



# Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church

Roman Catholic Diocese of Nelson

Parish Priest: Fr. Maurice Okolie

839 Sutherland Avenue Kelowna BC V1Y 5X4

Phone: 250-762-3910 | Email: [icc.kelowna@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:icc.kelowna@nelsondiocese.org) | Website: [icckelowna.ca](http://icckelowna.ca)



## December 22nd, 2024 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C

Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Mondays, Weekends & Stat Holidays – offices are **closed**. Please contact office to schedule an appointment.

**CHRISTMAS HOURS:** ICC's offices are **CLOSED** from Monday December 23rd, until Thursday January 2nd 2025.

*Phones will be monitored for Emergencies.*

### WEEKEND AND DAILY MASS TIMES:

Weekdays	Rosary	7:30 AM		Mass:	8:00 AM
Wednesdays	Rosary	4:30 PM		Mass:	5:00 PM
<i>Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena to follow Mass</i>					
Saturdays	Rosary	8:30 AM		Mass:	9:00 AM, & 5:00 PM (Vigil, for Sunday)
Sundays	Rosary	8:30 AM		Mass:	9AM, 11 AM, & 5:00 PM

*First Friday's* **Benediction/Adoration 3:00 PM, Mass 4:00 PM**

**\*Monday of long weekends & Stat. Holidays: Rosary @ 8:30 AM, Mass @ 9:00 AM**

### RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 10:00–11:00 AM, & 3:45–4:45 PM

If you are unable to attend confession during these times, please call office or an appointment: 250-762-3910

**Emergencies Only – 250-762-8445**

### ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2025 MASS SCHEDULE

- Thurs. Jan 16th @ 9:30 am
- Thurs. Feb. 6th @ 9:30 am
- Thurs. Mar. 6th @ 9:30 am  
(Ash Wednesday)
- Thurs. April 24 @ 9:30 am
- Thurs. May 29 @ 9:30 am
- Thurs. June 12 @ 9:30 am

*All are welcome!*

1st Reading: Micah 5.2-5a

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10.5-10

Gospel: Luke 1.39-45

### MASSES AT CARE HOMES

- Village at Mill Creek..... 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month.....9:45 am
- Summerwood Retirement Resort ..... 2nd Tuesday of the month..... 10:00 am
- Cottonwoods ..... 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month ..... 10:30 am
- The Dorchester..... Last Tuesday of the month..... 10:00 am

### KELOWNA AND AREA HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY

For the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick/pastoral emergencies or for end-of-life blessings (Last Rites) please call 250-878-1502 (24/7)

or email: [chaplain@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:chaplain@nelsondiocese.org).

*The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick may be received more than once!!*

### The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for the Month of December:

*For pilgrims of hope.*

*"We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope."*

### 2025 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

The 2025 collection envelopes are ready for pick up in the foyer of the church. Please only pick up your envelope box. If you did not receive collection envelopes in the past and you wish to receive 2025 Offertory Envelopes, or you notice your box is missing, please contact the parish office.

**PLEASE DO NOT use your 2025 envelope until the New Year as it may have a different number than your 2024 envelope.**

### Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedules:

Tuesday Dec. 24	8:00 am	Daily Mass
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>First Mass of Christmas</b>
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Second Mass of Christmas</b>
Wednesday Dec. 25	12:00 am	Midnight Mass
<b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Christmas Day Mass</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Christmas Day Mass</b>
	<b>*** UPDATED: 4:00 pm</b>	<b>Christmas Day Mass *** (livestreamed)</b>
Thursday Dec. 26	9:00 am	Daily Mass
Friday Dec. 27	8:00 am	Daily Mass
Saturday Dec. 28	9:00 am	Daily Mass
	5:00 pm	for Sunday Mass
Sunday Dec. 29	9:00 am	Daily Mass
	11:00 am	Daily Mass
	5:00 pm	Daily Mass
Monday Dec. 30	8:00 am	Daily Mass
Tuesday Dec. 31	8:00 am	Daily Mass
<b>New Years Eve</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Mass –Solemnity of Mary Mother of God</b>
	<b>11:30 pm</b>	<b>Holy hour/Benediction</b>
Wednesday Jan. 1	9:00 am	Mass –Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
<b>New Year's Day</b>	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Mass –Solemnity of Mary Mother of God</b>
	<b>***UPDATED: 4:00 pm</b>	<b>Mass –Solemnity of Mary Mother of God</b>

### *Journey Through Advent Series*

This year's spiritual reflections are delivered by the Most Reverend Frank Leo, Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto (in English), and the Most Reverend René Guay, Bishop of Chicoutimi (in French).

The videos are available on the CCCB Website

In English: <https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-advent/>

The links to the videos, in English and French, will be released on the CCCB website each Monday for the upcoming Sunday celebration.

### USHERS NEEDED For Christmas Mass

Tuesday December 24th 7:00 pm  
 Wednesday December 25th 12:00 am (Midnight)  
 9:00 am 11:00 am & 4:00 pm

### USHERS NEEDED FOR New Years Mass

Tuesday December 31st 5:00 pm  
 Wednesday January 1st 9:00 am, 11:00 am & 4:00 pm

If you are planning to attend one of these mass times and can help, please sign up at Usher's Station in the church foyer, or call the office, 250-762-3910

#### MASS INTENTIONS Repose - R. Intention - I.

Sat.	21-Dec	9:00 AM	I. Tony & Astrid Serka
		5:00 PM	I. St. Vincent de Paul Families
Sun.	22-Dec	9:00 AM	Intentions of Parishioners
		11:00 AM	Intentions of Parishioners
		5:00 PM	R. Holy Souls in Purgatory
Mon.	23-Dec	8:00 AM	R. Arsenia Adrias
Tues.	24-Dec	8:00 AM	Intentions of Parishioners
		4:00 PM	<i>Christmas Mass</i>
		7:00 PM	<i>Christmas Mass</i>
Wed.	25-Dec	12:00 AM	<i>Midnight Mass</i>
		9:00 AM	<i>Christmas Mass</i>
		11:00 AM	<i>Christmas Mass</i>
		4:00 PM	<i>Christmas Mass</i>
Thurs.	26-Dec	9:00 AM	I. Jon & Anna Collins
Fri.	27-Dec	8:00 AM	I. Chrissy & Brady Loseth
		† † † † † † †	
Sat.	28-Dec	9:00 AM	I. Fr. Curtis McKenzie
		5:00 PM	I. Gary Tymofichuk
Sun.	29-Dec	9:00 AM	Intentions of Parishioners
		11:00 AM	Intentions of Parishioners
		5:00 PM	I. Avelina Japos
Mon.	30-Dec	8:00 AM	I. Mafelda Vecchio
Tues.	31-Dec	8:00 AM	I. Maurice & Isabel Matte
		5:00 PM	Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
Wed.	01-Jan	9:00 AM	Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
		11:00 AM	Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
		4:00 PM	Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
Thurs.	02-Jan	8:00 AM	R. Dan Kmet
Fri.	03-Jan	8:00 AM	R. Ante Mekinic
		4:00 PM	R. Maria Serka

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND INJURED:

Bishop Gregory Bittman, Fr. Jim. Ratcliffe, Michael Ward, Teresa McGauley, Chiamaka Aghaizu, Josephine Bruch, Mary Van Verdegen, Diane Lynott, Hazel Csordas, Rihnon Coatsworth, Helen Zentner, Theresa Kaller, Kathleen Mayhew, Jesse Wilson, Bambina Tinto, Anne Mould, John Cornelissen, Rose Harry, Adam Gorges, Joyce Tremmel, Florence Nagy, Sandra Park, Loretta Bouchard, Linda Kirkpatrick, Aggie Turner, Juliana Lavell, Maritess Steiman, Rhonda Jennens, Roy Velmonte, Justina Mikosa, Mildred Reyes, Kathe Gonzaga Carpena, Michelle Miller, Victor Kovac, Phillip Dos Santos, Marlene Hughes, Russ Radi, Dorota Nowak, Chinee Fajardo, Rosario, Luisito & Crispin Clemente, Nancy Brisson, Ginoefa Diakow, Rick Lock, Mertis Filiatrault, Sister Barbara, Candace Gilmore-Stephensen, Anne Engel, Aisley Ducharme, Catherine Fortunat, Michael M, Trudy Szulkies, Cherie Lynn Walsh, Suzanne Crowe, Alicia L, Arthur & Gudrun Cobham, Marcus Cresswell, Ray Pauluk, Desjardines Families, Rachel Donegan, Ernie Poitras.



If you have a loved one that you would like on the prayer list, or if you know of someone who no longer needs to be on the list please contact the Parish Office 250-762-3910 or email [icc.kelowna@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:icc.kelowna@nelsondiocese.org)

#### STEWARDSHIP FOR ICC

#### WAYS TO DONATE:

- QR Code.
- Regular offerings/collection envelopes.
- Pre-Authorized debit (SAG).
- e-Transfer [etransfer.icc@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:etransfer.icc@nelsondiocese.org).



(Scan me here!)

In the message box indicate that you want your donation to go to Sunday Collection, or a Special Collection.

• **Mail your Offerings to:**  
 Immaculate Conception Church  
 839 Sutherland Ave, Kelowna, BC V1Y 5X4

Please call or email our offices to register with our parish, to arrange for weekly ICC Offerings Envelopes, or for SAG Information, 250-762-3910 [icc.kelowna@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:icc.kelowna@nelsondiocese.org)

#### STEWARDSHIP/WEEKLY OFFERINGS, W/E — 12/15/24

Weekly Offerings required	\$ 7,826.00
Sunday Collections	\$ 8,151.89
Offerings received to date	\$ 401,417.46
Offerings Required, to date	\$ 406,952.00
<b>Balance to Date</b>	<b>\$ -5,534.54</b>

*We appreciate your generous support to help us meet our weekly parish budget goal. Thank you for all you give!*

### **FR. SEBASTIAN'S 75TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!!**

Please join us on **Wednesday January 15th** as we celebrate Fr. Sebastian's 75th Birthday!

There will be a Mass of Thanksgiving at 5:00 pm, followed by dinner in the ICC Parish Centre.

Dinner tickets are \$30 each, or \$200 for a table of 8.

Tickets will be available through the Parish Office or Loaves & Fishes Book and Church Supply – 591 Lawrence Ave.



#### **KELOWNA RIGHT TO LIFE SOCIETY**

Kelowna Right to Life will witness to the Sanctity of LIFE on **CHRISTMAS EVE.**

11 - 12 am, @ Pandosy St & Rose Ave., Across from KGH. Join us to welcome Baby Jesus. Keep Christ in Christmas !!

## CHRISTMAS: FAITH, FAMILY AND FRIENDS CELEBRATION

### MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The celebration of Christmas is a special season that reminds us of the importance of faith, family, and friends in our life. The Gospel of Matthew has the story of the genealogy of the messiah, Jesus Christ. It contains different kinds of people we see and encounter in our faith community, in our families, and in society as friends. There is no perfect institution in this world. The visible side of the church is not perfect. No family is perfect. Hence, the need for the messiah. The early Christians experienced the living presence and coming of Jesus with absolute certainty. The mutual greeting was Aramaic “Maranatha” which means “Come Lord Jesus” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2817).

As we gather to celebrate, let us be ready to meet the Lord in our disguised parishioners, family members and friends. The central message for our preparation to celebrate Christmas is repentance. We have to remove all obstacles and make the way straight to receive the Lord. Celebrating Christmas means the affirmation of the present, which becomes fully possible only by remembering the past and expecting more to come in the future. This is why the church is motivating us to appreciate in word and action the presence of our saviour Jesus Christ in history, in mystery, and in majesty. Let us have the determination to serve like Jesus who came to serve not to be served (Matt. 20:28). Our celebration of Christmas must be rooted and grounded in our love for God for our joy to be complete. Of course, if we are motivated by the love of God, no amount of ingratitude will be able to hinder us from serving one another. Love in action is service and where love is, joy is shared and sorrow eased.

One of the overwhelming implications of the incarnation (Jn 1:14) is that God became human so that humans might become God. As children of one family of God, conditions of our relationship include our common experience (being forgiven sinners); our common interest (Jesus whom all Christians want to know, obey and love) and our common goal (to make Christ known to all people). There is only one relationship that really matters, and that is your personal relationship to your personal redeemer and Lord. If you maintain that at all costs, letting everything else go, God will fulfil His purpose through your life. One individual life may be of priceless value to God’s purposes, and yours may be that life.

Christmas is a season of giving gifts because we have all received the greatest gift of redemption. We live in a world where so many people feel entitled to favours. Nobody deserves gifts. Nobody is entitled to favours. Gifts and favours reflect the generosity of the giver, not the worthiness of the receiver. May we celebrate this Christmas as a gift, empowering us to become agents of gifts to other people who may come in contact with us. Let us become channels of peace to all. Let us love as we have been loved by Christ. Let us forgive as we have been forgiven by Christ. Simply put, if we are able to see and encounter every *human* being as Jesus Christ in disguise (Matt. 25:40), we would have made this the best Christmas ever. Our New year will be truly a *New year* if we keep Christ in Christmas, because that is the reason for the season.

FR. MAURICE OKOLIE





## ICC KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS UPCOMING EVENTS

Starting Sunday December 1st:

**KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS** wrist bands will be available for purchase in the church entrance; they are \$2.00 each!

† † † † † † †

### Free 1 Year On-Line Membership

You can enjoy the benefits of being a Knights of Columbus Member, including Accidental Death Benefit and the famous Columbia Magazine. Go to: [www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus)  
Promo Code: **BLESSEDMCGIVNEY**  
After joining, please check your INBOX for confirmation.

### DIOCESE OF NELSON

#### PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL 839 Sutherland Avenue



Located off the back of Immaculate Conception Church; entrance is off west alley/driveway.



Our Lord Jesus is Inviting you to visit Him in the Perpetual Adoration Chapel.

#### Scheduled Volunteer Hours available are:

**SUN:** 7 AM & 4 PM | **MON:** 1 AM & 2 AM | **WED:** 1 AM, 2 AM, 3 AM & 2 PM | **THURS:** 1 AM | **FRI:** 12 AM | **SAT:** 2 PM

Spare are always needed. Shared times available!  
For information phone Lorie: 250-448-5633

### Bishop Emeritus Eugene Cooney

will celebrate his 93<sup>rd</sup> Birthday on Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>!



Due to the prolonged postal strike, arrangements have been made to gather cards and deliver them to him. A clearly marked basket will be available in the church foyer from Sunday December 8th until Sunday December 22nd. These will be delivered to him personally in Calgary for Christmas.



Help to make Bishop Cooney's 93rd birthday and Christmas celebration memorable!!

He will be thrilled to hear from you!  
Include your name & return address inside the card to enable him to correspond.

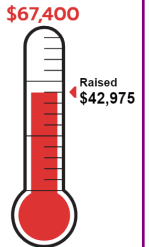
## 2024 PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH APPEAL

Pilgrimage of Faith donations for 2024 and the postal strike.

1. Donations by cheque: Make your cheque payable to your parish and in the memo note that it is for the Pilgrimage of Faith. You can drop it in the Sunday Collection basket. The parish will transfer the funds to the Pilgrimage of Faith.
2. Donations by e-transfer: E-transfer your donation to [etransfer.POF@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:etransfer.POF@nelsondiocese.org) or online via Canada Helps at Canada Helps: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/24360>

Please remember to include your name and parish in the e-transfer memo. NO password is required.

**Diocese Goal for ICC:.....\$67,400.00**  
**Donations received to date:..\$42,975.25**



**Balance Remaining:.....\$24,424.75**

*70 Families/households participating.*

This annual appeal provides funding for capital project rebates, Catholic education, social and pastoral programs, and many other key services in our Diocese as well as to our parish.

Thank you to those who have supported our 2024 Appeal.



Sign-up information is in the church entrance!

To find this week's featured content, visit [watch.formed.org/this-week-on-formed](http://watch.formed.org/this-week-on-formed).

### WEEK OF DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>

- † **The Story of Christmas | Benjamin Cello Christmas Special**  
<https://watch.formed.org/videos/the-story-of-christmas-benjamin-cello-christmas-special>
- † **O Holy Night - Christmas with the Annie Moses Band**  
<https://watch.formed.org/videos/o-holy-night-annie-moses-band>
- † **Mary's Labor: What Does Catholic Tradition Have to Say?**  
<https://watch.formed.org/videos/mary-s-labor-what-does-the-church-teach-catholic-commentary-on-the-chosen>

### FAITH OF THE FATHERS READING GROUP

that Faith Of The Fathers will not be in session for the following dates: December 18, 2024, December 25, 2024 and January 1, 2025  
We will return to meetings starting January 8, 2025

Please contact Charlie Parker at [fotfkelowna@gmail.com](mailto:fotfkelowna@gmail.com) for further information.

### NDCRS YOUTH JUBILEE 2025

#### PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

July 23 – August 6, 2025

High School Students & Young Adults

\*\*Limited Space Available\*\*

Rome, Assisi, Naples, Sorrento

See bulletin board, or scan the QR Code, for more details!



Sponsored by: Nelson Diocese Catholic Renewal Services

### UPCOMING DINNER/DANCES @ ICC PARISH CENTRE

All tickets are available through Loaves & Fishes, 591 Lawrence Ave | 250-868-8933



#### NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER / DANCE

Tuesday December 31<sup>st</sup>

Doors open @ 6:00 (refreshments)

Dinner @ 7:30 | Dancing 8:45 pm – 1:00 am

Midnight snacks

Music by Vic Dance Band

Tickets are \$80 per person (non-refundable)



### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact the Parish Office **FIRST** when enquiring about your child's baptism. ***At least one Parent and all Godparents must be actively practicing Catholics.***

We ask that you call or email the office **at least 6 WEEKS prior** to your requested date to ensure time for your preparation.

### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

As a Catholic, the most important part of preparing for the sacrament of marriage is asking Jesus to be at the center of the marriage.

In preparation of this special sacrament we ask that you contact the office **at least 6 MONTHS prior** to your requested wedding date.

### THE ORDER OF SECULAR FRANCISCANS



a lay order of men and women within the Catholic Church, who live the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the charism of St Francis and Clare of Assisi, gather monthly for prayer, faith formation and fellowship. You are invited to ***Come and See!***

The Little Flowers of St Francis Fraternity gathers on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 1:00 pm at ***Our lady of Lourdes Parish in West Kelowna.***

For more information, contact  
**Sandy Kavanagh (250) 212-3596**

### SECULAR ORDER OF DISCALCED CARMELITES (OCDS)



Carmelite Seculars, together with the Friars and Nuns, are sons and daughters of the Order of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and of St. Teresa of Jesus. As a result, they share the same charism with the religious, each according to their particular way of life. It is one family with the same spiritual possessions, the same call to holiness (cf Eph 1.4; 1Pet 1:15) and the same apostolic mission. Secular members contribute to the Order the benefits proper to their secular state of life (Constitutions #1).

For more information please contact  
**Laurent 1-778-212-1945**  
**or Loretta 250-448-5633**

### HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT LEAVING A LEGACY?

For more information or assistance contact the Diocesan Appeals Office at the Catholic Pastoral Centre.  
Phone: 250-448-2725 ext. 240,  
or email: [plannedgiving@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:plannedgiving@nelsondiocese.org)

### ICC – OFFICE, VOLUNTEER “GREETERS” NEEDED

The ICC Office is looking for a couple of volunteer “Greeters” from 8:30 am–12:30 pm Tuesdays and Fridays.

Please call or email the parish office 250-762-3910 or [icc.kelowna@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:icc.kelowna@nelsondiocese.org) for more details!

### MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Are you getting married in the Catholic Church?  
Marriage prep sessions have begun at St. Pius X for the fall.

Please contact **St. Pius X Parish** 250.762.2587, Deacon Peter d’Aoust or Lynn Hale for more information  
[lhaledaoust2012@gmail.com](mailto:lhaledaoust2012@gmail.com) or phone 250-460-0378

### OTHER LOCAL PARISHES NEWS & EVENTS:

**ST. PIUS X** 1346 Gordon Drive | (250) 762-2587

[spxkelowna@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:spxkelowna@nelsondiocese.org)

- ◆ **ALPHA YOUTH SERIES** – Sunday evenings, 4:30–6:30, St.Pius X Parish Hall call 250-762-2587 or 250-231-3838 to register.
- ◆ **ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE** – Mondays at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall.

**CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH** 750 Rutland Road N | (250) 765-6869

[ccpkelowna@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:ccpkelowna@nelsondiocese.org)

- ◆ **FILIPINO MASS** celebrated at 5:00 PM every **FIRST Saturday of the month.**

**ST. CHARLES GARNIER** 3645 Benvoulin Road | (250) 860-6776 |

[scgkelowna@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:scgkelowna@nelsondiocese.org)

- ◆ **CATHOLIC MOMS CONNECT: Wednesdays, 9:30–11:00 am** St. Charles Garnier Hall. Please contact Abbey at 250-899-4384 for details, or join their Facebook Group at [facebook.com/groups/CatholicMomsConnectSCG](https://facebook.com/groups/CatholicMomsConnectSCG)

### REGISTRATION

#### **New to the Parish? Change of address?**

Please fill in the form below to register or change your present registration. Place in collection basket, return to the Parish Office

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Offertory Envelopes?? Yes \_\_\_\_ Not now \_\_\_\_

Emailed Bulletin Copy? Y/N

**We are so glad that you are here with us  
to love and serve Jesus in deep unity!**