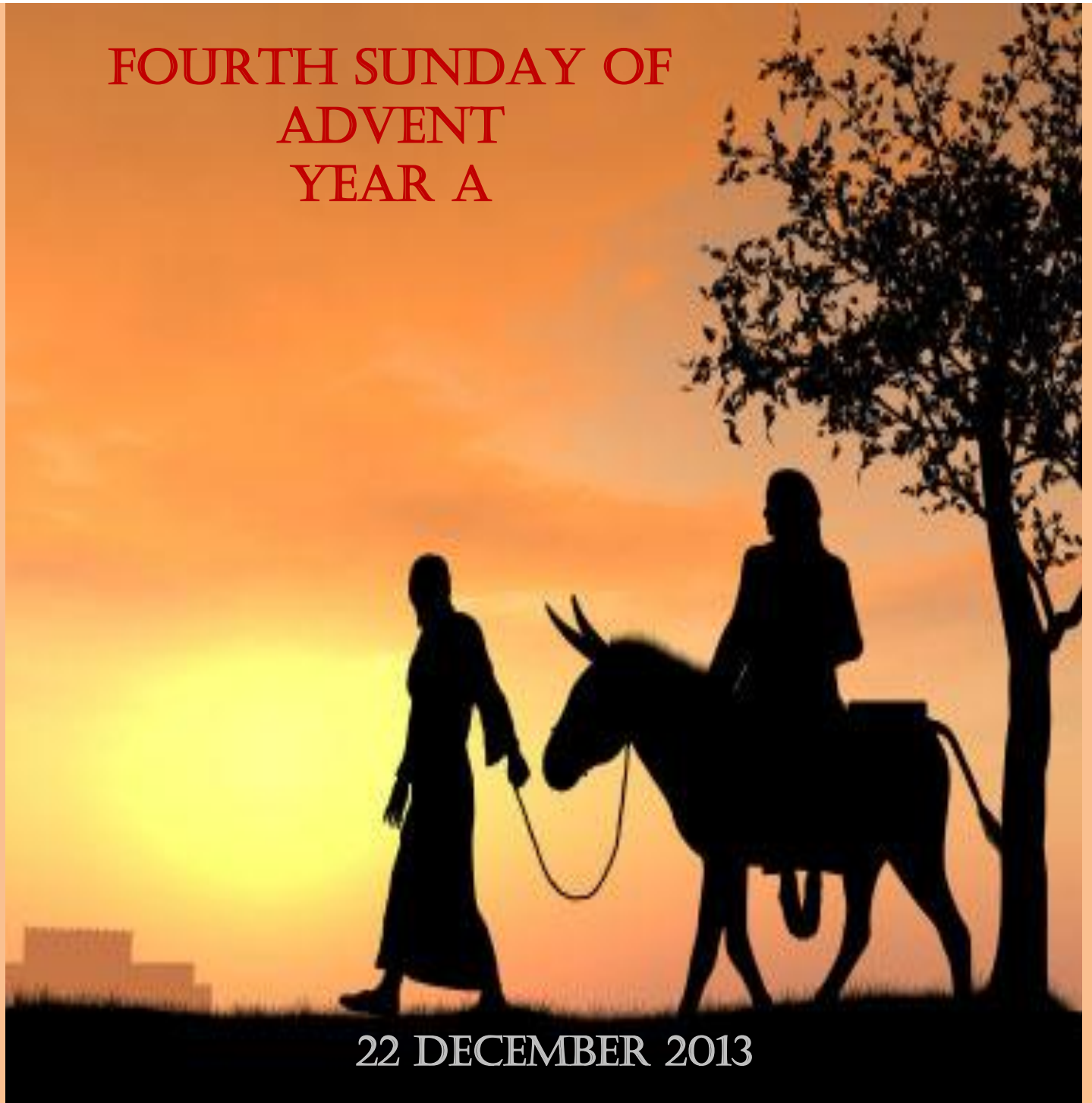


FOURTH SUNDAY OF  
ADVENT  
YEAR A



22 DECEMBER 2013

*Father in heaven, the day draws near when the glory of your Son will make radiant the night of the waiting world. May the lure of greed not impede us from the joy which moves the hearts of those who seek Him. May the darkness not blind us to the vision of wisdom which fills the minds of those who find Him. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.*

**NOTRE-DAME-DES-PHILIPPINES CATHOLIC MISSION**  
MONTREAL, CANADA



## TRUST IN GOD AND FOLLOW HIM

On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, we are invited to follow St. Joseph's example. Like him, we are asked to place ourselves totally at the service of God in the fulfillment of His plan of salvation. It is only by doing so that we will be able to experience real peace and be assured of our final success. The Lord, who created the world without us, could easily bring His plan to completion without us. But this is not what He usually does. He elevates us to the role of "partners" in the fulfillment of His plan, out of appreciation for our dignity, freedom, and other qualities that He has endowed us with. If we say "Yes," His sure success will also be our success.

*Ngayong palapit na ang pagsilang ng ating Panginoon, alalahanin natin ang maraming taong nangangailangan pang isilang si Hesus sa kani-kanilang kalooban. Ipanalangin natin sila.*

**"Maaliwalas na buwang-ilwayway,  
ningning ng walang hanggang ilaw  
at sikat ng katarungan,  
tanglawan nawa ang mga nasa kadiliman  
at ang mga nasa bingit  
ng kamatayan."**





## A Birthday Gift Registry for Jesus

Christians believe that our God and creator became human to save us from sin and selfishness. But sometimes we can be contradictory people. We've spent centuries perfecting ways to prepare for Jesus' birth, and transform our surroundings to celebrate it. We clean, cook, shop, wrap, decorate, sing, and give gifts. We take great care to forget nobody, but sometimes we can forget the One whose birthday we celebrate!

*If Jesus were to register for gifts as some of us do for other occasions, where would He register, and what would He list?*

*Let's consider this year's main Gospel - Matthew - for some gift ideas, and what they might cost us.*

SCRIPTURE	GIFT	COST
Mt. 5:23-24	Personal Information	Sincere humility, forgiveness
Mt. 5:42-43	Sharing with others	Selfishness, personal priorities
Mt. 5:44	Loving enemies	Judgmental nature, obeying popular opinion
Mt. 6:3	Generosity	Personal resources, need for recognition
Mt. 6:5-6	Regular Prayer	Time, some less-important activities
Mt. 7:12	Living the Golden Rule	Ego, self-righteousness
Mt. 13:49	Doing God's will	Self-indulgence, impatience

If we were to send birthday cards (or Christmas cards) to Jesus, what would we wish Him? How would we say it? How would He know that we meant it?

If we were to throw a birthday party for Jesus, whom would we invite? How would we welcome them? What would we serve them? What games would we play? How would we surprise Him?

Confronting these questions takes honesty and humility. Answering them will take time, effort, and a daily change of heart. Living the answers will take the rest of our lives. Finally, giving Jesus these birthday gifts will be both rewarding and priceless.

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**We take this opportunity today to welcome all our brothers and sisters who are visiting us this joyful season. Although you may not be able to visit us regularly, we are happy that you are with us during these Special Days and we hope that you will visit your spiritual home of THE FILIPINO CATHOLIC MISSION OF MONTREAL more often. Be assured of our fraternal prayers for all of you!**

**FROM THE FCMM FAMILY TO YOURS:**

**May this Christmas bring you closer to the Lord of Light in whatever darkness you may be enduring.**

**May you know His peace in your hearts and trust in His bountiful mercy for all your concerns.**

**May grace be your constant companion and your presence a reflection of the Good News we have been given, again, in the Incarnation of Our Lord Jesus Christ.**



*Pagkalooban nawa kayo at ang inyong mag-anak ng kasaganaan ng biyaya ni Hesus.*

**ISANG PINAGPALANG PASKO SA LAHAT!**



*May the Baby Jesus fill you and your family with the abundance of his grace.*

**A BLESSED  
CHRISTMAS  
TO ONE AND  
ALL!**



What every Catholic should know  
**ABOUT**  
**EVANGELIZATION**  
**BIBLE**  
**DISCOVERY**

CALLING ADULTS WHO WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE FAITH !!!

Every Sunday @ 9:30 a.m., @ the Church Hall.  
 The Evangelization and Bible Discovery Seminars are held in our Mission community.  
**EVERYONE IS WELCOME !**



Are you an adult thinking more deeply about God? About faith? About things that last? Are you an adult thinking about joining the Catholic Church? Are you an adult who considers yourself Catholic but has never been baptized? Or been confirmed?

Or celebrated First Communion? If so, call Sister Celia at 514- 387 5292 for more information or to find out about the RCIA process.



month to be sent to the Archdiocese of Palo (Leyte, Philippines)

**CASH, NON – PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS, PERSONAL HYGIENE SUPPLIES, SCHOOL SUPPLIES** are still being collected this



**SIMBANGGABI 2013** is being held nightly at 7:30 p.m. until December 23. We hope you are joining us in this age-old Filipino tradition of preparing for the Birth of Christ with full solemnity and devotion as an expression of our faith in God.  
**Bring your friends along !**

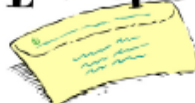


**THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 2013**

**\*Victimized Children.** That children who are victims of abandonment or violence may find the love and protection they need.

**\*Prepare the Savior's Coming.** That Christians, enlightened by the Word incarnate, may prepare humanity for the Savior's coming.

**Offering Envelopes**



**YEAR 2014 ENVELOPES** are now available for pick-up after each Mass. Please contact Mr. Pedro Diaz Jr., Mr. Mel Villanueva, or the FCMM Office.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:**

**YOU HAVE UNTIL DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup> TO GIVE YOUR DONATIONS WHICH YOU WISH TO BE CREDITED TO THE TAXATION YEAR 2013.**



**WHAT IS A REASONABLE WEEKLY DONATION TO MY PARISH?**

One suggestion that we make is to consider donating the equivalent of your "First Hour of Work" each week to the Lord.

**HELP KEEP OUR HOSPITALITY CORNER CURRENT**

Our regular Hospitality Corner will be back on the January 5, 2014 issue. As we begin a New Year, it is imperative to up-date the bulletin's hospitality corner. Please contact the FCMM Office or the Bulletin Editor if you would want to put a name on our prayer list. **THANK YOU VERY MUCH !**

( E-mail address - [jhnaracena@gmail.com](mailto:jhnaracena@gmail.com) )

**MASS INTENTIONS**

The Sacrifice of the Mass contains within it all of the graces of God and all that man can do to worship Him. Stop by or call the FCMM office (514 – 387 5292) during normal business hours and ask how you can have a Mass offered for your intention.

## FCMM HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

December 22 (Sunday)

- ❖ 11:30 a.m. – 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT MASS
- ❖ 7: 30 p.m. – 8<sup>TH</sup> Night of the SIMBANGGABI
- ❖ PENITENTIAL SERVICES BEFORE THE MASSES

December 23 (Sunday) 7: 30 p.m.

- ❖ 9<sup>TH</sup> Night of the SIMBANGGABI

December 24 (Tuesday) NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

8:00 p.m. – MIDNIGHT MASS

December 25 (Wednesday) NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

- ❖ 1:00 p.m. – CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

December 27 (Friday)

- ❖ 6:00 p.m. – MASS

December 29 (Sunday) FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

- ❖ 11: 30 a.m.– MASS

December 31 (Tuesday)

- ❖ 7:00 p.m. – NEW YEAR'S EVE VIGIL &  
THANKSGIVING MASS

January 1, 2014 (Wednesday) SOLEMNITY OF MARY,  
MOTHER OF GOD

- ❖ 1:00 p.m. –NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS

January 3 (Friday)

- ❖ 6:00 p.m. – MASS

January 5 (Sunday) THE LORD'S EPIPHANY

- ❖ 11: 30 a.m.– MASS

January 12 (Sunday) THE LORD'S BAPTISM

- ❖ 11: 30 a.m.– MASS

January 19 (Sunday) FEAST OF SEÑOR STO. NIÑO

- ❖ 11: 30 a.m.– MASS
- ❖ 1: 30 P.M.– FELLOWSHIP and FIESTA CELEBRATION



Maligayang Pasko at  
Manigong Bagong Taon!