

# CATHEDRAL NEWS



## 2026 OFFERING ENVELOPE BOXES

2026 Offering Envelope Boxes are available for pick up from the entrance to the Cathedral. Please do not use old envelopes from previous years in 2026. If you currently do not use envelopes and would like a box for 2026 please contact the office.

## 2025 TAX RECEIPTS

All donations for tax receiving year 2025 must be physically received by the Cathedral office by December 31, 2025, for donors to receive a 2025 tax receipt. All 2025 tax receipts will be mailed out in February 2026.

## BOY'S CLOTHING NEEDED

Do you have boys clothing in good condition - Size 12 months to 2 years that you can donate? Winter items are much needed. Please call the Birthright Vancouver Office to arrange drop off. (604)-687-7223 — 1107-207 West Hastings Street, Van. BC .Your support will be greatly appreciated!

## CANDLEMAS LATIN MASS

On Monday February 2 we will have Mass and procession for the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary at 6:30 PM.

## HOLY HOUR & HAPPY HOUR, JANUARY 16 AT 8 PM

Join the young adults of the Cathedral for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and reconciliation followed by fellowship at a local pub. For more information visit: [facebook.com/hrcyoungadults](https://facebook.com/hrcyoungadults).

## THE FEAST OF CANDLEMAS

On February 2 the Church celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord and purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that day is also called Candlemas. On that day please bring candles that you want blessed and after all Masses we will have them blessed.

## WORLD DAY OF THE SICK, FEBRUARY 11

On the memorial of Our Lady, Wednesday, February 11, the Church observes the World Day of the Sick, a day dedicated to prayer for those who are ill and for all who care for them. Archbishop Richard Smith will celebrate Mass on the World Day of the Sick at 11 AM at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Vancouver, followed by a reception in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.

## CATHEDRAL OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday, 10 AM - 12 PM and 1 - 4:30 PM.

Phone: (604) 682 6774 ext. 0



Please visit our website and follow our social media accounts  
[@holyrosarycathedral](http://holyrosarycathedral)



# CATHEDRAL OF OUR LADY OF THE HOLY ROSARY

ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER



January 11, 2026  
The Baptism of  
the Lord

646 RICHARDS STREET, VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, V6B 3A3

### ARCHBISHOP

Most Rev. Richard W. Smith

### RECTOR

Very Rev. Stanley Galvon

### VICE RECTOR

Rev. Pablo Santa Maria, JCL

### ASSISTANT PRIESTS

Rev. Nicolas Tumbelaka

### DEACONS

Rev. Jose Thomas, OP

### DEACONS

Rev. Bonaventure Ukeh, JCD

### DEACONS

Rev. Anthony Diaz, CMF

### DEACONS

Rev. Mr. Zak Santiago

### DEACONS

Rev. Mr. Richard Chau



### SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:10 PM anticipated Mass  
Sunday 8 AM, 11 AM, 1 PM, 4 PM in Latin  
6:30 PM in Spanish, 8 PM

### WEEKDAY MASSES

7:15 AM, 12:10 PM and 5:10 PM  
Latin Mass: Fridays at 6:30 PM

### CONFESIONS

Mon - Sat. 11 to 11:45 AM & 4 to 4:45 PM  
Sundays from 9 to 9:30 AM  
Spanish Confessions: Sundays from 6 to 6:25 PM

604 682 6774 | [office@vancouvercathedral.org](mailto:office@vancouvercathedral.org) | [holyrosarycathedral.org](http://holyrosarycathedral.org)

**CATHEDRAL OFFICE INFORMATION**  
**office@vancouvercathedral.org**  
**646 Richards Street, Vancouver BC, V6B 3A3**

**Phone:** 604 682 6774 | **Website:** [holysarcathedral.org](http://holysarcathedral.org)

**Office Manager:** Krystyna Kasprzak | **Cathedral Secretaries:** Maria Watson & Marina Ubalde  
**Groundskeepers:** Peter Dziuk & Rolando Dauz | **Security:** Rolando Dauz & Raghav Nagpal

**D E V O T I O N S & S P I R I T U A L L I F E**

**Sunday Vespers and Benediction:** 5:30 PM

**First Friday devotions to the Sacred Heart:** After 6:30 PM Latin Mass

**Rosary:** Monday to Saturday at 11:40 AM & 4:40 PM

**Adoration:** Fridays from 12:45 PM to 3:30 PM



**C A T H E D R A L L I F E**

**BAPTISMS**

Baptisms are held on most Sundays at 2:30 PM. Baptism are for Cathedral parishioners or those who live in the boundaries of the Cathedral. Please call the Cathedral office to find out more.

**MARRIAGES**

Bookings should be made at least six months in advance. Couples please contact the Cathedral office for information.

**MUSIC & CHOIRS AT THE CATHEDRAL**

Please contact music director, Catherine Walsh at [catherine.organist@gmail.com](mailto:catherine.organist@gmail.com) for more info.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

For more info, please contact: Father Stanley Galvon.

**HRC YOUNG ADULTS**

Contact: [hrcyoungadults@gmail.com](mailto:hrcyoungadults@gmail.com);  
<http://facebook.com/hrcyoungadults>

**LATIN MASS AT THE CATHEDRAL**

At the Cathedral we have a Traditional Mass community. Masses on Friday (6:30 PM) and Sundays (4 PM). Coordinator: Daniel Chan.

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**A**s we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, bringing the Christmas season to its liturgical close, we stand at the threshold of a profound mystery: Here, at the River Jordan, heaven is opened, the Spirit descends as a dove, and the Father's voice is heard: "This is my beloved Son." Yet the scene presents us something we cannot easily understand: the sinless One bows his head to receive a baptism of repentance from the hands of a mortal man. But why?

Pope Benedict XVI understood that Christ's baptism was no mere formality, no symbolic gesture empty of content. Rather, it was a prophetic act of staggering importance: the first public movement in a drama that would culminate on Calvary. Pope Benedict saw in the Jordan a prefiguration of the tomb, in the descent into water a foreshadowing of the descent into death. Christ was already beginning his passion, already taking upon himself the burden of human sin, already inaugurating that great exchange where he takes our sins and gives us his righteousness. The waters themselves become sacramental in that moment. Christ does not need cleansing; he comes to cleanse.

Saint Augustine summarizes this even further: Christ baptized not to be washed, but to wash the waters themselves. When the Eternal Word touched the Jordan, he consecrated every font, every river, every drop of water that would ever be used in Christian baptism. Saint Augustine's theology, forged during the Donatist controversy, proclaimed that it is Christ who baptizes, whether the minister be Saint Peter or Judas. The sacrament's efficacy or power comes not from human worthiness but from Christ's sanctification of the waters at the Jordan.

And this is at the heart of the Feast we celebrate today, there is a difference between Christ's baptism and our own. There are those who would reduce baptism to mere symbolism or simple obedience, Catholic theology perceives a deeper sacramental reality. Christ's baptism was not for

himself but for us; it was not purgative but inaugurate; it did not cleanse him but consecrated the very means by which we would be cleansed.

Our baptism is radically different in purpose and effect. We come to the font as children of Adam, bearing the ancient stain of original sin, cut off from the life of grace. The waters that cleanse our heads are the waters of death and resurrection: we die with Christ to rise with him, we are buried in his tomb to share in his victory. This is no mere symbol. This is regeneration, rebirth, new creation. Original sin is washed away, sanctifying grace floods the soul, and the newly baptized becomes a temple of the Holy Spirit, a member of Christ's Body, an adopted child of the Father.

Christ needed none of this. He who is grace itself required no infusion of grace. He who is the eternal Son needed no adoption. Yet he descended into the Jordan, stood among sinners, bowed his head to receive what his divinity could not require. And he does all this because in his infinite love he chose to stand where we stand, to sanctify where we are defiled, to make holy the path we must walk.

Also, we should be careful against a mechanical sacramentalism that treats baptism as magic. We must remember that while the sacrament works objectively, it calls for a subjective response. The seed planted must take root. The grace given must be lived. Christ's baptism inaugurated a mission; ours commissions us for discipleship.

On this feast, then, we contemplate two baptisms: Christ's, which he did not need but we required; ours, which we desperately need and he has provided. His was the fountain opened; ours is the drinking from that fountain. His was descending to lift us up; ours is being lifted up because he descended.

The heavens opened once at Jordan. They open again at every font where water meets Word and faith. And still the Father's voice echoes: "This is my beloved child, in whom I am well pleased."

- Fr. Pablo Santa Maria