



Guardian Angels Parish

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Pastor: Rev. John Alex Pinto, OCD

Christmas Message

From the Pastor

There fared a mother driven forth
Out of an inn to roam;
In the place where she was homeless
All men are at home.

The crazy stable close at hand,
With shaking timber and shifting sand,
Grew a stronger thing to abide and stand
Than the square stones of Rome.

For men are homesick in their homes,
And strangers under the sun,
And they lay on their heads in a foreign land
Whenever the day is done.

Here we have battle and blazing eyes,
And chance and honour and high surprise,
But our homes are under miraculous skies
Where the yule tale was begun.

A Child in a foul stable,
Where the beasts feed and foam;
Only where He was homeless
Are you and I at home;

We have hands that fashion and heads that know,

But our hearts we lost - how long ago!
In a place no chart nor ship can show
Under the sky's dome.

This world is wild as an old wives' tale,
And strange the plain things are,
The earth is enough and the air is enough
For our wonder and our war;
But our rest is as far as the fire-drake swings
And our peace is put in impossible things
Where clashed and thundered unthinkable wings
Round an incredible star.

To an open house in the evening
Home shall men come,
To an older place than Eden
And a taller town than Rome.
To the end of the way of the wandering star,
To the things that cannot be and that are,
To the place where God was homeless
And all men are at home.

(The House of Christmas by- GK. Chesterton)

Dear Parishioners,

There is a feeling that this year Christmas is different, yes – it is different the way we celebrate but the same Christmas, same Nativity of our Lord. The poem that I quoted brings out the true meaning of Christmas. I hope you will experience the true Christmas just the way Mary and Joseph felt. They were for the first time able to behold glory of God incarnate in the flesh in Jesus. This Jesus assures that he will be with us always since He is the Emmanuel.

I have the good news, the city of Vancouver has approved our project of new washroom. In the meantime the existing washroom was without permit and it has been rectified and the work has begun and we hope to finish the project within couple of weeks. Let me quote Archbishop when he was informed of this development.

“Congratulations on getting City approval for your project at Guardian Angels. It is a sign of a vibrant community when, even during a pandemic, you are engaged in improving your facilities for your parishioners.”

I like to thank everyone who helped us this Christmas. I like to thank Ave and Lisa for decorating the church, arranging the manger and Knights of Columbus for setting up the nativity scene in public display. Thank you El Shaddai and Legion of Mary Choirs for echoing the song of Angels during the divine liturgy. Big thank you Leah, our parish secretary for working day and night to make all the arrangements so that we may have facilities available for the parishioners. Streaming schedule: Dec. 24 @ 4 pm & Dec. 25 @ 10 am.

I wish all of you a Blessed Christmas. May the Lord Jesus be with you always.

Rev. John Alex Pinto OCD

Pastor