

**Continued from the front page...
Celebrate joy**

Not only did the two women connect, but a relationship developed between the babies within their mothers' wombs. Elizabeth felt her baby (John the Baptist) move joyfully as he acknowledged the Savior's presence. John the Baptist fulfills an important role during Advent. He recognized and identified the Savior whom we welcomed. Let's set aside time for moments of reflection and silence to welcome the One who is the Source of our joy.

Celebrate the first beatitude

For Christians, the first beatitude in St. Matthew's Gospel is from Christ's teaching on the mountain: *Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven* (Matthew 5:3). In St. Luke's Gospel, Elizabeth, inspired by the Holy Spirit, proclaimed the first beatitude: *Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord* (Luke 1:45). How do we describe Mary's faith? It comes down to one word *welcoming*. She welcomes God who is faithful to his promise. Mary has complete confidence in God and welcomes Him in her body, mind, intelligence, will and emotions. Mary's self and existence became the abode of our infinite God. Mary offers herself to God so that our Savior can enter our world to inhabit, heal and transform it. Through Mary, the faith of the people of Israel reached its peak and the faith of the Church had its Source. According to some authors, Mary's faith was so cherished that even when she was taken up to heaven, she kept it, not for herself alone, but to share with us. With Mary, we welcome God into our lives.

My preparations for Christmas begin by praying to Mary, God's mother, to share her faith with me.

Georges Madore, s.m.m.

Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli



St. Lucy Parish

P.O. Box 36, Arborfield, SK. S0E 0A0

Email: stlucyarb@hotmail.com

Website: <https://pasquiacatholic.com/>

Facebook Page: StLucyArborfield

Pastor: Fr. Travis Myrheim

Home Phone: 767-2458

Sunday December 23, 2018 4th Sunday of Advent

Our Christmas preparations are first and foremost on our agendas! We have gifts to purchase and wrap; trees to decorate and food to prepare ... But beyond the material preparations, how do we prepare spiritually for Christmas? Today's readings offer us three suggestions.

Celebrate life

Today's Gospel describes a meeting of two women: an elderly woman who is pregnant and a young girl who is pregnant earlier than expected. The elderly Elizabeth greets Mary with an exclamation inspired by the Holy Spirit, one that is prophetic. *Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb*. Mary is blessed because she carries the Child who is the Source of all blessings. The first blessing in the Bible is one for life: *God blessed them saying, "Be fruitful and multiply..."* (Genesis 1:22). Jesus is the blessing who brings life: *I came that they may have life and have it abundantly* (John 10:10).

The life that God offers us through Jesus is greater than anything on earth, greater than illness or death, than old age and war. As the angel said to Mary: *Nothing will be impossible with God* (Luke 1:37).

The Week at a Glance

Sat Dec 22	7:30pm Mass in Arborfield For Residents of Arborfield Care Home
Sun Dec 23	9:00 am Mass in Carrot River For the people 11:00am Mass in Zenon Park For
Mon Dec 24	5:00pm Mass in Arborfield For †Pete Potie 7:00pm Mass in Zenon Park For the people 9:00pm Mass in Carrot River For †Nick and Dennis Panchyshyn
Tues Dec 25	10:00am Mass in Zenon Park For Our clergy
Wed Dec 26	no mass
Thurs Dec 27	no mass
Fri Dec 28	no mass
Sat Dec 29	7:30pm Mass in Arborfield For Souls in Purgatory
Sun Dec 30	9:00 am Mass in Carrot River For the people 11:00am Mass in Zenon Park For Edwin Lee
Mon Dec 31	7:30pm Mass in Arborfield For Souls in Purgatory
Tues Jan 1	9:00am Mass in Carrot River For †Paul Nesdoly 11:00am Mass in Zenon Park For the people
Wed Jan 2	no mass
Thurs Jan 3	no mass
Fri Jan 4	no mass
Sat Jan 5	7:30pm Mass in Zenon Park For †Joe Greaves
Sun Jan 6	9:00 am Mass in Arborfield For the people 11:00am Mass in Carrot River For Relatives of Neil & Wilma Wheeler

Mass Times for Nov/Dec

Sat 7:30pm – Arborfield
Sun 9:00am – Carrot River
Sun 11:00am – Zenon Park



Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24th

5:00pm – Arborfield
7:00pm – Zenon Park
9:00pm – Carrot River

December 25th

10:00am – Zenon Park

Announcements and Activities

<u>Ministry</u>	<u>Dec 22</u>	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Dec 29</u>
Commentator	Marie	TBA	Joann
Reader	Mark	TBA	Pam
Cup	Guy, James	TBA	Sue, Neil
Hospitality	Flo, James	TBA	Brian, Pam
Offerings	Brian, Pam	TBA	Gabe, Mary
Sacristan	Pam	TBA	Joann

Cleaning Schedule

Dec 24 - Dec 30, 2018	Flo & Mary Ann Perrault
Dec 31 - Jan 6, 2019	Dale, Rita & Stacey Mutimer

Last week's collection total: **\$485.00** **Thank You**

Bishop's Annual Appeal 2018:
"What Must We Do... to Build the Kingdom of God?"
 Every gift is greatly appreciated!
 Parish Contributions to date **\$3,310** of our goal of \$4075

Serena Saskatchewan invites you to the **annual gala fundraiser** "Un Nuit a Paris" on Sat **Feb 9/19** at Our Lady of Lourdes in Saskatoon. For more info see poster on bulletin board.

Vocation Corner Fourth Sunday of Advent – C

A Vocation View: Can you honestly pray: "I have come to do your will, O God"? Blessed are you who trust that the Lord's words to you would be fulfilled.

Prayer: That the faithful respond, "Behold, I come to do your will, O Lord," will be voiced by each person discerning a call to serve Christ as a priest, deacon, sister or brother, we pray to the Lord.

Action: A good vocation is simply a firm and constant will in which the person who is called must serve God in the way and in the places to which almighty God has called him. *Saint Francis de Sales (1567-1622)*