

**Continued from the front page...**

I believe that our greatest desire is to welcome our Savior among us. Throughout the year, the Gospel passages tell us that Christ is coming, has come, and will come again. These passages reflect our desire to enter into God's kingdom. Our time on earth is brief and lives can be complicated. Yet from one Advent season to another, Christ is always the One we await. While we keep in mind our past, present and future aspirations, the one constant is our infinite longing for fulfillment as we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth.

Join in and raise our voices in anticipation.

André Beauchamp

*Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli*



## St. Lucy Parish

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### **Sunday December 2, 2018 1st Sunday of Advent**

This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent. We have just turned the page from passages detailing Christ's life and legacy on earth to those that prepare us to celebrate the coming of our Savior. The Gospel verses once again anticipate and lead up to the feast of Christmas.

As the season of Advent is an annual occurrence, I sometimes reflect on how I prepare to celebrate Christ's coming. The Gospel advises us to *be alert at all times and pray*. How do I accomplish this? Am I always able to fulfill these recommendations? Honestly, I find that I sleep when I should not and that I cannot always remain vigilant. I am always working to improve my performance since I remember in past years I was more successful. How will I observe Advent this year? I reread the Gospel passages and follow Christ's advice though I may fall short. With these challenges, what keeps me going forward?

## The Week at a Glance

Sat Dec 1 7:30pm Mass in Arborfield **For Souls in Purgatory**  
 Sun Dec 2 9:00 am Mass in Carrot River **For †Paul Nездoly**  
 11:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For the people**  
 Mon Dec 3 *Fr Travis' day off*  
 Tues Dec 4 9:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For Abuse Victims**  
 Wed Dec 5 9:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For Madeleine**  
**Marchildon**  
 Thurs Dec 6 6:00pm Adoration in Carrot River  
 7:00pm Mass in Carrot River **For Theresia Kuhn**  
 7:30pm Confession in Carrot River  
 Fri Dec 7 10:00am Mass in Arborfield Care Home  
 7:00pm Adoration in Zenon Park  
 8:00pm Mass in Zenon Park **For Edwin Lee**  
 Sat Dec 8 7:30pm Mass in Arborfield **For Souls in Purgatory**  
 Sun Dec 9 9:00 am Mass in Carrot River **For the people**  
 11:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For Conversion of**  
**Souls**

### Mass Times for Nov/Dec

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



### Christmas Mass Schedule

#### December 24<sup>th</sup>

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

#### December 25<sup>th</sup>

10:00am – Zenon Park

## Announcements and Activities

| <u>Ministry</u>    | <u>Dec 1</u>   | <u>Dec 8</u> |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------|
| <b>Commentator</b> | Marie          | Neil         |
| <b>Reader</b>      | Mary           | Jean         |
| <b>Cup</b>         | Guy, Neil      | Sue, James   |
| <b>Hospitality</b> | Bronners       | Louis, Jean  |
| <b>Offerings</b>   | Neil, Lorraine | Liz, Guy     |
| <b>Sacristan</b>   | Mary           | Sue          |

### Cleaning Schedule

|                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Dec 3 - Dec 9, 2018 | Neil & Lorraine Playford |
| Dec 10 - 16, 2018   | Don & Jeanne Hoiland     |

Last week's collection total: **\$490.00**      **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 **\$1,310** of our goal of \$4075

A Parish and family **Advent booklet** is available at the back of the church for anyone interested. Copies are also posted on the Diocese website under Annual Liturgy Package. [www.padiocese.ca](http://www.padiocese.ca)

**Lectio Divina** to be held Nov 17, 24, Dec 8 and 15th at 7:00 pm (see following for description).

**Video presentation** after mass for Advent Dec 1st. Please join us!

#### Vocation Corner – First Sunday of Advent

**A Vocation View:** Make your decision to follow Jesus during this Advent Season. Delaying until "one" of these days is "none" of these days. Follow now.

**Prayer:** That all those now discerning their vocations will be alert and responsive to the invitation of Christ, we pray to the Lord.

**Action:** What opportunity is life offering me, right now, for doing what makes me come joyfully alive?

# 2018 Advent Penitential Services

| DATE                                | PLACE AND TIME                                  | PRIESTS WHO WILL BE HELPING      |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Wednesday December 5 <sup>th</sup>  | Melfort 3:00pm<br>Meeting 7:00 pm<br>Confession | All priests in the Deanery       |
| Thursday December 6 <sup>th</sup>   | Porcupine 7:00 pm                               | Priests from H.Bay and Tisdale   |
|                                     | Carrot River 7:30pm                             | Priest from Nipawin              |
| Tuesday December 11 <sup>th</sup>   | Nipawin 7:00pm                                  | Priests from Tisdale, Zenon Pk   |
|                                     | Kinistino 7:00pm                                | Priest from St. Brieux           |
| Wednesday December 12 <sup>th</sup> | Tisdale 7:00pm                                  | Priests from Melfort, St. Brieux |
|                                     | Arborfield 7:00pm                               | Priest from Nipawin              |
| Thursday December 13 <sup>th</sup>  | St. Brieux 7:00pm                               | Priests from Melfort, Tisdale    |
| Friday December 14 <sup>th</sup>    | Hudson Bay 7:00pm                               | Priests from Tisdale             |
|                                     | Choiceland 7:00 pm                              | Priest from Nipawin              |
|                                     | Mistatim 7:00 pm                                | Priest from Hudson. Bay          |
| Tuesday December 18 <sup>th</sup>   | Zenon Park 7:00pm                               | Priest from Nipawin              |

**What is Lectio Divina?** "Lectio Divinia", a Latin term, means "divine reading" and describes a way of reading the Scriptures whereby we gradually let go of our own agenda and open ourselves to what God wants to say to us. In the 12th century, a Carthusian monk called Guigo, described the stages which he saw as essential to the practice of Lectio Divina. There are various ways of practicing Lectio Divina either individually or in groups but Guigo's description remains fundamental.

He said that the first stage is lectio (reading) where we read the Word of God, slowly and reflectively so that it sinks into us. Any passage of Scripture can be used for this way of prayer but the passage should not be too long.

The second stage is meditatio (reflection) where we think about the text we have chosen and ruminate upon it so that we take from it what God wants to give us.

The third stage is oratio (response) where we leave our thinking aside and simply let our hearts speak to God. This response is inspired by our reflection on the Word of God.

The final stage of Lectio Divina is contemplatio (rest) where we let go not only of our own ideas, plans and meditations but also of our holy words and thoughts. We simply rest in the Word of God. We listen at the deepest level of our being to God who speaks within us with a still small voice. As we listen, we are gradually transformed from within. Obviously this transformation will have a profound effect on the way we actually live and the way we live is the test of the authenticity of our prayer. We must take what we read in the Word of God into our daily lives.

These stages of Lectio Divina are not fixed rules of procedure but simply guidelines as to how the prayer normally develops. Its natural movement is towards greater simplicity, with less and less talking and more listening. Gradually the words of Scripture begin to dissolve and the Word is revealed before the eyes of our heart. How much time should be given to each stage depends very much on whether it is used individually or in a group. If Lectio Divina is used for group prayer, obviously more structure is needed than for individual use. In group prayer, much will depend on the type of group. Lectio Divina may involve discussing the implications of the Word of God for daily life but it cannot be reduced to this. The movement of the prayer is towards silence. If the group is comfortable with silence, more time could be spent resting in the Word.

The practice of Lectio Divina as a way of praying the Scriptures has been a fruitful source of growing in relationship with Christ for many centuries and in our own day is being rediscovered by many individuals and groups. The Word of God is alive and active and will transform each of us if we open ourselves to receive what God wants to give us.