

## *Third Sunday of Advent – Gaudete Sunday*

*Bulletin for 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2023*



### OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS PARISH

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### ST. CHRISTOPHER'S PARISH

Main St. Highway 99, Mount Currie, BC

### ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

1360 Pemberton Farm Road West, Pemberton, BC V0N 2L0

Pastor: Fr. Andrew L'Heureux Cell: 1-778-257-4203

**Adoration and Confession – OLOM – Friday 7:00-8:00pm**  
**Simbang Gabi starts – OLOM – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 5:00pm**

## *Third Sunday of Advent – Gaudete Sunday*

• [Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11](#) • [Psalm Luke 1](#) • [1 Thessalonians 5:16-24](#) • [John 1:6-8, 19-28](#) •

When St. Paul tells us to “rejoice always”, *1 Thessalonians 5:16*, it might seem that he is asking the impossible. How can we always feel joyful? Isn't this too much to ask, even today, on Gaudete (or “Rejoice”) Sunday?

Not according to St. Thomas Aquinas! He taught us “joy is caused by love”, *Summa Theologiae II-II, q. 28*.

As we experience God's love for us, we grow in love for him—and this exchange of love is what produces joy in us. St. Paul also knew that God's love was the secret to joy, which is why he follows up his exhortation to “rejoice always” with specific steps that we can take to experience his love more deeply: First, ***pray without ceasing***, *1 Thessalonians 5:17*. When we open our heart to God throughout the day, he fills it with his very self. The experience of his unconditional love and unending mercy ignites our love in return.

Second, ***in all circumstances give thanks***, *1 Thessalonians 5:18*. Gratitude also deepens our love for God, especially when we reflect on who he is and what he has done for us. And in this Advent season, whatever our circumstances, we can thank God for sending his Son to earth to become one of us.

Finally, ***do not quench the Spirit***, *1 Thessalonians 5:19*. In his Letter to the Romans, St. Paul tells us that “the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit” *5:5*. If we want more joy in our lives, we can ask the Spirit to stir up the love of God in our hearts. And when he does, we can express it by praising him—which will, in turn, increase our joy.

Joy is not just for Gaudete Sunday; it's for every day. So each day, follow Paul's advice: turn to the Lord in prayer, thank him for all he has done for you, and ask him to fill you with more of his Spirit. Then praise him—and let your spirit soar!

*the Word among us, Dec 2023*

***“Lord, shower me with your love today so that my heart swells with joy!”***

### ***Fr. Pierre Leblond's Mission and Confession, 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> December*** ***Unlocking Your God-Given Potential***

Fr. Pierre Leblond will be in Whistler, Mt. Currie and Pemberton for his Advent Mission – Unlocking Your God-given Potential – with prayer and reflection on Holy Scripture in preparation for the Season of Advent.

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December: St. Christopher's, 11:00 am, followed by Confession

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December: Our Lady of the Mountains, 6:30 pm followed by Confession.

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December: St. Francis of Assisi, 6:00 pm followed by Confession.

# Mass Times

## Sunday Mass

Our Lady of the Mountains	Saturday	5:00 pm	Rosary at 4:30 pm
Our Lady of the Mountains	Sunday	9:00 am	Rosary at 8:30 am
St. Christopher's Mt. Currie	Sunday	11:30 am	
St. Francis of Assisi, Pemberton	Sunday	1:00 pm	

## Daily Mass

Our Lady of the Mountains	Sunday	6:30 pm	Simbang Gabi
Our Lady of the Mountains	Monday to Friday	at 6:30 pm, Saturday 9:00 am	
Adoration and Confessions	Friday	7:00 – 8:00 pm	
St. Francis of Assisi, Pemberton	Wednesday and Friday	at 11:00am	

## Our Lady of the Mountains

Rosary before Mass on Saturdays and Sundays: for those who have left the Church  
Bible Study on Tuesdays at 5:00pm – all welcome

**Sacrament of Reconciliation – Contact Fr. Andrew L'Heureux**  
Cell: 1-778-257-4203

## MASS LECTORS



### Our Lady of the Mountains

**Sat. 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec** Priscilla  
**Sun. 24<sup>th</sup> Dec** Heidi

### St. Christopher's

**Sun. 24<sup>th</sup> Dec** Volunteer  
**7:00pm** required

### St. Francis of Assisi

**Sun. 24<sup>th</sup> Dec** Cheryl  
Marcus

See attached sheet for  
**OLOM Christmas Mass**  
**Ministries. Contact the**  
**office to sign up or check**  
**the notice board**

## Gaudete Sunday



The Third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is Latin for "Rejoice" which is the first word of the Entrance Antiphon for this Sunday.  
We make use of the liturgical colour rose as a sign of our approaching joy

## Online Advent Resource Programs

- <https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/advent/best-advent-ever.html>
- <https://watch.formed.org/advent-1https://coaching.reallifecatholic.com/>
- <https://hallow.com/>
- <https://praymoreretreat.org/https://amenapp.org/>

## Simbang Gabi

Simbang Gabi starts Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 6:00pm. Daily Mass from 17<sup>th</sup> December will be at 6:30pm. Sign-up sheet is on the kitchen noticeboard.

## Christmas Hampers

Yes, it's that time of year again! Christmas Hampers! This year, Our Lady of the Mountains is staying closer to home to sponsor families in need in our own communities of Mt. Currie and Pemberton. Please choose a label from the hampers to select a gift for you to donate. Gift cards would also be gratefully appreciated from stores such as:

- o Pemberton Valley supermarket
- o Nesters Market
- o The Independent
- o Fresh St. Market



If donating cash is easier, that works too! We will purchase any missing items.

GIFTS NEED TO BE DONATED BY MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER FOR WRAPPING, THANK YOU

## Tax Receipt 2023 reminder for parishioners



Faith in Action and Parish donations must be received at the parish by **12:00 noon on Friday, 29th December**. This includes e-transfer donations. Donations may be mailed to the parish or the Chancery office **post-marked no later than 31st December** to be eligible for 2023 tax receipt. All donations received after 12 noon on Friday, 29th December, or post marked later than 31st December, will go towards the 2024 Tax receipt.

## Office Hours

**Monday to Thursday 9:30am-3:00pm**  
**In important or urgent matters, call:**  
**Fr. Andrew, cell: 1-778-257-4203**



## Donations / New Church Pledge Form

Pledge Forms in support of building the new church are available via this QR code and on our website at <https://whistlercatholicchurch.ca/>