



**ST. PIUS X**  
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY  
16 Smithville Crescent, St. John's, NL A1B 2V2  
Tel.# 754-0170



Finding God in All Things

**4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**December 23, 2018**

**ADVENT AS I CONSIDER THE WORLD SITUATION**



God of comfort, these times seem so uncertain, so scary. The world seems darker than it has in the past and I am less sure of myself. Maybe that's a good thing; maybe now I am turning to you with a realization that I need you so much more and that my life is not in my own control. Let me not forget all of those around the world who are frightened at this moment. Help those who are victims of terrorism and war. Be with those who have lost so much in the past year. Hold us all in your loving arms and let us be comforted by the strength and peace you want to much to offer us through the birth of your son, Jesus. Thank you for the many gifts you offer us.

**SOURCE:** [www.onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online](http://www.onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online)

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[www.spx.ca](http://www.spx.ca)



**SCRIPTURE  
READINGS  
FOR NEXT SUNDAY**  
December 30, 2018

You could read/discuss/pray with your family, with friends or by yourself.'

First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21

Psalm: 128

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52



**OUR 'PIUS' SMILE**

Shakey went to a psychiatrist. "Doc," he said, "I've got trouble. Every time I get into bed, I think there's somebody under it. I get under the bed, I think there's somebody on top of it. Top, under, top, under ... you gotta help me, I'm going crazy!" "Just put yourself in my hands for two years," said the shrink. "Come to me three times a week, and I'll cure your fears." "How much do you charge?" "A hundred dollars per visit." "I'll sleep on it," said Shakey. Six months later the doctor met Shakey on the street. "Why didn't you ever come to see me again?" asked the psychiatrist. "For a hundred buck's a visit? A bartender cured me for ten dollars." "Is that so! How?" "He told me to cut the legs off the bed!"



**FR. EARL DREAMS**

How big is our God? Is God big enough to become small enough; finite and vulnerable enough to become a human being in every way? Furthermore, 'How big am I?' While I am big enough to behold an extraordinary amount of created things, am I also spacious enough to be God's incarnated dwelling place? The answer to this question has potential to awaken 'my' Christmas-truth. God's aim is that 'I' become Christ for and with others. The venerable St. Theresa Avila expresses this sublime reality thus; Christ has no body now on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world. Yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which He is to bless His people. May God give us courage to be as Christ for one another and for our broken world so great in need of our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. Merry Christmas!



**JESUIT NEWS**

Canadian Jesuits International offer continued thanks and Christmas Season +blessings while acknowledging our recent gift of \$335.00 that has been allocated to the Darjeeling Province, India



## SAINTS SPEAK

What are we doing when we intercede? Often in our heart of hearts we seem to be trying to manipulate God, as if God were a Controller to be controlled, or as if we had to beg God to reconsider what seems to be a poorly contrived fait accompli. The ancient Romans used the word "intercede" to mean "interposing a veto." We often seem to be trying to veto what we wrongly perceive as God's intervention, to wheedle and bargain, standing over and against what seems to be the rigid course we mistakenly perceive as "God's will." This tyrant-god is a human projection, not the God of Sinai rooted in the stable and open reciprocity of Covenant. This is the capricious deity who needs to be pleased and placated, not the loving God whose wisdom and judgment are given from the perspective of crucifixion and resurrection. [...] I don't think God rejects this sort of prayer; I don't think God rejects any prayer. God understands. And when I catch myself in a primitive attitude, trying to control God as if God weren't indwelling and suffering within the creation, as if God were a safe and closed system, I imagine I catch a glimmer of divine amusement.

Maggie Ross

The Fire of Your Life: Solitude Shared  
Darton, Longman, and Todd, 1992



Thank you to Cecilia and Alex McGruer and to Linda, Madeline and Daniel Hart for organizing and facilitating our Christmas-Craft-Activity-Scavenger Hunt last Sunday.

Thank you to all our Leaders and Assistant Leaders of our Sunday morning programs for children and families. Your enthusiasm and commitment continue to inspire us.

## OFFERTORY COLLECTION

December 15 and 16: \$5,238.45

Envelopes 4,578.00

Loose 490.45

Thank you for your continued generous support.

## FIRST FRIDAY MASSES

Beginning Friday, January 4, 2019 we will be having First Friday Mass at 7:00 pm in St. Pius X Church.

The dates for these Masses are January 4, February 1, March 1, April 5, May 3 and June 7, 2019.

The homily each Friday will be on a different aspect of this devotion, beginning with the Old Testament's remote origins and up to our own time.

## Calendar of Services and Mass Intentions

Sun.	Dec. 23	8:30 am	Mass	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent
		11:00 am	Mass	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent
Mon.	Dec. 24	9:30 am	Mass	Evangeline, Jack and Isabelle Barry
		1:00 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - Chapel (Cancelled for this occasion.)	
		2:50 - 3:05 pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet - Chapel	
		7:00 pm	CHRISTMAS EVE MASS	
		11:00 pm	CHRISTMAS EVE MASS	
Tues.	Dec. 25	11:00 am	CHRISTMAS DAY MASS There will be no 8:30 am Mass	
Wed.	Dec. 26	9:30 am	Mass	William and Josephine Hepditch and Winnie Kinsella
Thurs.	Dec. 27	9:30 am	Mass	William and Eleanor Manning
Fri.	Dec. 28	9:30 am	Mass	Deceased Members of the Cahill and Fagan Families
Sat.	Dec. 29	9:30 am	Mass	Frank and Mary Brennan; Bill and Carmel Walsh Marie Brennan and Gerry Brennan
		4:45 pm	Mass	FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
Sun.	Dec. 30	8:30 am	Mass	FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
		11:00 am	Mass	FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

### GONZAGA JESUIT COMMUNITY IN RESIDENCE

Fr. William Browne, SJ, Br. Joe Frechette, SJ Fr. Joe Mroz, SJ, Fr. Joseph Schuck, SJ,

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday: 3:30 - 4:20 pm  
and Tuesday: 6:40 - 7:20 pm

TIMES OF MASSES: Monday to Friday: 9:30 am and 7:30 pm  
Saturday: 9:30 am and 4:45 pm; Sunday: 8:30 am and 11 am

OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Friday: 9 am - 1 pm  
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CHAIR OF PARISH COUNCIL: 739-5780  
DIRECTORS OF MUSIC: 233-0302 or 753-6997