



St. Gabriel's Passionist Parish

Christmas 2020

Dear Good People,

I pray and hope this message reaches you and your family in good health and spirit. It is almost a year that the global pandemic has put important aspects of our life—physical well-being, family, occupation, community, society—in perilous conditions. We are rendered helpless against daily counts of infections and the harrowing number of fatalities worldwide. We are inconvenienced by necessary measures like distancing, closure of businesses, and suspension of social and religious affairs. More troubling is the fact that no one can tell us when this will end and, even more troubling, this may be the new normal.

As your pastor, I am earnestly concerned of the pandemic's direct impact on you and our community. I yearn to reach out to all vulnerable: our elderly who live alone, those whose mental health are affected by the pandemic, and more. I have also endeavored to give comfort to all parents struggling to find balance between putting food on the table (through work) and taking care of children whose classes have to be done online at home.

We have lost a great deal in these Covid times. Parishioners have missed gathering in church to express their faith. We are prevented from gathering on special events like birthday, a baby's baptism, a child's First Holy communion, confirmation or a wedding. On the side of pastoral administration, we have mounting bills to pay as you do. Our church life is brought to a standstill.

We are all in this together. As people of faith and believer in higher goodness and truth, we are far bigger than this crisis. We move on with hope, resilience, and trust in God. Together, we choose to continue living as Church—being one in relentlessly making God's reign alive. At this, we approach the Christmas season with sustained confidence on the Lord Incarnate. The Word made flesh shall remain the pivot of our life and mission despite these precarious and uncertain times.

I take this opportunity to give my heartfelt thanks to all those who continued to drop off their envelopes and sent donations. You have tremendously helped us in maintaining our church and covering our operational expenses and utility bills. I also humbly appeal to you for more help as your means allow. We are all facing financial struggles, so we can only unite and collectively support the upkeep of our parish.

There are several ways you can donate. You may drop your envelopes off at the parish office, or you may consider signing up for Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG). Forms are available online and at the parish office. If you would like to donate with your credit card, you may visit our parish website www.stgabrielparish.ca and follow the instruction by clicking on the "Offertory Donation by Credit Card" button on the right of the webpage.

We continue to pray that we all get through this pandemic. We are more bonded in our deep faith in God and devotion to our beloved patron, St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother. May the Passion of Christ be ever in our hearts!

Yours fraternally in His Passion,



Fr. Brando Recaña, CP

Christmas Schedule 2020 Subject to Reopening

ADVENT INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION
December 8th to December 11th
By Appointment only

CHRISTMAS EVE – Thursday, December 24th
No 9:00 AM Mass
5:00 PM Mass
7:00 PM Mass
9:00 PM Mass
10:30 PM Mass
12:00 AM Midnight Mass
Office Open – 2:00 PM to 6:30 PM



CHRISTMAS DAY - Friday, December 25th
10:30 AM, 12:30 PM Mass
Office Open – 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM

BOXING DAY – Saturday, December 26th
No 4:30 PM Mass
Office Closed

REGULAR SUNDAY MASSES
Sunday, December 27th, Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus
8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM
Office Open – 7:30 AM to 2:30 PM

Monday December 28th
No 9:00 AM Mass
Office Closed

NEW YEAR'S EVE - Thursday, December 31st
No 9:00 AM Mass
Vigil Mass for Feast of Mary the Holy Mother of God – 5:00 PM
Office Open – 2:00 PM to 6:30 PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY - Friday, January 1st
Feast of Mary the Holy Mother of God
10:30 AM, 12:30 PM
Office Open – 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM

Parking

While parking at ground level is limited to 51 spaces, there is plenty of space in the underground parking lot. Please follow the instructions of the attendants. Do not park in front of the Church since this is a fire route and must be kept clear. Additional parking is available on the east side of Elkhorn Public School and in the bus loop. Again, please follow the instructions of the attendant. The school requests that we do not park on the grass. Many thanks to Holly Richards, the Principal of Elkhorn Public School, for allowing us the use of the school property