



## ST. DENIS Parish

Box 58, 53 Saint Augustine Street  
Haywood, Manitoba, R0G 0W0

**Pastor: Father Peter Lê Văn Ngū**

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Secretary: Denise Danais

Haywood: Bulletin / Secretary / Cemetery: André Lambert

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Parish web site: [www.stdenishaywoodmb.ca](http://www.stdenishaywoodmb.ca)

**Our mission statement: LOVE GOD LOVE OTHERS TRAIN DISCIPLES**

### Eucharistic Celebrations:

**Sunday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 AM** - livestreamed from St. Claude church  
– **Rose Vaillant** (*funeral collection*)

**Thursday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 PM** – livestreamed from St. Claude Church  
– **Romain & Gabrielle Bazin** (*Léo & Jacqueline Bazin*)

**Friday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 AM** – livestreamed from St. Denis Church  
– **Deceased family members** (*Dorothée & Marcel Dequier*)

**Sunday, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 AM** - livestreamed from St. Denis church  
– **For all our families** (*parishioners*)

Sanctuary Lamp – this week: **Victims of the pandemic.**

God's Share: Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> - \$70.00 (2) + \$0.00 (loose) + \$35.00 (DD) = **\$105.00**

Taxes & Insurance Fundraising: Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> - **\$280.00** - YTD = **\$6,105.00**

### **Tree Lighting:**

Lights may still be purchased until Christmas by calling Janice at 204 379 2558 or Judith at 204 379 2192. You may also pick up sheets at Linda's Country Store.

### Readings for Christmas Day, Friday, December 25, 2020

Isaiah 62, 11-12;

Ps 97;

Titus 3, 4-7;

Luke 2, 15-20



### Readings for Sunday, December 27, 2020

Genesis 15, 1-6; 21, 1-3; Ps. 104 (105) Hebrews 11, 8.11-12.17-19; Luke 2, 22-.39-40

*December 20, 2020*

*Fourth Sunday of Advent (B)*

**Let us pray for** *Romeo Morisseau*, who passed away on Thursday, December 17, 2020 at the age of 68 years. Our condolences to his wife, Louise, daughter, Angie and son, Jimmy, as well as to family and friends who are grieving.

### Advent Activities:

\*Lived stream Evening Prayer led by Fr. Peter at 7PM Tuesday December 22 in St. Denis.

\***Sacrament of Reconciliation during the COVID-19 Pandemic: If you want to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, please call Fr. Peter for an appointment. He is super happy to make himself available for your spiritual well-being.**

### Mass Schedule:

#### + Christmas

- **December 24: Christmas Eve Bilingual Mass in St. Claude at 8:30 PM**
- **December 25: Christmas Day Bilingual Mass in St. Denis at 10 AM**

#### + New Year:

- **December 31, 2020: New Year Eve Bilingual Mass in St. Claude at 8:30 PM**
- **January 1, 2021: New Year, the World Day of Peace, the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of the Lord- Bilingual Mass in St. Denis at 10 AM**
- All these Solemn Masses will be live streamed via the Facebook page "Paroisse Saint-Claude Parish"
- Christmas Eve Mass will be live streamed on the website of Adam's Funeral Home: <https://www.afh.ca> and via the Facebook page "Paroisse Saint-Claude Parish"

### **Message from the Parish Trustees:**

Dear Parishioners,

First of all, we wish to thank all parishioners for your extra efforts in supporting our parish through this pandemic time. The regular collection donations have held close to our regular amounts even surpassing last year by 12 % bearing in mind that donations last year were 10 % lower than the previous year. Our overall donations including cemetery are 5 % above last year.

Due to the ongoing pandemic restrictions, we have been unable to have our Spring Bazar or our Fall Concert. These fundraiser helped fund on average \$5,900.00 to cover taxes and insurance. We had hoped to have one of these functions before the end of the year. However, with the extended restrictions this has not been possible. Your donations have met this goal and even surpassed it.

In addition we have been able to share in the Federal Government CERB grant for the reduced income which St. Claude applied for and shared with our parish since we share the cost of the priest's and secretary's salaries. In addition we received the Bridge grant from the Manitoba Government for having to close our doors due to restrictions.

Donations for the Taxes and Insurance fund will be accepted until December 30<sup>th</sup>. Donations can be mailed to the **St. Denis Parish at Box 58, Haywood, MB. R0G 0W0** or may be dropped off at **André's**.

On behalf of our trustees, we would like to thank you for your generosity towards our parish.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

The trustees of St. Denis Parish

**Sunday Bulletins:** The bulletins will be sent via email and are also available for pick-up at André's since the doors of the church remain locked at this time. Also your boxes of envelopes for 2021 are available for pick-up at André's.

**St-Claude Parish Office Hours:**

The parish office will be open on **Wednesdays, December 23 and December 30 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.**

Please remember to wear a mask if you need to come to the office.

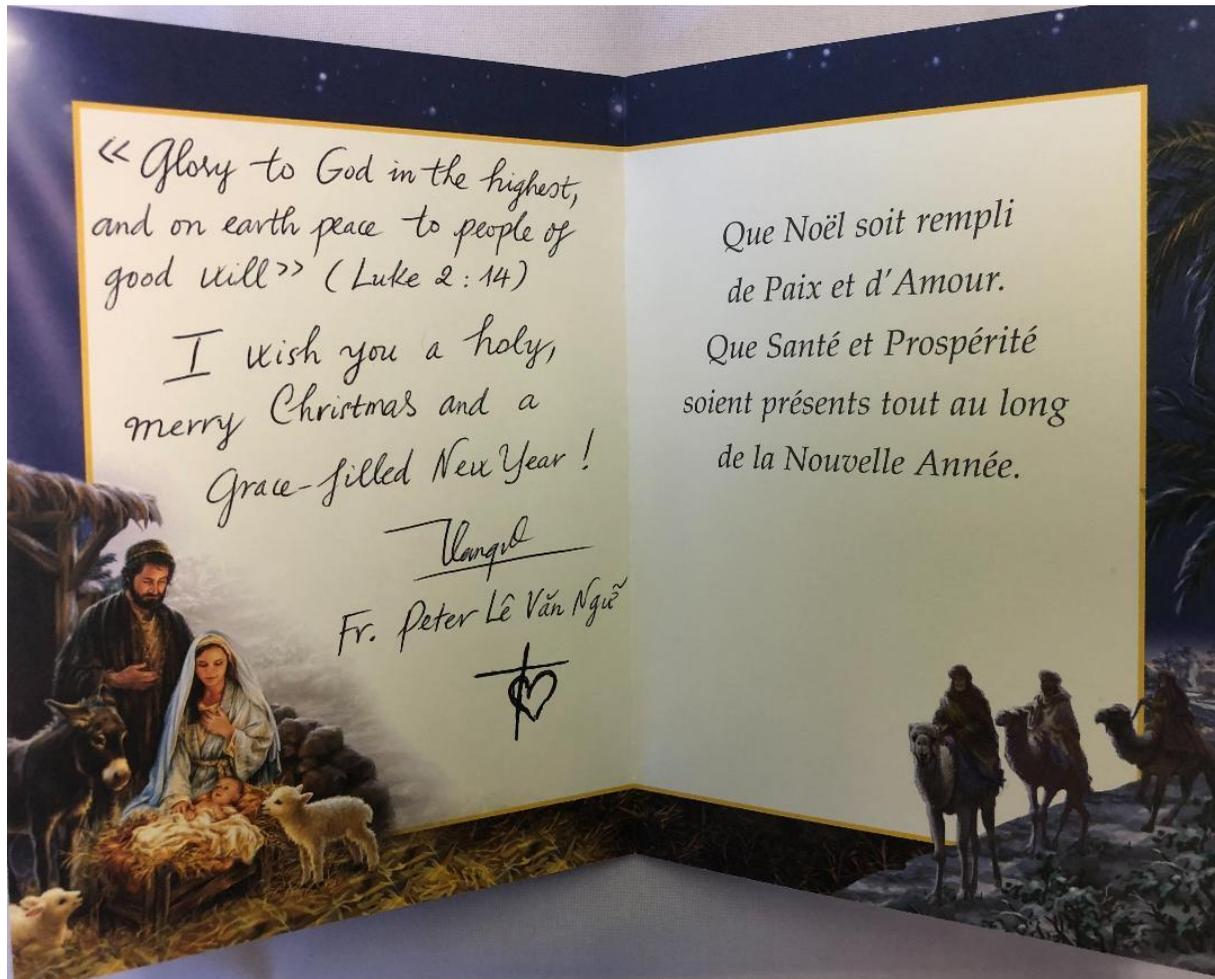
**Donations to the parish:**

You can get a receipt for income tax purposes for your donations to the parish.

Please make sure to make your donations **prior to December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020** if you wish to have a receipt for the year 2020.

Please specify on your check or envelope if you are donating towards Taxes / Insurance, Shaws of Compassion, Cemetery, or other of your choice.

**Christmas Greetings from our Pastor**



*December 20, 2020*

*Fourth Sunday of Advent (B)*

## Magnificent Art Revealing a Mystery

Once secure in his palace, King David believed that he had everything under control. The Word of the Lord inspired Nathan who then relayed God's message to King David concerning promises relating to his lineage that would take place in future generations. These details would be revealed in a secret meeting between an Angel Messenger from God and a young girl whose name was Mary. They were beautifully recorded by St. Luke in the Gospel, to the delight of famous artists. This magnificent scene is called *The Annunciation*.



One of these famous artists was the *Angelic Brother, Fra Angelico*, the Blessed One. Originally from Fiesole, his name was Guido di Pietro but his Dominican brothers called him John. He would be later beatified under the name of Blessed John of Fiesole. Around 1437, he painted a magnificent work of art, *The Annunciation*, for the brothers of his convent in Florence.

Approaching this work of art is an experience in itself. It is a *fresco*, a painting completed on fresh mortar (*fresco* in Italian). It is still on the spot where it was originally painted at the Convent of San Marco. You can see it by first crossing a room whose layout is what Fra Angelico sketched to stage his two subjects. This work is so impressive that we may initially think that Mary "*could possibly*" have found herself at the Dominican convent preparing to meditate, as if the painter had sketched her on the spot. This artist's exceptional talent brings the proximity of the mystery to us.

Climbing the stairs to the monks' cells, we come upon the magnificent scene. Upon seeing Mary and her simple beauty, I remember being emotionally frozen, like the Angel and Mary. With a hand on my shoulder, the guide asked me to move on. I acquiesced but made it a point to get back in line.

In addition to the fascinating beauty of the two characters, the layout of the masterpiece captures our attention, as do other works by Fra Angelico. A colonnade defines two spaces. Mary's, on the right, appears closed. There is a small door which opens on the inside, like a room. The Angel's space opens onto a garden.

The allusion is important. Mary welcomes her visitor and her space is open. The messenger's space seems to open onto a beautiful garden, perhaps even the Garden in Genesis. This masterpiece foretells the mystery of the Incarnation.

Every day, going up to their cells to meditate, the Dominican monks of San Marco in Florence, were inspired by this magnificent work. The Angel addressed Mary: *Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.* Mary responded: *Here am I, the servant of the Lord.* This encounter recorded God's offering of a New Earth, as in Genesis. Fra Angelico's masterpiece opens our minds to all possibilities.

**Father Jacques Houle, c.s.v.**  
Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli