



# CHRIST THE REDEEMER

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH • 599 Keith Road, West Vancouver, BC, V7T 1L8

RADIATING THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL WITHIN OUR PARISH FAMILY AND BEYOND

Pastor - Msgr. Gregory Smith

Office Phone - (604) 922-1371

Assistant Pastor - Rev. Jeff Thompson, CSB

Email - [office@ctrwestvan.ca](mailto:office@ctrwestvan.ca)

Parish Website - [www.ctrwestvan.ca](http://www.ctrwestvan.ca)

Flocknote - [flocknote.com/CTRrcav](http://flocknote.com/CTRrcav)

## Baptism of the Lord—January 12, 2020

# 150

## Thanks for Their Time, Talent, Treasure!

**150—this is the number of people who volunteered in our various ministries and events throughout 2019.**

During 2019, our generous volunteers have donated their time, talent, and treasure to ministries and events such as serving and singing at Mass, leading Discovery faith studies, cooking for the Men's Hostel, meeting Christ in prisons and care homes, teaching PREP, beautifying, cleaning, and preparing our church for liturgies, preparing coffee and snacks for Sundays, running Alpha, praying for parishioners, planning parish events, reaching out to our youth, and so much more.

It's a big number, and we're so grateful for everyone who's supported our parish this year. With all the work of parish renewal we've been embarking on, we'll need even more volunteers to join us on this important mission. Challenge yourself this year to begin volunteering even just an hour a month and focus on using your gifts in a way that can help elevate the parish mission!

Stop by the Welcome Centre before and after any Sunday Mass to see how you can get involved, or call and drop into the office during the week. Learn about your spiritual gifts by doing the quiz at [www.ctrwestvan.ca/sgi](http://www.ctrwestvan.ca/sgi).

**Let's get it up to 200 in 2020—commit to being a part of that number!**



## A Glance at Our Parish Calendar

Today	January 12	6:00 p.m.	Youth Ministry— <i>Anchor</i>	Mallon Room
Monday	January 13	7:30 p.m.	Word of God Bible Study	Mallon Room
Tuesday	January 14	7:00 p.m.	Barry Cutler Prayer Vigil	Church
Wednesday	January 15	9:00 a.m.	School Mass	Church
		2:00 p.m.	Barry Cutler Funeral Mass	Church
		7:00 p.m.	Beta	McCarthy Room
Thursday	January 16	9:00 a.m.	Great Adventure Bible Study— <i>Prophets</i>	McCarthy Room
		9:00 a.m.	Knitting for Charity	Mallon Room
		7:00 p.m.	Faith Studies Evening (Pre-Registration Required)	Mallon Room
Friday	January 17	6:00 a.m.	Men's Prayer Group	Church

### Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sun Jan 12	9:00 a.m.	Rev. Msgr. Francis Bickford †	<i>Baptism of the Lord</i>
	11:00 a.m.		
	5:00 p.m.		
Mon Jan 13	8:15 a.m.	Richard Mayer †	
Tues Jan 14	8:15 a.m.	Peter Fensslein †	
Wed Jan 15	9:00 a.m.	Chan Keng Boon †	
Thu Jan 16	8:15 a.m.	Bridget Harrington †	
Fri Jan 17	8:15 a.m.	Louise Yockey †	<i>St. Anthony, Abbot</i>
Sat Jan 18	9:00 a.m.	Connie Dwyer †	<i>Our Lady's Saturday</i>
Sun Jan 19	9:00 a.m.	Jane Smith †	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
	11:00 a.m.		
	5:00 p.m.		



### 2020 Envelopes Available

Your 2020 Sunday Contribution envelopes are **now available for pickup** in the church foyer. See the Welcome Centre if you weren't assigned envelopes and would like to.



### Discovery

No matter where you're at in your faith journey, the Discovery faith study series is for you. Jesus desires a personal relationship with you. Come explore what this means for us through six weeks of small-group discussion. **The next Discovery faith studies begin this Thursday, January 16 at 7 p.m.** Pre-registration is required: visit the Discovery table in the foyer or email [Discovery@ctrwestvan.ca](mailto:Discovery@ctrwestvan.ca).

### Confession Schedule

Wednesdays	8:45—9:00 a.m.
Saturdays	9:30—10:00 a.m.
Sundays	4:15—4:45 p.m.

### We Continue to Pray For

*Kenneth Beesley, Ron Buziol, Veronica Chan, Leo Dy, Ted Ewbank, Mireille Farwagi, Hank Giefing, Germaine Guay, Gemma Konar, Annie Mackenzie, Margaret McCormick, Juanita Nazareth, Eduardo Peralta, Graham Ridsdale, Breda Sheehan, Theresa Sheehan, Linwood Trask, Molly Waechter, Denise Wild, and Terry Zweng*

### Pray for the Repose of the Soul

We pray for the repose of the souls of all those on the recent air disaster in Iran, especially Soheila Moshref Razavi Moghaddam, from West Vancouver.



### In Memoriam

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Dr. Barry King Cutler**. His funeral Mass will be celebrated here on **Wednesday, January 15 at 2 p.m.** Vigil prayers will be held at the parish on **Tuesday, January 14 at 7 p.m.**



### St. Thomas Aquinas

STA will be holding an Open House for all prospective students on **Wednesday, February 12**. There will be student led tours from **1:45 to 2:45 p.m.**, and full staff will be attendance in the evening from **6 to 8 p.m.** All students applying for Grade 8 in September 2020 should pre-register with **Barbara Dougan** at [bdougan@aquinas.org](mailto:bdougan@aquinas.org). The **STA Placement Exam** will take place **Friday, February 21 at 8:30 a.m.**

# From Msgr. Smith's Epiphany Homily

Full Homily at <http://gregorynsmith.blogspot.com/2020/01/epiphany-and-stewardship.html>



Why did the Magi bring the newborn Saviour such curious gifts? Saints and scholars have thought about the question over many centuries.

You've heard their rich answers many times: in the first place, these are gifts fit for a king. Gold is an obvious way to pay homage to a ruler. Frankincense, St. Irenaeus wrote in the second century, was used in worship, so it indicated that Jesus was divine. Myrrh was a more complex symbol: it was used for embalming, so it symbolized that the child was born to die.

I want to ask how the wise men decided on those three gifts. Did they know Jesus was our King, God come to die for us? Surely not.

The answer, if we accept the powerful meaning of the gold, frankincense and myrrh, is that they were divinely inspired to bring those treasures.

The lesson, it seems to me, is that there are two aspects to our important decisions. The first is looking at the needs. The second is asking God to guide us. Of course both ways can work together. Discovering the right thing to do usually begins by figuring out what needs to be done.

It's been a few years since we talked about stewardship in the parish. We've been hearing more about discipleship. But stewardship is discipleship. It means striving to put God first in all things and to follow where he leads.

This celebration of the Lord's Epiphany is a perfect time to think about stewardship and to ask God to guide our decisions, especially our spiritual decisions, as the New Year begins.

Most of you will remember the simple formula for Christian stewardship: time, talent and treasure. No less than at the time of Jesus, following God asks us to offer him our three T's, treasure, time and talent. Not only because we see needs all around us—although that's important too—but because by reflection and prayer we've come to know what God wants of us.

Time is the most precious commodity in our hectic modern lives. It's the gift God wants most

from us. He's not asking for all our time—he knows the demands you have to juggle at home, work or school. But he wants—he needs—some of our time. A planned commitment of time to prayer, service and sharing.

Talent is a backbone of any community. We don't all have the same gifts. But in the parish we have all the gifts needed, as long as everyone shares the natural and supernatural gifts God has blessed them with. Christmas at Christ the Redeemer is an absolute showcase of talents—parishioners used their artistic, musical, hospitable, charitable and liturgical talents in wonderful ways. But imagine if everyone did the same, finding ways to become actively involved in the life of the parish?

Treasure tends to come last on the stewardship list, although we notice that gold was the first gift the Magi offered at Bethlehem. Maybe it comes last since our financial offerings can often be the easiest gift to share—although never doubt that there are many parishioners who make real sacrifices to support the parish and other good works.

But your financial support is a foundation of our efforts to make Christ's coming known and meaningful—especially to the young and those who have not heard of him. Our efforts at parish renewal simply cannot succeed without your generosity.

This year's Christmas collection was the largest since I arrived in the parish in 2007. I want to think there's a reason for that. More and more we are becoming a community of engaged people—parishioners recognize that we are doing great things together.

I believe the connection between stewardship and discipleship is becoming clearer: as more and more parishioners share their time and talent, it becomes natural to share generously their treasure as well.

The front page of last week's bulletin connects all this to the great feast we're celebrating today. It ends with these wonderful words: "Maybe all we need to know about the Magi is that they made themselves available, they followed and they gave. Today, let's learn from them and maybe we'll have an epiphany of our own."



# Discipleship Goals

Some ideas for a new year and a new decade!

## Sacramental Life

- ❑ Encounter the Lord's mercy — commit to **going to confession once a month**. Confessions are heard at CTR on Wednesdays 8:45—9 a.m.; Saturdays 9:30—10 a.m.; and Sundays 4:15—4:45 p.m.
- ❑ Commit to being **on time for Sunday Mass** and staying until the recessional hymn ends.

## Spiritual Life

- ❑ Expand your prayer life by spending **ten minutes a day** reading **sacred Scripture** using *lectio divina*.
- ❑ Have a **spiritual conversation** with a good friend once a week.
- ❑ Listen to a new podcast instead of the radio or music on your commutes to work. Men can try Brett Powell and Jake Khym's **Way of the Heart**; women—try Heather Khym's **Abiding Together**.
- ❑ Commit to spending **half an hour** with the Lord every week. Our church is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. most days.

## Stewardship

- ❑ Commit to giving at least **one hour of your time a month** to a parish ministry—ideas include the Men's Hostel Outreach, volunteering with the Welcome team, and lectoring at Mass. Start by visiting the Welcome Centre or emailing the parish office at [office@ctrwestvan.ca](mailto:office@ctrwestvan.ca) and we'll connect you!
- ❑ Take the **spiritual gifts inventory** and explore a parish activity that you might not have tried yet—see the inventory at [ctrwestvan.ca/sgi](http://ctrwestvan.ca/sgi).
- ❑ **Increase the financial support** you give to the parish, and/or sign up for **Dedicated Giving**. More info at [ctrwestvan.ca/dedicated-giving](http://ctrwestvan.ca/dedicated-giving) or find us at the Welcome Centre.

## Sharing the Gospel

- ❑ **Encourage a friend or loved one** once a month to join you for **Mass**.
- ❑ **Invite a friend** this year to join you in a **Discovery faith study**. Email [discovery@ctrwestvan.ca](mailto:discovery@ctrwestvan.ca) to get started.



## Beta

Beta is a new connect group for those who have completed Alpha and want to continue the experience of community and discussion focused on the person of Jesus before committing to Discovery Faith Studies or RCIA. Beta runs for **four Wednesday evenings** from January to March, beginning **this Wednesday, January 15 at 7 p.m.** For more info, fill the form at [bit.ly/ctrchristmas](http://bit.ly/ctrchristmas).

## Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults



RCIA is a program for those who would like to become Catholic or learn more about the teachings of the Catholic Church. In RCIA, participants are taken through formation and teaching in preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist) into the Church. RCIA runs **Tuesday evenings at 7 pm.** from January to June 2020, beginning **Tuesday, January 21.** Register at [bit.ly/ctrchristmas](http://bit.ly/ctrchristmas).

## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity



The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is **January 18—25.** In a world marked by diversity in language and culture, we express our Christian faith in diverse ways. During this week we are called to celebrate this diversity and be faithful to Christ's call for the unity of his Church. All are invited to join with brothers and sisters of various churches in prayer, song, and witness to unity as followers of Christ. Learn more at [rcav.org/christian-unity](http://rcav.org/christian-unity).



## Connect with CTR

The parish uses **Flocknote** to connect with you outside of Mass, with the content you want to receive delivered right to your phone or inbox: whether that be alerts and important information from the parish; to emails with faith formation content and emails from different ministries. Join the network at [flocknote.com/CTRRCAV](http://flocknote.com/CTRRCAV).



## Refugee Donations

The Refugee Committee is looking for donations of used cell phones, equivalent of iPhone 6 or higher, for the Gatere Family's use. If you have any old phones that can be wiped and donated, contact Meg Maledy at [mmaledy@shaw.ca](mailto:mmaledy@shaw.ca).



## Catholic Women's League News

Please note that the CWL Annual General Meeting and Mass has been moved to **next Wednesday, January 22**, beginning at **6:30 p.m.** in the church.



## Youth Ministry—Anchor

Teens grades 8—12, join us **today** for Anchor. We'll begin with Mass at 5 p.m., and Anchor will run **6 to 9 p.m.** We'll have food, praise and worship, short testimonies, and of course, open gym and other activities! Stay on top of all of our youth ministry events by following us on Instagram [@ctrwvyouth](https://www.instagram.com/ctrwvyouth).



## Great Adventure Bible Study

Deepen your faith by taking a Bible study! Our Great Adventure Bible Study is currently studying **The Prophets**, every **Thursday morning** beginning at **9:00 a.m.** in the McCarthy Room. All are welcome to join—no pre-registration is required! Beginning February 6, we will begin the study of the **Letter to the Galatians**. For more info contact Jane Curalli at [njcuralli@telus.net](mailto:njcuralli@telus.net).

## Endow: Setting the World Ablaze

*An Eight Week Faith Study for Women*



Join Sr. Angela Marie, FSE and other women in the Archdiocese for an eight week faith study to pray, build community, and learn from the writings of St. Catherine of Siena. The study runs **Friday evenings 6:30—8:30 p.m.** beginning January 10 at the **JPII Centre** (4885 Saint John Paul II Way, Vancouver), and materials costs \$35. For more info email Sr. Angela Marie at [samcastellani@rcav.org](mailto:samcastellani@rcav.org).



## Breathe

*A Catholic Marriage Conference*

Whether you're newly married or have been married for decades, this weekend conference will be a time to breathe new life into your marriage. You'll be given tools to build unity, rediscover joy, and experience peace, and hear life-giving messages and encouraging stories. The conference will be at Harrison Hot Springs Resort on **Friday, February 7** and **Saturday, February 8**. More details and registration at [catholicmarriageandfamily.com](http://catholicmarriageandfamily.com).





## Virtuous Leadership

### Bringing Out Greatness in Others

Join Dr. Havard, founder of the Virtuous Leadership Institute, in a morning of practical insights on the virtues related to leadership and how we can cultivate them in ourselves, our families, communities, churches, and workplaces. The event runs **9:15 a.m. to 12 p.m.** on **Saturday, January 25** at the JPPI Pastoral Centre (4885 St. John Paul II Way, Vancouver). Tickets are available online at [www.virtuousleaders.ca](http://www.virtuousleaders.ca). For more information, contact Tim Dumas at [info@virtuousleaders.ca](mailto:info@virtuousleaders.ca).



## Employment Opportunities

Work for the Archdiocese of Vancouver! See all the open positions at the Archdiocese, parishes, community organizations, and colleges and schools at this link here:

<https://rcav.org/employment/>.



## Save the Date—Brave

### Life Restoration Women's Retreat

The Women's Retreat will take place from **April 17-19** at **Rockridge Canyon, BC**. The retreat is for every woman searching for deeper relationship with the Trinity and what it means to live bravely as a woman of God. This retreat weekend is an opportunity to get away from the busyness and demands of our schedules to personally encounter God and experience His generous love. For more information go to [liferestoration.ca/womensretreat](http://liferestoration.ca/womensretreat).



## RCAV Winter Institute

The Winter Institute is a day dedicated to ministry training and faith formation courses, taking place on **Saturday, January 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** at **Holy Cross Secondary** (16193 88th Ave, Surrey). For course descriptions and registration, visit [rcav.org/oc-winter-institute](http://rcav.org/oc-winter-institute).

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