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# OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH



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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30 am – 2:00 pm

Pastor: Fr. Eduardo da Silva Santos

Office Assistant: Rosa Moniz Demchuk



## December 10<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

**Weekend Masses:** Saturday 5:00 pm in English  
Sunday 11:00 am in Portuguese  
12:30 pm in Spanish

**Weekday Masses:** 9:00 am – Tuesday to Friday

**Confessions:** Saturdays, 4:00 pm

**Adoration:** Thursdays, 6:00 pm

**Baptisms and Weddings:** Please contact the office

**Anointing: Hospital Chaplain:** 250-889-3761

### Weekly Cost and Collection Amounts

Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

Church costs: \$2,817

Our collection: \$2,877

Overage: + \$70

Tue, Dec 12 9:00 am	** PRO POPULO **
Wed, Dec 13 9:00 am	
Thur, Dec 14 9:00 am	† Jeane Braz (Jackie and Mladen Grohovac)
Fri, Dec 15 9:00 am	
Sat, Dec 16 5:00 pm	† Antonio da Silva (Maria Couto) † Fabricio Barra Bossa (Fabricio)
Sun, Dec 17 11:00 am	† Maria Isaltina e José Inacio Medeiros (Madelena e João Raposo) † Pelas Intenções de Virginia Ferreira
12:30 pm	



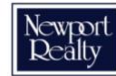
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<b>Saturday Dec 16<sup>th</sup> at 5PM</b>
Readers: Pamela Soriano Raad Nashmi
Euc Min: Raad Nashmi
<b>Sunday Dec 17<sup>th</sup> at 11AM</b>
Readers: Luis Lunelli Milena Ienk
Euc Min: Antonio Raposo
<b>Sunday Dec 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:30PM</b>
Readers: Evelin Bello William Matorel
Euc Min: Claudia Garcia

Cleaning: Carlos & Stephanie Bratzo & Erica Maria Jose Morales Lorena
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**REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE TO AN  
INDEPENDENT REPORTING AGENCY**

To report sexual abuse by a clergy member, religious, employee, or volunteer, call 1-800-968-3146

To report sexual abuse or cover-up by a Bishop, [click here](#) or call 1-866-892-3737

**New Year's Eve Party – December 31, 2023 – Our Lady of Fatima Hall**  
 Tickets are available to purchase! Contact Connie 250 888-7720. Doors open at 6pm, Dinner at 7pm by Casa Nova Catering, and live music by Hermano Silva.

**Festa de Ano Novo – Dezembro 31, 2023 – Salão de Nossa Senhora de Fátima**  
 Bilhetes para a Jantar estão a venda. Contacto Connie 250-888-7720. Portas do salão abre as 6pm, jantar as 7pm de Casa Nova Catering, e música ao vivo de Hermano Silva.

**Announcements / Avisos**

**Our Lady of Fatima Festival of Soups**

The Committee of Our Lady of Fatima, would like to thank everyone for their support in attending the festival, buying soup, providing bake sale items, and buying bake sale items. With your support they raised and donated \$3,000 to Our Lady of Fatima.

**Festa das Sopas de Nossa Senhora de Fátima**

A Comissão de Nossa Senhora de Fátima gostaria de agradecer a todos pelo apoio na participação na festa, na compra de sopa, no fornecimento de produtos para venda de bolos e na compra de produtos para venda de bolos. Com o seu apoio arrecadaram e doaram 3.000 dólares para Nossa Senhora de Fátima.

**Children's Christmas Party**

The Parish Christmas Party for ALL children will be in the hall on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> after the 5:00 pm Mass. A hotdog dinner will be provided for each child. If you are not in Catechism and would like to attend, please let the office or Catechism teachers know. Tea, coffee and treats will be provided for adults. Please consider bringing a plate of treats to share. Santa will be here and will be available for pictures with the children.

**Festa de Natal Infantil**

A Festa de Natal da Paróquia para TODAS as crianças acontecerá no salão no sábado, 16 de dezembro, após a missa das 17h. Será oferecido um jantar de cachorro-quente para cada criança. Se você não está no Catecismo e gostaria de participar, avise a secretaria ou os professores de Catecismo. Chá, café e guloseimas serão fornecidos para adultos. Considere trazer um prato de guloseimas para compartilhar. O Papai Noel estará aqui e estará disponível para fotos com as crianças.

**Anawim House**

Anawim is asking for your assistance again. There is a box in the church entrance to accept donations of

clothing and non-perishable food items such as pasta sauce, noodles, tuna, jam, peanut butter, or any other common food items to help feed the people Anawim serves. Thank you for your long-term support of Anawim.

**Casa Anawim**

Anawim está pedindo sua ajuda novamente. Há uma caixa na entrada da igreja para receber doações de roupas e alimentos não perecíveis, como molho de macarrão, macarrão, atum, geléia, manteiga de amendoim ou qualquer outro alimento comum para ajudar a alimentar as pessoas atendidas por Anawim. Obrigado pelo seu apoio de longo prazo à Anawim.

**Diocese**

On January 5 & 6 2024, the Diocesan liturgical conference “The Epiphany of the Liturgy: Welcoming the Closeness of God” will be held at St. Joseph the Worker Church in Victoria. This free conference is an opportunity to enter into a richer experience of the Trinity in our Eucharistic Celebrations, and will be valuable both for those who serve in liturgical ministries and those who participate in the assembly. The presenters will be Dr. Glenn Byer and Dr. David Pitt, liturgical and musical educators at Catholic colleges in the U.S. The workshop will run Friday, January 5 from 7 - 9:30 pm and Saturday, January 6 from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm. For more information and to register please visit <https://EpiphanyLiturgyConference.eventbrite.com>; for assistance in registering, please email [mgwyn@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:mgwyn@rcdvictoria.org) or call 250-479-1331 ext 227.

**Homily  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

On this second Sunday of Advent John the Baptist makes an appearance and shouts out to us; “prepare the way of the Lord!”

When John the Baptist makes the announcement to get ready for the Lord he makes it clear that the highway for the Lord leads to our hearts. John the Baptist takes his prophetic call seriously and lives a life of prayer and fasting. His message is a simple message, “repent.” He does a baptism of repentance for those who accept his call. A baptism that is meant to prepare them to recognize and accept Jesus as Messiah and Lord. John was a charismatic figure whose deep faith, austere life-style, and bold message attracted people. Some had their brief time in his presence watching him, listening to him, and repenting before moving on, changed because of their encounter with him. Others came and remained with John as his disciples. John could easily have basked in the fame and following he had, but he did not lose sight of his call. He was called, not to be the Messiah, but to prepare the way for Him, and he did this dutifully and humbly.

This leads us to ask ourselves the question, “How am I doing at preparing the way of the Lord, by building that highway for the Lord to get into my heart?” No matter what God has called us to, it takes humility, sincerity of heart, and fortitude to do it well. It involves filling in the emptiness of the valley, and cutting away the mountains that blind us. It means removing detours that we sometimes take so as to avoid conversion, and removing the toll booths that we put up to make travel costly. In doing this well we are making way for the Lord. The Lord doesn't limit his visits to us to Christmas. He is present to us always and the more we work on our highway the easier it is for us to see him.

Ideally each of us becomes a John the Baptist in that others may be pointed in the direction of Jesus because of us. This takes imitating John's humility and the seriousness with which he took his call. John realized that it wasn't all about him. This is something that we should also realize when we look at the highway. It's not about us, it is about Jesus coming to us. It's not about us, it's about Jesus and our humbling ourselves by not trying to have the light shine on us, but to shine on Jesus.

This second Sunday of Advent is a good time to take to heart both the message and the example of John the Baptist. As we sing “Maranatha, Come, Lord Jesus” we will have a highway for him to come to our hearts, and we will have the humility to point others to Jesus.