

# Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church

Box 159, 671 Water Avenue, Hope, British Columbia VOX 1L0 (604) 869-5382

Email: ologhope@telus.net Web: ologhope.rcav.org

# Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph December 31, 2023



### Stewardship Reflection

"...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive." Colossians 3:13

Forgiving is one of the hardest things for people to do. We can't give what we don't have. We need to receive God's mercy and forgiveness first before we can give it to others. Go to the sacrament of Reconciliation and receive God's mercy and forgiveness. Then, share the gift of forgiveness with someone — a family member, a friend or a co-worker. Pick up the phone or text someone right now.

## **Prayer Requests**

Please pray for those who are ill or housebound in our Parish family

Sandra Kos, Linda Mageau, Robert De Peter, Bernard Papp, Shelley Simpson, Janet Doxey, Louise Dufresne, Liette Jauniaux Also please pray for all caregivers and the people they care for.

Please pray for those who are deceased

+Emelio Pellegrino +Emilia Perna, +Brian Lloyd

#### TALK TO US

Pastor: Fr. Dennis O. Flores

dflores@rcav.org

Secretary:

ologhope@telus.net (604) 869-5382

#### MASS TIMES

#### **Sunday Mass:**

Saturday Mass of Anticipation - 5:30 pm

Sunday Mass - 8:30 am

#### Weekday Mass:

Tuesday - 9:00 am Wednesday - 9:00 am

#### MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday:** December 30th - 5:30 pm

**Sunday:** December 31st - 8:30 am

THADEUS JOJEWSKI

Monday: January 1st - 11:00 am

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

**Tuesday:** January 2nd - 9:00 am

Wednesday: January 3rd - 9:00 am

**Saturday:** January 6th - 5:30 pm

#### OFFERING COLLECTIONS

Christmas Collection, 2023

Votive Candles: \$53.15 Loose collection: \$207.60 Regular collection: \$695.00 Christmas collection: \$1,700.00

Total: \$ 2655,75

# A Christmas Blessing +

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

With particular concern this Christmas, we turn our gaze to the suffering Holy Land, to Bethlehem. There the Lord came into the world in a stable and was laid in a manger where animals feed on hay, since his parents could find no room in an inn. Let us, then, look at the scene. Mary and Joseph do not seem to be a very fortunate family. Their Child was born in the midst of great hardship. Yet, they are full of profound joy, because they love each other and they are certain that God is at work in this astonishing birth.

And the shepherds? What did they have to rejoice about? That Newborn Infant wasn't going to change their condition of poverty and marginalization. It was their simple faith that helped them to recognize that the Child wrapped in swaddling clothes was the fulfilment of God's promised Saviour for all the people.

God came among us in silence and in the darkness of night. Why like this? Because the Word of God had no need of spotlights or loud human voices. He himself is the Word who gives life its meaning. He is the Light that brightens our path: "The true light, which enlightens everyone" (Jn 1:9). Christ's birth was the victory of the Light over the darkness of evil and sin.

At Christmas we celebrate that our mighty God truly became "Emmanuel," Godwith-us. No barrier or any distance can separate us from him. God is so powerful that he made himself vulnerable and came to us as a defenseless child, so that we might love him. God is so good that he gave up the splendour of his divinity to be born in a stable, so that we might find him. In that Child Jesus, God became so close to us that we are able to speak to him personally and to enjoy a trusting relationship of deep affection with him.

To give a deeper meaning to Christmas, I urge every family to set up a Nativity scene in their home. It is a simple but effective way of passing on the beauty of the faith to your children. Let them experience amazement and wonder at Jesus' birth. The manger helps all of us to ponder in our hearts the mystery of God's love that was revealed in the poverty and simplicity of the Bethlehem stable.

Jesus comes to accompany our daily lives, to share with us in all things: our joys and sorrows, our hopes and fears. Like the shepherds on that silent night, let us set out in haste and allow ourselves to be amazed by the Child lying in a manger who is waiting to welcome us.

With my blessing, prayers and warmest best wishes for a joyous celebration of Christmas, I remain Sincerely yours in Christ,



+ J. Michael Miller, CSB

+ J. Michael Miller, CSB

Archbishop of Vancouver

Please claim also you 2024 Offering envelope, located at the entrance of the church



#### **COFFEE**

Thank you to coffee helpers. We really, really need two or four more helpers. Please let us know if you can help us.

#### **ATTENTION LECTORS**

Lectors (readers) please note the new lists as you come into church.
Thank you.

#### TILL TAPES

We are now saving receipts from both save-on-foods and buy low. For every \$5000.00 in receipts we receive \$20 in grocery gift cards. These cards support the purchase of items for coffee after mass as well as other parish needs. Please either bring them to mass and pin them on the bulletin board going into the meeting room or leave them with me, Linda Mageau. I will take care of adding the receipts and taking them to the stores. Your assistance in this is greatly appreciated.

#### PARISH CONTACT LIST

We would like to create a Parish contact list. Please submit your email and phone number to the parish office or email them to us at ologhope@telus.net

#### **CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE**

## CWL Word of the Week HUMANITY



Love one another. Catholic Women's League members go beyond charitable acts with compassion, love, sympathy and tolerance, seeking out issues of injustice. Come share the

