



The day is fast approaching...

As we prepare for the Christ Child during Advent, it is important that Christians remain *awake and vigilant*. This focus on God's Word forces us to re-think our spirituality and allow some rays of *enlightenment* to enter our lives. In the mad rush to prepare for Christmas, in the frenzied climate that takes over in December, this task is always challenging.

As we count down the days to Christmas, we celebrate Advent. Our focus is to promote evangelical values through sharing, generosity, and openness to the possibilities of community. Christians are not passive spectators who merely observe their surroundings. They are active participants and present in our communities and society.

We won't passively anticipate a cozy Christmas celebration at home. We are beyond condemning or complaining about materialism and excesses during this Christmas feast. We are active in our world in solidarity with our sisters and brothers. We are watching for all that is beautiful, good, and true in what are often folkloric or commercial Christmas events. This search for meaning is what brings *enlightenment* into our lives.

We are vigilant and walk toward Christ, our Light. We believe that God :

- is always present among us,
- offers us new opportunities,
- fosters our faith,
- and encourages us to begin anew.

Advent is a time of hope that our most ambitious challenges can be realized.

During Advent, as we celebrate Christ's birth, we sing: *Come Lord Jesus*. We ask Christ to enlighten our imperfect lives, to support our efforts for justice and peace and, despite the often inconsistency of our relationship with him, to keep on loving and supporting us.

Gilles Leblanc

Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli

HOLY FAMILY PARISH
7355 Lajeunesse Street, Montreal, QC H2R 2H6
Tel: 514-272-1056/Fax: 514-272-2959
Father John Baxter
MASS INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER 27, 2016

Please pray for:

Lea Guilbeault & Ferruccio Berardo
Carmela Galardo
Gabrielle Lasalle Quinn
Catherine Khouzam
Nicola Petti
Ida Toterà
Yolanda & Domenico Tontini
Walter Uzenko

Requested by:

Family
Family
Léo-Paul & Mary Leclerc
Family
Donovan Family
Family
Family
Daughters

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parish Bake Sale on Sunday, December 4!

Our annual bake sale will take place on Sunday, December 4th after mass.

Please contact Linda Glashan if you plan on baking or if you have any questions. This is an important fundraiser for our parish.

"ADESTE!" Christmas Concert at Ascension of Our Lord Parish. Please join us for an afternoon concert featuring excerpts from Handel's Messiah and seasonal choral music, under the direction of Music Director and organist Dr. David Szanto. A reception will follow the concert. There is no admission fee; however you are invited to make a freewill donation. Proceeds from the concert will go towards helping cover the cost of refurbishing our beautiful Casavant organ. We sincerely hope you will be able to join us for an afternoon guaranteed to put you in the Christmas spirit!

December 4th at 3 pm. 375 Kitchener Ave. at Sherbrooke St. W., Westmount

Please visit our new and improved web site at: <http://www.holyfamilyparishmtl.com>

Feel free to provide your comments / suggestions / or add to Joe Piazza at jpiazza@live.ca

If you wish to add you email address to Holy Family's address list, please send it to jpiazza@live.ca

For those wishing to have a mass said for loved one or a friend, please see Sharon Murphy after mass.

Last Sunday's collection was \$1321. Thank you!

A fellow finds himself in front of the Pearly Gates. St. Peter explains that it's not easy to get into heaven.

There are some criteria that must be met before entry is allowed. For example, was the man a church-goer or religious? No? St. Peter told him that's bad.

Was he generous, giving money to the poor or to charities? No? St. Peter told him that that, too, was bad.

Did he do any good deeds, such as helping his neighbor? Anything? No? St. Peter was becoming concerned.

Exasperated, the Saint says, 'Look, everybody does something nice sometime. Work with me, here! Think!'

The man thinks for a minute, then says, 'Well, I did help this old lady once. I came out of a store and saw that a dozen Hell's Angels had taken her purse and were shoving her around. I threw my bags down and got her purse back, then I told the biggest biker there that he was cowardly and I spat in his face.'

'Wow,' said St. Peter, 'That's impressive! When did this happen?'

'Oh, about 15 minutes ago,' replied the man.



First Sunday in Advent