



# St. Charles Garnier Parish

December 22, 2025

## *Forth Sunday of Advent*

Blessed are you among women, and  
Blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Luke 1:42



### CONTACT US:

3645 Benvoulin Road, Kelowna, B.C. V1W 4M7

**Website:** [www.stcharlesgarnier.ca](http://www.stcharlesgarnier.ca)

**Pastor:** Fr. Gerald

**Pastor's direct line:** 778-478-6288

**Email:** [scgpastor@shaw.ca](mailto:scgpastor@shaw.ca)

**Associate Pastor:** Fr. Ferdinand

**Email:** [scgkelowna.associatepastor@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:scgkelowna.associatepastor@nelsondiocese.org)

**Office Manager:** Carmen

**Office Phone:** (250) 860-6776

**Office e-mail:** [scgkelowna@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:scgkelowna@nelsondiocese.org)

**Office hours:** 9:00 am—2:00 pm Tuesday to Friday

### SCRIPTURE MESSAGE

"The Glory of Bethlehem" is explored in today's Scripture (Micah 5:1-4) The Davidic ruler will arise from 'Ephrathah' = Bethlehem, the Birthplace of King David (1Sam 17:12), where Jesse, the father of David lived. The people of Ephrathah (Bethlehem) were from the tribe of JUDAH and Jesus was known as the Lion of Judah, (Rev 5:5) the Root of David. Bethlehem means the 'House of Bread' (Beit -Lehem) Jesus called himself 'Bread of Life' (Jn 6:35) Bethlehem is just 5 miles from Jerusalem (Mt 2:5-6)

Bethlehem was a tiny place / insignificant hamlet (village) at the time of Jesus. Rachael's tomb (Jacob's spouse) remains at the entrance of Bethlehem. She died when she gave birth to Benjamin (Ge 48:7) and Jacob, her husband buried her here. Naomi & Ruth were from Bethlehem (Ruth 1:16 & 4:13-17) Bethlehem became known as the City of David (1Samuel 16:4-13) and David himself was a shepherd boy when God selected him to be a King. Bethlehem was known for Lambs (Ex 29:38-46) and the people sacrificed Two Rams to God every day in the Temple Mount, one in the morning and another one in the evening. (It became known as the house of meat) 'Jesus was known as the Lamb of God' who takes away our sin of the world. (Jn 1:29) Bethlehem has been glorified from the time of Jesus up until now because of the Birth of Jesus the Messiah.

Every year during the time of Christmas millions and millions of people make pilgrimage to this Holy Place which is also known as the Birthplace of all the THREE World Abrahamic Religions (Judaism, Christianity and Islamism) People from these faith backgrounds come to visit the Birthplace of Christ and also visit with the Tomb of Rachel, as it is a special place for the Jewish people.

### WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	Dec 23	8:30 am	Int. PrayerGroup ✠ Patrick Fortney
Tue	Dec 24	4:00 pm	✠ Russ Radi ✠ Alice Therrien
		6:30 pm	Int. Bishop Gregory Bittman
		10:00 pm	
Wed	Dec 25	8:30 am	✠ Russ Radi ✠ Clarence Roberts
		10:30 am	✠ Russ Radi Int. Bishop Gregory Bittman
Thu	Dec 26	8:30 am	✠ Joe & Beverly McNamara All Souls of Purgatory
Fri	Dec 27	8:30 am	✠ Russ Radi ✠ Mary Kolankowski & Children
Sat	Dec 28	8:30 am	Int. Bishop Bittman ✠ John Cairns
		5:00 pm	✠ Karol Kolankowski Int. Joseph Lawrance
Sun	Dec 29	8:30 am	✠ Russ Rady ✠ Homer Roy
		10:30 am	Int. Joseph Lawrance
		7:00 pm	Parishioners of St. Charles Garnier

Tourists pour into the City of Bethlehem to behold the face of Christ. The Christmas Spirit catches up as we begin the Advent this year. As the holy family did not have room in the INN, most of the tourists will be stranded on the streets of Bethlehem these days. John B. Keane in his Book, "Urgings of Christmas" walks us through the Christmas Spirit. (This Christmas Spirit had been put on hold last year due to the escalation of political tension between Israel and Palestine) This hostile attitude/spirit continues even today creating a skeptical idea whether 'Christmas Festivities' will be allowed in Bethlehem this year?

Keane is of the opinion that the 'Christmas Spirit' is something special, which cannot be compromised. It is the Celebration of our faith in the Son of God, who chose to be born in our human family as an infant. People in modern times question this Spirit of Christmas by their challenging questions...'How could a child be born without a male seed?'. Therefore, according to those who question the Holy Birth of Christ ...is a Concocted Story / Fantasy. Therefore, it is just a fabricated story and not real. But the Holy Scriptures tell us that "All things are possible for God" and therefore, God chose to send His Son into the world, to help the World to see His Goodness at the face of this Little Child. (Jn 3:16) This Christmas Spirit survived for the past 2024 years, and it cannot be killed by any such hostile thoughts in our times. This Christmas Spirit had survived every human greed, jealousy, envy and every human failure. Even the present wars, violence & bombs cannot reduce the Spirit of Christmas. Let's make a Spiritual Pilgrimage with the expectant Mother Mary to behold the Holy Face of Jesus at His Holy Birth.

All the best!

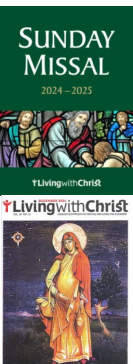
In the Service of the Word

Gabriel

---

### FROM THE OFFICE

---



**Sunday Missals** \$ 7.00 each  
**Monthly Missals** \$ 3.75 each  
Available at the church office.

\*\*\* If you would like your tax receipt for 2024 to be e-mailed, please contact the office @

[scgkelowna@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:scgkelowna@nelsondiocese.org)

---

### FREEDOM'S DOOR

---

Our annual FREEDOM'S DOOR CHRISTMAS TREE is on display in the foyer of our church.

- We invite you to take a paper decoration from our tree and buy a gift as noted.
- Please do not wrap it.
- Return the gift and place it under the tree before December 20<sup>th</sup>.

We, at Freedom's Door, are now assisting over 100 men.

Your generosity will bring hope and joy to so many this Christmas.

*Thank you!*



---

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

- The next Dying with Christ, Living with Hope event is on Saturday, January 18th from 9am-2pm. Sign-up sheet in the foyer.
- Parish Photo Booklet: Information in the bulletin & on website. Photographer here Jan 9-18 to create a parish photo booklet. Book your appointment soon.
- Parish office will be closed over the holidays from Dec 25-Jan 2nd.

## Roman Catholic Diocese of Nelson website:

<https://www.nelsondiocese.org/>

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass & Devotions

Live stream click [here](#)

## St. Charles Garnier Parish

<http://stcharlesgarnier.ca/>

**Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is being**

**live-streamed Sunday 8:30**

Livestream click [here](#)

### NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS—DIOCESE OF NELSON



News and Announcements from Diocese of Nelson please click [here](#).



For Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops website click [here](#).

### CHALICE

To order gifts, please call:

1-800-776-6855

or visit:

<https://chalice.ca/gift-catalogue/>



### PARISH CALENDAR

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Saturday, Dec 21	8:30 am 5:00 pm	Daily Morning Mass Sunday Mass
Sunday, Dec 22	8:30 am 10:30 am	Sunday Mass Sunday Mass—Kids Liturgy
<b>Monday to Friday</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>	Morning Mass—Rosary after Mass
Saturday		Confessions after Mass or by appointment (please call the office)
Monday, Dec 23	7:00 am 12:00—4:00 pm	Christmas Novena Masses Card Social Group
Tuesday, Dec 24	4:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm 10:00 pm	Christmas Eve Mass Christmas Eve Mass CANCELLED—RCIA Christmas Eve Mass
Wednesday, Dec 25	8:30 am 10:30 am 4:30 pm 7:00 pm	Christmas Day Mass Christmas Day Mass CANCELLED—Catechism—1st Communion CANCELLED—Catechism—Confirmation
Thursday, Dec 26	9:30 am	CANCELLED—Bible Study



### Hospital Visitation

If you have family member in the hospital and wish to have a visit/communion. Please phone/email the office to let us know. 250-860-6776  
[scgkelowna@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:scgkelowna@nelsondiocese.org)  
 Or call Ethel @ 250-860-2101



### Forth Sunday of Advent 2024

Journey through Advent 2024

<https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-advent/>

### SCG—Guide to Giving 2024

December	1	8	15	22	29	Total
Monthly Parish Collection Budget	6,680	6,680	6,680	6,680	6,680	33,400
Monthly automatic bank donations received (SAG)			9,857			
Sunday Cash/Cheque Collection	5,432	15,344	5,870			
E-transfers received						
Monthly total to date	5,432	20,776	36,503			



### SCGP—Donations

E-transfers are accepted at St. Charles Garnier Parish  
 Send your offering via e-transfer to:  
[etransfer.SCGK@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:etransfer.SCGK@nelsondiocese.org)  
 no password is required.  
 QR Code

### Donation Envelopes 2025

The 2025 offering envelopes are available for pick up at the church foyer.

If you are participating in the monthly SAG (preauthorized giving) envelopes are not printed, if you need please stop by the office.

Special Collections not covered by your regular SAG donation.

### VERY IMPORTANT:

Please **DO NOT** use your new envelopes before 2025!

Your envelope number changes each year.

Using envelopes from other than the current year could result in confusion and not receiving proper tax credit for your donations.





## St. Charles Garnier Parish Photo Booklet

Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of St. Charles Garnier Parish, I would like to invite you to participate in our Parish Photo Booklet Program.

**The Purpose of this project is to:**

- Help develop a community spirit among us
- Help get to know fellow parishioners by name and help the staff and others identify parishioners
- Create a “snapshot” of who and what the parish is, for present and historical purposes
- Group photos of those who attend the four weekend masses will be taken in April, which will give parish groups/ministries a chance to wear identifying insignia. No other group photos will be taken.
- Group photos of the children who attend each of the Masses will also be taken in April.

**By your participation:**

- You receive one free parish photo booklet. Additional copies can be purchased.  
You can purchase additional studio quality portraits at less than studio prices. However, there is no obligation to purchase.

**And the only cost to you is**

About 30 minutes to have the portrait taken and choose the photo to be used for the directory.

Photography will take place in the foyer of the church in two sessions, the first on **January 9 through 18**. And on **April 21 through 26**. There are a certain number of appointment slots set aside on each of those days. See site below for time slots: Wear solid colors and please arrive 15 minutes ahead of your appointment for final personal preparations and information-validation. We hope to have as many portraits as possible done in the January time slots, to leave time for the snowbirds and latecomers in April. Homemade photos are our least preferable option. See what IPC Photo Services have done and can do for us: <https://www.ipcphoto.ca/>

I encourage you and your family to be part of **St. Charles Garnier Parish Photo Booklet**, so that we may have a rich portrait of our parish family at this moment in our parish's history. Let's make this the best Parish Photo Booklet ever! Your participation is appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Fr. Gerald

**BOOK AN APPOINTMENT:**

Go to <https://ipcphoto.ca/appointments>

Password: **myphoto** (no spaces)

Click parish name. Read instructions.

Select an appointment date and time. Fill in number of people in the photo.

Register carefully, only once. Cancellation is not possible.

Help in times of signup desperation: Sr. Phyllis at [rose2175@gmail.com](mailto:rose2175@gmail.com), 250-872-0477

**\*\*\* Bookings for April will not be taken until the January sessions are concluded.**

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED.**

While the photo shoot is in progress, we need a man or woman to act as a liaison between the clients and the photographer, to ensure that information is correct and that we keep to the time schedule. If you can give a few hours to help out, please contact Frances Lemire who can tell you what times are possible on the dates noted above.

Contact Frances at [lemirefrancesl@gmail.com](mailto:lemirefrancesl@gmail.com)  
Or: 236-795-3423



## Christmas Masses

December 24 - Christmas Eve  
4:00 pm  
6:30 pm  
10:00 pm

December 25 - Christmas Day  
8:30 am  
10:30 am

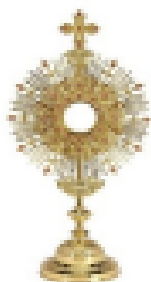
## New Year Masses

December 31 - New Year's Eve Vigil  
5:00 pm

January 1 - New Year  
8:30 am  
10:30 am

### PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL

Diocese of Nelson Perpetual Adoration Chapel  
839 Sutherland Avenue  
Located off the back of Immaculate Conception Church; entrance is off west alley/driveway.  
Our Lord Jesus is inviting you to visit Him in the Perpetual Adoration Chapel.  
Scheduled Volunteer Hours available are:  
Sun: 7 am & 4 pm | Mon: 1 am & 2 am | Wed: 1 am, 2 am, 3 am & 2 pm | Thurs: 1 am | Fri: 12 am | Sat: 2 pm  
Spares are always needed. Shared times available! For information phone:  
Lorie: 250-448-5633



### PRAYER GROUP

Open wide the door of your heart to the One who comes... Our Lord, Christ Jesus....  
Our prayer group will not be gathering starting December 10th to December 31st..  
We will gather once again January 7th 2025...Our prayers continue for one another our community and our world  
Wishing you all a blessed Advent Season and a very Merry Christmas...  
For more info please call Piera 2502157100

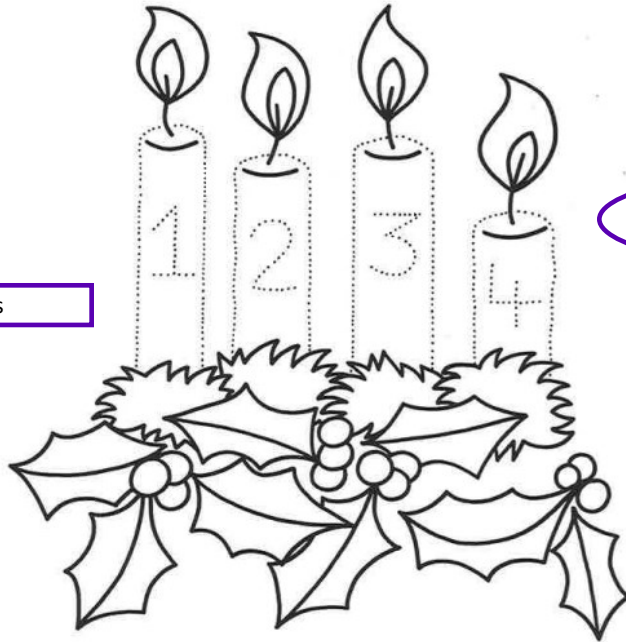
### KELOWNA AND AREA HOSPITAL CHAPLENCY

For the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick/pastoral emergencies or for end-of-life blessings (Last Rites) please call 250-878-1502 (24/7)  
or email: [chaplain@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:chaplain@nelsondiocese.org)  
The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick may be received more than once!!



# Forth Sunday of Advent (C)

Luke 1:39-44



Trace the candles

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Advent

# Christmas Day (C)

Luke 2:15-20

Jesus is born!

Add the numbers together to find how many kilometers they have to travel

Mary's child was almost ready to be born when she and Joseph had to make a long journey to Bethlehem



## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL



**Pastor**—Fr. Gerald  
**Chair**—Stephen Horsman  
**Co-Chair**—Christine Schmidt  
**Liturgy**—Marlene Crane  
**Financial**—Kevin Schmidt  
**Maintenance**—Margaret Radi  
**SSVP**—Arnie Schneider  
**K of C**—Paul King  
**CWL**—Debbie Cloutier  
**Outreach**—Abbey Ackerman  
**Recorder**—Leah Debit  
**Special Activities**—Carmen & Alan Walisser

## PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

### CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Meet second Tuesday of the month @ 9:30 am  
 Contact: Diane Cey 250-868-9636  
 Membership inquiries: Betty Ann Richard [bettyannrichard@gmail.com](mailto:bettyannrichard@gmail.com)  
**FR. PANDOSY 4TH DEGREE ASSEMBLY**—Knights of Columbus  
 Meet third Sundays of the month at 2:00 pm  
 Inquiries: Gino Servedio 250-764-3182  
**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** [www.stcharleskoc.com](http://www.stcharleskoc.com)  
 Meet second Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm.  
 Grand Knight: Paul Schembri [pjaas@gmail.com](mailto:pjaas@gmail.com)

**St. Peregrine Prayer Circle** (An Apostolate of The Little Flowers of Saint Francis Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order).

If you have friends/family members with serious illnesses we will add them to our list and pray for them & their family daily. We meet once a month and pray together.  
 Contact: Christine Reeves, OFS. 250-575-2043 E-mail: [sforeec10@gmail.com](mailto:sforeec10@gmail.com)

**SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER** - "The Little Flowers of St. Francis Fraternity"  
 Meeting the 3rd Sunday of the month @ 1:00 pm at Our Lady of Lourdes-Meeting Room.  
 Contact Sandy: 250-212-3596.

**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de PAUL** 250-860-2536  
 Meet second and fourth Wednesdays at 9:00 am St. Charles Garnier Parish—Hall

### FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH—SSVP DONATIONS

## MINISTRY COORDINATORS

If you wish to become involved contact the Parish Office 250-860-6776  
 Children's Liturgy Allison Knittig 778-477-3790  
 Eucharistic Ministers Dave Crane 250-861-4085  
 CMC/Children Choir Abbey Ackerman 250-899-4384  
 CMC/Children Choir Julia Orr 250-718-0060  
 Women's Ministry Joelle Schmidt 250-470-8901  
 Altar Servers Jonathan Rowe 778-478-1133  
 Music JoAnn Young 250-317-8965  
 Readers Marlene Crane 250-861-4085  
 Sacristans Lindsay Rowe 779-214-0420  
 Safe Environment Coordinator Gino Servedio 250-764-3182  
 Ushers Rhonda Sali [rhondasali@gmail.com](mailto:rhondasali@gmail.com)  
 Pilgrimage of Faith Karen Krout [karenkrout@gmail.com](mailto:karenkrout@gmail.com)  
 Development and Peace Ethel Robidoux 250-860-2101  
 Hospital Visitation Christine Schmidt 250-763-4798  
 Care-Home Visitation [www.kelownacatholicyouthgroup.ca/](http://www.kelownacatholicyouthgroup.ca/)  
 Youth Ministry Amanda Tian Seng  
 Religious Ed Coordinator 250-860-6776 -Ext: 202 or [formation.scg.kelowna@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:formation.scg.kelowna@nelsondiocese.org)

## CONTACT NUMBERS

**DIOCESE OF NELSON—CATHOLIC PASTORAL CENTRE** 250-448-2725  
**ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL** 250-763-3371  
**IMMACULATA REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL** 250-762-2730  
**CLUBHOUSE DAYCARE** 250-860-4393  
**ELIZABETH SETON HOUSE OF PRAYER** 250-764-4333  
**FREEDOM'S DOOR** [info@freedomdoorkelowna.com](mailto:info@freedomdoorkelowna.com) 250-717-0472  
**GRIEF TO GRACE** [www.GrieffToGrace.org](http://www.GrieffToGrace.org) 250-870-8517  
**KELOWNA RIGHT TO LIFE** [kelownarighttolife@hotmail.com](mailto:kelownarighttolife@hotmail.com) 250-870-4103  
**OZANAM HOUSE** [manager@ozanamhouse.com](mailto:manager@ozanamhouse.com) 250-762-4673  
**PREGNANCY CARE CENTRE** 250-763-2112  
**RACHEL'S VINEYARD** [info@rachelvineyardkelowna.com](mailto:info@rachelvineyardkelowna.com) 250-762-2273  
**REACH OUT YOUTH COUNSELLING & FAMILY SERVICES** 250-763-7892  
[reachoutokanagan@gmail.com](mailto:reachoutokanagan@gmail.com)  
**CANADIAN FOOD FOR CHILDREN** [www.canadianfoodforchildren.ca](http://www.canadianfoodforchildren.ca)  
**CREIGHTON MODEL FERTILITY CARE** <https://creightonmodel.com/>

Please remember:

OUR CHURCH IS A **SCENT-FREE ZONE!** Avoid wearing perfume, after-shave or heavily scented personal care products.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE BULLETIN IS THURSDAY NOON.**



## St. Charles Garnier Parish

### WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!

Please complete this form and leave it in the collection basket, Parish Office or email to:

[scgkelowna@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:scgkelowna@nelsondiocese.org)

New Parishioner: ☐ Information Change: ☐

Name (s) : \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Last) (First) (Middle) (Last) (First) (Middle)

DOB (yyyy/mm/dd): \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDREN				
Name (s) (Last)	(First)	(Middle)	M/F	DOB (yyyy/mm/dd)

Would you like to be contacted by one of our parish groups?	
<input type="checkbox"/> CWL	<input type="checkbox"/> Music
<input type="checkbox"/> Knights of Columbus	<input type="checkbox"/> Reader
<input type="checkbox"/> St. Vincent de Paul	<input type="checkbox"/> Usher
<input type="checkbox"/> R.C.I.A.	<input type="checkbox"/> Altar Servers
<input type="checkbox"/> Sacristan (Set up for Mass)	

Would you like to pick up Sunday Offertory Envelopes from the ledge in the foyer next week? Yes ☐ No ☐

The label will have your name on it, the number identifies you and a tax receipt will be sent to you at the address that you registered with.

You may also register on-line @ [www.stcharlesgarnier.ca](http://www.stcharlesgarnier.ca) where you can sign up for the bulletin to be emailed to you each week.