



Sunday, December 24, 2023

Pastor: Rev. John Rathinaswamy p.p.
Email: pastor@stfrancisnewcastle.ca
Reconciliation: Individual confession - Saturday, 3:30pm,
Sunday, 8:30am, 10:30am
Deacon: Rev. Mr. Doug Penn
RCIA/St. Vincent de Paul contact - 365 404 2000
Email: deacon.doug.penn@gmail.com
Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Patricia Elcome
Email: office@stfrancisnewcastle.ca
The parish office is closed next week.

Contact Information for Parish Organizations

Parish Pastoral Team
Sylvia Vanhaverbeke: sylvia@syvan.com
Knights of Columbus
Fred Horvath: fredhorvath09@gmail.com
Women’s Guild
Dennie Radcliffe: dennieradcliffe@gmail.com
Life Group
Lynn Jeffs: jeffam@hotmail.com
Prayer Group
Tony J. Baptiste: tmjno@me.com

Children’s Liturgy
Susan Samulski: susan.samulski@gmail.com

Music Ministry
David Komel: komabaloo@yahoo.com

Lectors/Readers
Joachim Baur: jbaur@sympatico.ca

Ushers (Hospitality Ministry)
Rose Pandey: rosario.pandey46@gmail.com

Offertory Counters
Karen Wilson: karenw57@rogers.com

Readings for Christmas Day

1st Reading: Isaiah 52: 7-10
2nd Reading: Hebrew 1: 1-16
Gospel: John 1.1-18



Homebound Visit

If you are aware of someone homebound and would appreciate a visit and Communion, please call the office.

Financial Information

Deposit	December 16/17
Offertory	\$1,847.00
Capital Fund	1,455.00
Women’s Guild	1,000.00
Poinsettia	330.00
Window Donations	20.00
Missals	90.00
TOTAL	\$4,742.00

Mass Schedule & Intentions (Dec. 24 – Jan. 7)

Sunday, December 24, 4:00 pm
For Brenda Palewandrem (Tisi) (RIP) by Aunt Liliane
Sunday, December 24, 8:00 pm
For Ron Radcliffe (RIP) requested by Dennie Radcliffe
Monday, December 25, 10:00 am
Mass for the People
Tuesday, December 26 – Friday, December 29 –
No Weekday Masses (Fr. John is away)
Saturday, December 30 – 4:00 pm
For the deceased members of the McSweeney Family requested by Marg & Gary McSweeney
Sunday, December 31 – 9:00 am
Mass for the People
Sunday, December 31 – 11:00 am
For Gabriel Espinosa (RIP) & Bienvenido Mapaye (RIP) and requested by Rose Pandey

****NO NEW YEAR’S EVE VIGIL MASS****
New Year’s Day - Monday, January 1, 2024 – 10:00 am
Mass for the People
Tuesday, January 2 – Friday, January 5
No Weekday Masses (Fr. John is away)
Saturday, January 6 – 4:00 pm
Mass for the People
Sunday, January 7 – 9:00 am
For Teresita Vincencio (RIP) by Maria Farolan & Family
Sunday, January 7 – 11:00 am
For Joe Golobic (RIP) by St. Francis Knights of Columbus Council 11268

Dear Friends,
As I write my Christmas message this year, a profound sense of gratitude fills my heart. I find myself surrounded by abundant blessings - a supportive and faith-filled community, flourishing friendships, good health, warm hospitality, and the loving guidance of God.
May this Christmas season bring us pure joy—a time for self-forgiveness and extending forgiveness to our loved ones for their human imperfections. Let us redirect our focus towards the precious gifts bestowed upon us by God. Let us truly appreciate the laughter, the music, breaking bread together, and the message of pure and unconditional love brought to us in a manger so long ago.
In my experience here at our parish, the Holy Spirit is actively inspiring and propelling us forward to embrace the culture of our faith. It's a team effort, and we are all one in the spirit.
I extend my heartfelt thanks to those who sent Christmas greetings, cookies, and financial contributions. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are genuinely appreciated. My daily prayers continue to be dedicated to your well-being, especially for those suffering from illness, the loss of a loved one, or financial concerns. Let us be a tremendous support to one another in these unpredictable times, relying on our shared faith to endure the challenges that come our way.
This is my first time preparing to go to the Philippines for my holiday immediately after Christmas, and I ask for your prayers. I will return to the parish in the last week of January.
May the blessings and love of the Christ child accompany you not only during this festive season but throughout the year. May the upcoming New Year be meaningful, bringing you success and satisfaction in all your endeavors. I extend my wishes for God's beautiful blessings to grace your Christmas and a prosperous New Year in 2024.
Happy New Year!
Yours in Christ, *Fr. John Rathinaswamy*

Fr. John – Vacation Coverage

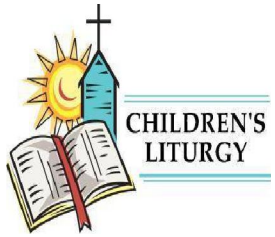
Saturday, December 30 – 4pm – Fr. Darlington
Sunday, December 31 – 9am & 11am – Fr. Paul Hogan
Monday, January 1 – 10am – Fr. Darlington
Saturday, January 6 – 4pm – Fr. Darlington
Sunday, January 7 – 9am & 11am – Fr. Paul Hogan
Saturday, January 13 – 4pm – Fr. Darlington
Sunday, January 14 – 9am & 11am
Fr. Stephen Van Massenhoven
Saturday, January 20 – 4pm – Fr. Darlington
Sunday, January 21 – 9am & 11am – Fr. Darlington

Bishop’s Christmas Message 2023

Dear Friends in Christ,
An Advent season of just three weeks has not given us very much time to heed the call of St. John the Baptist to “prepare the way of the Lord.” This shortened runway has probably meant that we have been busier than ever in the lead-up to Christmas, maybe even more frazzled than usual, and not as ready spiritually as we would like to be. The Christmas rush seems to get ever more rushed, and we do our best to manage it all.
What a consolation then, to remember that Christmas is not so much about what we do, but about what God has done for us. Cardinal John Henry Newman (canonized in 2019) once wrote in a sermon that the special charm of Christmas is that Christ comes to us as our guest. And in that coming, Newman notes “He brightens everything. He does not take away, he adds. He makes the world our home, for he deigns to be the light of it.”
In this busy season, with all that is pressing in on us, may our hearts be attuned to Christ who comes to us as the Son of God, the Word made flesh, the Savior of the World. Let us open our hearts in welcome because, ready or not, here He comes!
May His coming fill our families, churches and communities with light and joy this holy season.
Yours in Christ, *Bishop Daniel Miehme*

Children’s Liturgy

On Christmas Eve (Sunday, December 24 at 4pm) we will be presenting our Christmas Pageant! All children are invited to participate. Costumes are provided and there are no speaking parts or rehearsals. Any questions please contact susan.samulski@gmail.com.



Children’s Bulletin

Parents can access this children’s weekly bulletin to learn about our faith in a fun way. <https://thekidsbulletin.com>

Birthday Wishes & Prayers

We wish God’s Blessings to these parishioners, our loved one’s and those who have gone before us celebrating an Anniversary or Birthday or any special occasion in December/January especially...Michel Tisi, Zenon Samulski, Reinielle Jessica Delos Reyes, Carys Latendresse, Louis & Louise Lalande (Ann), Glenn Elcome, Colleen Kovacs, Robyn Boissoin, Bill Hubert, Kit Boissoin, Mary Kay Wilks, Robert Pandey

