



# St. Charles Garnier Parish

## Third Sunday of Advent.

“I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,  
‘Make straight the way of the Lord’”

John 1:6-8, 19-28



### 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

Pastor's email: [scgpastor@shaw.ca](mailto:scgpastor@shaw.ca)

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

This Sunday is known as Gaudate Sunday/Rejoicing Sunday. We Rejoice with the young virgin Mary who had been miraculously blessed to conceive 'Jesus Christ'/ The Messiah / The Son of God, the Second person of the Holy Trinity. We echo her song of 'Thanksgiving', "My soul exults in my God, for He has done mighty things for me" (Lk 1) JOY is more than Happiness. Joy means Gladness, Cheerfulness & Calm Delight. Happiness is an emotion which is born of the mind, especially like a timely kiss or exchanging of pleasantries like the Christmas Wish or Congratulating the Newly wedded / graduates. Joy is born of the 'heart' is based on deeper relationships such as a Golden wedding Anniversary. Joy is the gift of the Holy Spirit (Gal 5:22) Joy makes our life meaningful and beautiful. Joy helps us get through our untimely challenges and fills our hearts with gladness. Apostle Paul in 1 Thes 5:16-24 discussed this as the 'Christian Spirit', which is oriented towards God, when we engage in Prayer & Thanksgiving out of Gratitude.

How can we develop this 'Christian Spirit?' The Scriptures help us to nurture, develop and realize this ideal in the following ways. (A) 1. Making Pilgrimage to the Holy Places to Behold the face of God...like the Israelite people. (Ps 122: 2 & 7) "My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. The Lord will keep you from all evil, He will keep your life from this time on and for evermore". 2. Celebrating our Family Connections especially with our timely visits with all our loved ones especially friends and families. 3. Helping and Supporting the exiled people to resettle comfortably like our ancestors in faith (The Israelites) by giving them hope & encouragement to begin a new life. 4. Restoring people's dignity and honor especially those trafficked and those who have lost their innocence/identity.

### WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	Dec 18	8:30 am	+ Joan Spencer
Tue	Dec 19	8:30 am	Int. Bill & Carmen
Wed	Dec 20	8:30 am	Int. Leona Stocker
Thu	Dec 21	8:30 am	Int. Marilyn Slivinski
Fri	Dec 22	8:30 am	+ Ken Hanak
Sat	Dec 23	4:00pm 6:30 pm	+ Peter Mlikotic + John & Aileen Mahon
Sun	Dec 24	8:30am	+ Helen Stoneman
		4:00 pm	Int. Romuald & Sophie & Family
		6:30 pm	PSCG

### Next Week's Readings

1	2 Samuel —	7:1-5, 8b 12, 14a, 16
2	Romans —	16:25-27
Gospel	Luke —	1:26-38

5. Like our Blessed Mother reaching out to those with love & kindness, who need our timely care and attention, especially the homebound, elderly and our own parents.

(B) Prayer. Prayer is the fundamental expression of our Religious Sentiments, esp., looking up to God in our heart & mind, by establishing a personal contact leading to a lasting relationship with the deity. Our daily sacrifice/suffering is Prayer in action. The Book of Deuteronomy 26:1-10 Explains the 'offering of first fruits, festival of weeks and the harvest festivals'. In prayer we Sing, Dance. Beat/Play Musical Instruments and Read the Scriptures & reflect on them. People in the Old Testament stood to pray. Today, we either sit, kneel or stand to pray. Some prostrate completely to show their reverence. Our external posture helps to express our intention & disposition before the deity. Psalm 95:6 "Come, let us kneel down before the Lord. Let's bow down before His Holy Temple". The Catechism of the Church #11 tells us that 'Eucharistic Liturgy is the Summit and Source of all Prayers'. We remember what Jesus has done for us for ever and ever in this Liturgical Prayer.

(C) Thanksgiving: Psalm 116 Explains this concept of 'thanksgiving' as 'fulfilling our vows/promises to God'. God has blessed us with several blessings that we sought for and obtained from His loving hands. (Health from sickness, Peace of mind & heart from a Challenging situation, unforeseen turbulences in our personal & public life & so on). Our God is always on our side, and we rely on His timely help. When our request is realized, we, out of gratitude for the blessings and favours received, 'raise the cup of salvation' (Ps 116:13) This Cup of salvation is a blessing, whereas 'the cup of wrath' (Is 51:17) is the 'suffering cup' which God gives to us when we go away from His loving presence. We offer the Holy Mass everyday out of gratitude for the Lord's closeness and nearness to us both in times of Joy & Suffering. But today, we, with great gratitude, offer this Holy Sacrifice for Sending His Son, Jesus, into the world as our Redeemer/Saviour through Mother Mary! With her we Rejoice to Celebrate this Holy occasion.

All the best.

In the service of the Word!

Gabriel



**SSVP**



The Society of St Vincent de Paul is launching the annual Christmas Hamper campaign. Like last year, we will be delivering a 'gift card hamper' and gifts for children to households that we have helped throughout the year. We thank you in advance for taking a donation envelope from the foyer and returning it anytime to the office or to one of the Vincentians at mass. Or donate online by accessing the Canada Helps donating website:

[www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/society-of-st-vincent-de-paul-stcharles-garnier-conference/listed](http://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/society-of-st-vincent-de-paul-stcharles-garnier-conference/listed)

**SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER**



The Little Flowers of St. Francis Fraternity gathers monthly for prayer, formation, and fellowship. For more information, contact: Sandy Kavanagh at: 250-212-3596.

<b>SCG—Guide to Giving 2023</b>						
<b>December</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Total</b>
Monthly Parish Collection Budget	6,680	6,680	6,680	6,680	6,680	33,400
Monthly automatic bank donations received (SAG)						
Sunday Cash/Cheque Collection	4,033	6,360				
E-transfers received						
Monthly total to date	4,033	10,393				

**SCGP—DONATIONS BY E-TRANSFER OR CREDIT CARD**



E-transfers are accepted at St. Charles Garnier Parish Send your offering via e-transfer to: [etransfer.SC GK@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:etransfer.SC GK@nelsondiocese.org)

no password is required.

## 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



**Be the Beginning**  
Christmas Gift Catalogue

[Give a gift](#)

### Sunday Masses

REALLYGREATSITE

**December 23**

Time: 4:00 pm

Time: 6:30 pm

**December 24**

Time: 8:30 am



UNTO US

*a child is born.*

ISAIAH 9:6

### Christmas Masses

**December 24**

Christmas Eve

Time: 4:00 pm -

Children/Young Families

Time: 6:30 pm

**December 25**

Christmas Day Mass

Time: 8:30 am

Time: 10:30 am

### Sunday Masses

**December 30**

Sunday Mass

Time: 5:00 pm

**December 31**

Sunday Mass

Time: 8:30 am

Time: 10:30 am

**January 1**

New Years Mass

Time: 10:30 am

## GAUDETE SUNDAY

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops presents Journey through Advent with the Most Rev. Bishop Jon Hansen, CSsR, Bishop of Mackenzie-Fort Smith. Join us as we reflect on the Scriptures for the Sundays of Advent 2023.

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



## FORMED



### Mary of Nazareth

What would it have been like to have known the Mother of God? Watch this beautiful film portraying the life of Mary in order to contemplate Mary's profound faith and the mysteries of her life.

**Enjoy a free subscription:**

[stcharlesgarnier.formed.org](http://stcharlesgarnier.formed.org)

Don't have an account?

Click on Register and enter your email and create a password.

Contact Nicole Horsman at:

[nicolehorsman@telus.net](mailto:nicolehorsman@telus.net)

If you have any further questions about

[Formed.org](http://Formed.org)



## PARISH EVENTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Saturday, December 16	8:30 am 5:00 pm	SSVP—Hall Mass
Sunday, December 17	8:30 am 10:30 am 2:00 pm	Sunday Mass Sunday Mass K of C Meeting
Monday to Friday	8:30 am	Mass—Rosary after Mass
Monday, December 18	1:00 pm	Card Social
Tuesday, December 19	7:00 pm	Women's Ministry
Wednesday, December 20	3:00 pm	Reconciliation Service
Friday, December 22	10:30 am	Funeral: Thiessen, Oliver "Jack"

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## LAUDATO SI

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At this most wonderful time of the year, when God chooses to join His people in our human condition and show us how to live in His love, the Laudato Si' Movement offers a monthly prayer and ideas for celebrating a Christmas which gives respect to the natural world created and loved by God.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dEeqOeWjQVKd3G7akcoezXlbSVDrViLD/view>

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## RACHEL'S CORNER

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“If someone has entered into your life and made a mess of your life or maybe you, did it yourself... things you have done where you need to forgive yourself; you have broken stained glass windows in your life. Those pieces need to be given to God, and allow Him to pick up those pieces, put them together and He can make something even more beautiful.” Fr. Geraci

Are you ready to hand everything over to God? To let Him rebuild what is broken inside and allow Him to help you feel alive again? Join us on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat™.

[info@rachelvineyardkelowna.com](mailto:info@rachelvineyardkelowna.com)  
[www.rachelvineyardkelowna.com](http://www.rachelvineyardkelowna.com)

f Rachel's Vineyard Kelowna 250-762-2273



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## SUITE TO RENT

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\*\*\* Looking for an affordable suite for rent, with two bedrooms.

If you have one or know someone please call the office @ 250-860-6776

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## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

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St. Charles Garnier Women's Ministry  
**REFRESH**  
*I will refresh the weary & satisfy the faint  
Jeremiah 31:25*

**Christmas Social**

December 19  
7 - 9 PM

All women are invited to join us in the hall for a social. We will have a Christmas movie playing; bring along your Christmas wrapping to finish; bring a game to play or just come to have a minute to put your feet up and socialize during a busy week!  
**Please bring a snack to share.**

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## FREEDOM'S DOOR

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We have our annual **FREEDOM'S DOOR CHRISTMAS TREE** on display in the foyer of our church. We invite you to take a paper decoration from our tree. On the back is a stated gift for you to purchase and return next Sunday to place under the tree. Please return the decoration paper and please DON'T wrap the gift. The gifts will be gathered and placed in a Christmas decorated bag for each of the men of Freedom's Door on Christmas morning. There are 94 people currently staying at Freedom's Door and undergoing an addiction recovery program. Your generosity will be such a boost and an outreach to men who have suffered a lot and who have often felt that no one cares.

**All gifts to be returned by Dec. 18, please.**

Help them to have a:  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

Thank you for your generosity!!



ADVENT CONFESSION SCHEDULE 2023

St. Pius X Parish	Mon. Dec. 18 @ 5:30 pm
St. Edwards Parish	Wed. Dec. 20 @ 5:30 pm
St. Charles Garnier Parish	Wed. Dec. 20 @ 5:30 pm
OLL Parish	Thurs. Dec. 21 @ 4:00 pm



**MADE FOR MORE**

with **CHRISTOPHER WEST** MUSIC BY **MIKE MANGIONE**

**Thursday, Feb. 8, 2024**  
7-9:30pm

**Immaculata Regional High School**  
kelownam4m.eventbrite.com



**Bambinelli Sunday**

Bring your  
Baby Jesus  
figures for a blessing!

**December 17th, 2023 - 10:30 Mass**



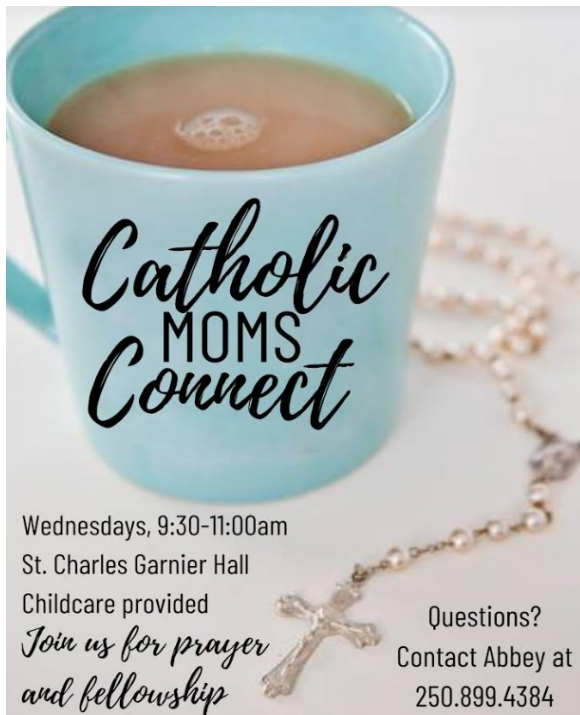
We invite you to join our  
St. Charles Garnier Parish  
Facebook group!

Use the link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stcharlesgarnier>  
or Scan the QR code



You will be asked to answer the question "who is our pastor" to be accepted into the group.

**See what is happening in our Parish!  
See what our Ministries are doing!  
See why we need more people to serve!**

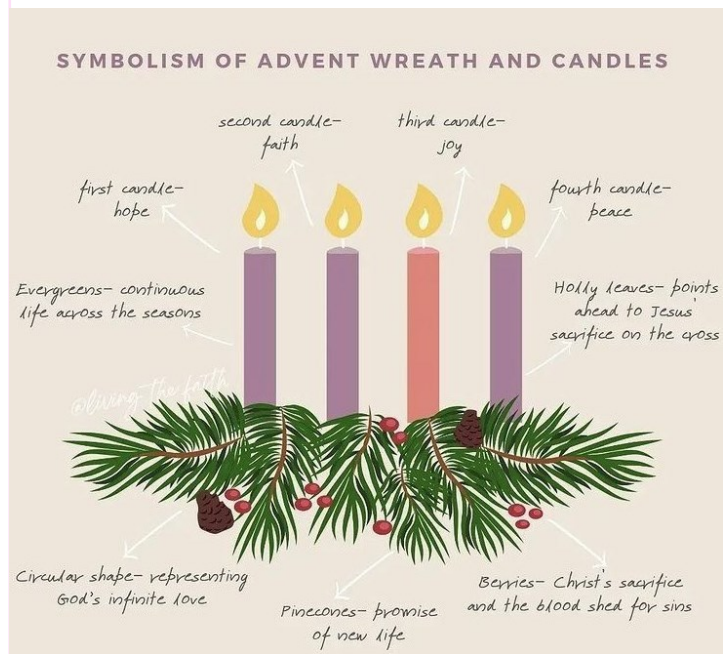


**Catholic MOMS Connect**

Wednesdays, 9:30-11:00am  
St. Charles Garnier Hall  
Childcare provided  
Join us for prayer and fellowship

Questions?  
Contact Abbey at 250.899.4384

**SYMBOLISM OF ADVENT WREATH AND CANDLES**



first candle- hope

second candle- faith

third candle- joy

fourth candle- peace

Evergreens- continuous life across the seasons

Holly leaves- points ahead to Jesus sacrifice on the cross

*always the death*

Circular shape- representing God's infinite love

Pinecones- promise of new life

Berries- Christ's sacrifice and the blood shed for sins

# Third Sunday of Advent (B)















John 1:6-8, 19-28

## A witness for Christ

Write the letter that is missing from the second word in the box.  
Read down to find the answer (John 1:7)

John came to prepare the people to listen to Jesus. He came as a

\_\_\_\_\_

In WALL		but not BALL	
In HAIR		but not HARE	
In HAT		but not HAM	
In NOSE		but not HOSE	
In TEN		but not TIN	
In SHOE		but not HOE	
In STRAW		but not WATER	


The people wondered if John was the Messiah promised by God. What did he tell them?

Cross out every second letter. Copy the remaining letters in order on the spaces below

Start → I ~~X~~ A J M P N L O R T B T E H S E C C J H R R K I M S J T

' \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ '



John 1:20

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**



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

**PARISH ORGANIZATIONS**

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE**

Meet second Tuesday of the month—**NOTE:** Sep-Oct-Nov @ 6:30 PM  
 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 2nd Sunday of the month @ St. Charles Garnier Parish Hall.

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**

**SSVP DONATIONS-VEHICLE, RV & TRAILER-** KEITH :250-300-1062

**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 . . . . . Brenda Korby . . . . . 250-859-0840  
 Safe Environment Coordinator . . . . .  
 Ushers . . . . . Gino Servedio . . . . . 250-764-3182  
 Pilgrimage of Faith . . . . . Rhonda Sali [rhondasali@gmail.com](mailto:rhondasali@gmail.com)  
 Development and Peace . . . . . Karen Krout—[karenkrout@gmail.com](mailto:karenkrout@gmail.com)  
 Hospital Visitation . . . . . Ethel Robidoux . . . . . 250-860-2101  
 Care-Home Visitation . . . . . Christine Schmidt . . . . . 250-763-4798  
 Youth Ministry . . . . . [www.kelownacatholicyouthgroup.ca/](http://www.kelownacatholicyouthgroup.ca/)  
 Religious Ed Coordinator . . . . . Amanda Tian Seng . . . . .  
 250-860-6776 -Ext: 202 or [formation.scg.kelowna@nelsondiocese.org](http://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 or at the Parish Office.

**New Parishioner:** \_\_\_\_ **Information Change:** \_\_\_\_

Name (s) : \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

Would you like to be contacted by one of our parish groups?	
CWL ____	Music ____
Knights of Columbus ____	Reader ____
St. Vincent de Paul ____	Usher ____
R.C.I.A. ____	Altar Servers ____
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.