



Our Catholic church community is officially called *St. Gerard's Mission*

St. Gerard's Council Members:

*Warwick Bay, Josie Farrell, David Honing, Judith McBride, Michel Pere, Angela Powell,
Eileen Richter, Denise Smith, Diana Taylor*

Issue No. 2 December 14th, 2008 Third Sunday of Advent

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As a "Mission" Church, St. Gerard's is affiliated with the Parish of Holy Trinity in North Vancouver. We are very delighted to be able to share the parish clergy, mainly Fr. Jim Comey and Fr. Tom Smith . We are growing as a Catholic Christian Community and we invite you to get involved with our "mission" events. We welcome your input and would like to use this bulletin as a means to keep you connected with the "community".

READERS

Dec. 14th Ann Zawadzky
 Josie Farrell

Dec. 21st Warwick Bay
 Josie Farrell

Dec. 24th Angela Powell
 Josie Farrell

Dec. 28th Diana Taylor
 Eileen Richter

ALTAR SERVERS

Dec. 14th Cecilia Bay

Dec. 21st Diana Taylor

Dec. 24th Eileen Richter

Dec. 28th Angela Powell

Work Party Results

Thanks to all who helped with the work party last Saturday, Dec 6th. Much was accomplished. A special thanks to Diana Taylor for organizing and setting up our new Nativity scene. We have had many positive comments about it. Outdoor lights are on the trees, and we have new lighting in the church. Your feedback will be appreciated on the new lighting.

RAFFLE TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE !

Our church raffle is officially underway! Thank you to Eileen, David and Josie for making this happen!

For **\$3.00**, you can buy a ticket(s) and have a chance to win one of the following great prizes:

1st Prize: 2 club seats to the Canucks vs Black Hawks game on Feb. 7th, **plus** accommodation for 2 at the Sutton Place Hotel. (Total Value \$500.00)

2nd Prize: Sequoia Gift Card – can be used at Sequoia Grill, Cardero's, Sandbar, or Seasons in the Park restaurants (Total Value of Gift Card \$100.00)

3rd Prize: 2 Return tickets on Coastal Link Ferries (Value \$50.00)

4th Prize: 2 Return tickets on the Granville Island Water Taxi (Value \$50.00)

Tickets will be on sale at the back of the church after each mass until the January 25th draw date, or until sold out.

If you would like to take a book of tickets to sell, please see Eileen Richter or one of the church council. Your help will be appreciated in this fund raiser.

St. Gerard's Catholic Mission



CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

This year, our Christmas Mass will be held on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24th, at 7:30pm. Carols are planned to start at 7:00pm, and Mass will be followed by a little Christmas cheer and goodies. Please let your family, friends and visitors know.

DONATIONS

Just a reminder that the following donation jars can be found at the back of the church. We invite you to donate as you feel called. We thank you for your generosity in the past, today, and in the future:

- Rawanda – ongoing
- St. Gerard's Nativity Scene – short term goal of \$500
- Sr. Jo - ongoing

FOOD BANK

There is a basket at the back of the church for food bank donations – dry, tinned or packaged foods only, no perishables. All food bank donations are for the Bowen Island Food Bank which serves the on-island needy.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

For those of you who are interested, copies of the notes from the church council meetings will now be kept in a folder on the counter at the back of the church.

We welcome your suggestions and thoughts on this bulletin, and also your contributions. If you have any announcements or news to share, or if you would like us to include your prayer intentions in our “prayer corner” please email: StGerards@rcav.bc.ca or josie7@telus.net

MASS PARTICIPATION

We invite you to participate in the Mass in a very special way by signing up to read or serve. The new sign-up sheets for **January** will be available in the back of the church prior to Christmas.

DECEMBER MASS INTENTIONS

Dec. 14th For St. Gerard's Community

Dec. 21st - Your Intention?

Dec. 28th - Your Intention?

Please contact Eileen Richter or Josie Farrell for your Mass Intentions.

PRAYER CORNER

Please share your prayer needs with us so our community can also pray with you. Never underestimate the power of prayer.

* for **George & Sheila Hunter, and Roger & Pat Mitts**, and all others in our community who have gone south for the winter, that their travels will be safe and that their Christmas will be a happy and holy occasion.

* for the **Stark** family, that they will be drawn to the source of all comfort through this Christmas season.

Intercessory Prayer

O Lord, we bring before you the distress and dangers of peoples and nations, the pleas of the imprisoned and the captive, the sorrows of the grief-stricken, the needs of the refugee, the impotence of the weak, the weariness of the despondent, and the diminishments of the aging. O Lord, stay close to all of them. Amen. St. Anselm of Canterbury (c. 1033-1109)