holy Spirit and thank all of those involved in the planning and implementation process for their dedication. For more information and further updates go to www.rcsj.org.



Christmas Message 2017

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In the hustle and bustle that leads up to our celebration of Christmas, many of us find ourselves asking, "What's it all about?" We sometimes wonder in the rush, the stress and the hurry, whether we have somehow missed the real meaning of it all. I have been pondering that question myself as I prepare for Christmas, and I hope that some of my reflections might help you to enter more fully into this celebration of the birth of Christ, the Prince of Peace.

Christmas is, first and foremost, about Love, God's Love. How much does God love us? God loves us so much that God gave us the most precious gift imaginable, Jesus, God's own Son. That's the heart of Christmas.

This great and wonderful love calls us to love one another. We share love in and through our human relationships. Love isn't always a warm and cozy feeling; love is a commitment and a decision to stick by others, come what may, through thick and thin, when the going is easy and when the going gets more challenging. The love that we share in our human relationships is a reflection of the love of God, calling us to give of ourselves for others.

At Christmas, we remember that Jesus was born in poverty, in a stable among the poorest people and the farm animals. What does this mean for us today? You and I are called to look for the face of Christ in the poor, those at our own door and in places far from here. Love can look like a cup of coffee offered, a hand held, a smile shared, and a story heard. I firmly believe that, in the end, we will be judged by how we care for the poor.

And Christmas is also about repentance and forgiveness. Love takes commitment and work, and sometimes we don't get it right. We're not perfect. But with God there is mercy and forgiveness, and second chances. And so must we offer those gifts to others. Christmas is a time of renewal, of fresh starts and coming together.

We often hear the phrase "Keep Christ in Christmas" and we wonder how to do that. I think that Jesus himself gave us the best insight; if you want to keep Christ in Christmas, look around you, and look for Him. He is here. Feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, forgive the guilty, welcome the stranger, care for the sick, visit the imprisoned, and love your enemies. "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

Merry Christmas to you!

In Christ,
Most Reverend Martin W. Currie, D.D.
Archbishop of St. John's