

Ascension Catholic Parish

Sharing the Spirit Together in Christ

1100 Berkshire Boulevard NW, Calgary, AB T3K 3M3 | Phone: 403.275.2240 | Fax: 403.274.3969 | www.ascensionparish.ca

From darkness and death to light and life

Mass Times:

Weekday Masses:

Monday - Saturday:
9:00 AM

Tuesday - Friday:
6:30 PM

Wednesday: *Mother of Perpetual Help Novena*
at 6:15 PM

Weekend Masses:

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday:
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM,
12:00 PM & 4:00 PM

Reconciliation:

Tuesday - Saturday:
8:30 AM - 8:55 AM

Tuesday - Friday:
6:00 PM - 6:25 PM

Saturday:
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM

Sunday:
7:00 AM - 7:45 AM

By Appointment

Adoration & Benediction:

Monday - Friday:
9:30 AM - 10:00 AM

First Friday:
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
(*Sacred Heart Novena & Benediction*)

Do you know the joy and freedom of the *good news* (Gospel) of the kingdom of God? John the Baptist's enemies had sought to silence him, but the good news of God's kingdom of salvation cannot be silenced. As soon as John had finished his testimony Jesus began his in Galilee.

Jesus takes up John's message of repentance and calls his hearers to believe in the *good news* he has come to deliver. What is the good news which Jesus brings? It is the good news of *peace* - the Lord comes to reconcile and restore us to friendship with God. The good news of *hope* - the Lord comes to dwell with us and to give us a home with him in his heavenly kingdom. The good news of *truth* - the Lord Jesus sets us free from the lies and deception of Satan and opens our mind to understand the truth and revelation of God's word (John 8:32). The good news of *promise* - Jesus fulfills the promise of God to reward those who seek him with the treasure of heaven. The good news of *immortality* - Jesus overcomes sin and death for us in order to raise our lowly bodies to be like his glorious body which will never die again. And the good news of *salvation* - the Lord Jesus delivers us from every fear, every sin, and every obstacle that would keep us from entering his everlasting kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy.

The Gospel is the power and the wisdom of God - both power to change and transform our lives and wisdom to show us how to live as sons and daughters of our Father in heaven. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit the Lord makes it possible for us to receive his word with faith and to act upon it with trust and obedience.

In announcing the good news, Jesus makes two demands: *repent and believe!* Repentance requires a change of course - a turning away from sin and disobedience and a turning towards the Lord with faith and submission to his word of truth and righteousness (right living according to God's truth and moral goodness). The Holy Spirit gives us a repentant heart, a true sorrow and hatred for sin and its bad consequences (the wages of sin is death - Romans

6:23), and a firm resolution to avoid what ever would lead us into sin. The Holy Spirit gives us grace to see our sin for what it is - rebellion and a rejection of the love of God. God's grace helps us to turn away from all that would keep us from his love.

Faith or belief is an entirely free gift which God makes to us. Believing is only possible by grace and the help of the Holy Spirit who moves the heart and converts it to God. The Holy Spirit opens the eyes of the mind and makes it possible for us to accept and to grow in our understanding of the truth. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit we can know God personally and the truth he reveals to us through his only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. To believe that Jesus is Lord and Savior is to accept God's revelation of his Son as the eternal Word of God and the Redeemer who delivers us from the tyranny of sin, Satan, and death. Out of his great love for us God the Father made the supreme sacrifice of his Son on the cross to atone for our sins and to bring us back to himself.

Do you want to grow in the knowledge of God's love and truth? Ask the Holy Spirit to renew in you the gift of faith, the love of wisdom, and the heart of a disciple who desires to follow the Lord Jesus and his will for your life.

Prayer:

"Lord Jesus, your ways are life and light! Let your word penetrate my heart and transform my mind that I may see your power and glory. Help me to choose your ways and to do what is pleasing to you." Amen

Don Schwager - www.dailyscripture.net



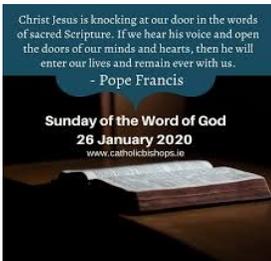
Matthew 4.12-23

Remaining True to Christ Now and at the Hour of our Death

The government is conducting a two-week consultation on legislation to expand eligibility for medical assistance in dying (MAID). This review may lead to extending access to people who suffer from dementia or other mental illnesses, and even mature minors. Read the Pastoral Letter from the AB/NWT Bishops: <http://bit.ly/370UFJN>. Contact your MP and defend the sanctity of human life. Find your MP here: <http://bit.ly/30rTEyc> #CatholicYYC #MAID #ProLife #cdnpoli #AssistedDying

Catechesis Corner

(For the week of January 25-31, 2020)



What is the Word of God Sunday and how do we celebrate it?

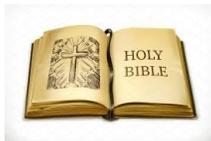
Pope Francis in the Moto Proprio, “He Opened Them” instituted that this Sunday be celebrated as the Word of God Sunday for the following reason:

The relationship between the Risen Lord, the community of believers and sacred Scripture is essential to our identity as Christians. Without the Lord who opens our minds to them, it is impossible to understand the Scriptures in depth. Yet the contrary is equally true: without the Scriptures, the events of the mission of Jesus and of his Church in this world would remain incomprehensible. Hence, Saint Jerome could rightly claim: “Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ”

It is celebrated through “**study and dissemination of the word of God**. This Sunday of the Word of God will thus be a fitting part of that time of the year when we are encouraged to strengthen our bonds with the Jewish people and to pray for Christian unity. This is more than a temporal coincidence: the celebration of the Sunday of the Word of God *has ecumenical value* (it is during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity), since the Scriptures point out, for those who listen, the path to authentic and firm unity.

The various communities will find their own ways to mark this Sunday with a certain solemnity. It is important, however, that in the Eucharistic celebration the sacred text be enthroned, in order to focus the attention of the assembly on the normative value of God’s word.”

Word of God Sunday - Enthroned the Bible in your Home



Today we will celebrate the “Word of God Sunday.” The Pope wishes “that the life of our people be constantly marked by this decisive relationship with the Living Word that the Lord never tires of speaking to His Bride” (Aperuit Illis, 2). He also encourages us to “Enthroned the Bible in your Home” as a reminder to seek and live God’s Word each day. A copy of the enthronement service can be downloaded from our website. Ministers of the Word, lectors, psalmists and leaders in RCIA will receive a blessing at the Masses this weekend.

Mass Intentions

January 25-31, 2020



We need more Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to serve at all weekend Masses, especially Sunday 12:00 PM. If you regularly attend the 12:00 PM Mass, please consider volunteering in the EMHC Ministry and serving at the Mass. For more information please contact Nadia at nadia.oliverio@shaw.ca

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.” Isaiah 6:8

Day	Date	Time	Intentions
Saturday	January 25	9:00 AM	Theresa Fallows (+)
Saturday	January 25	5:00 PM	SI of Osvalda Ferreira
Sunday	January 26	8:00 AM	Barry Brown (+)
Sunday	January 26	10:00 AM	Jose Ferreira (+)
Sunday	January 26	12:00 PM	Joe Lokanc (+)
Sunday	January 26	4:00 PM	Mass for Parishioners
Monday	January 27	9:00 AM	SI of John Fallows & Family
Tuesday	January 28	9:00 AM	Carol Kiernan (+)
Tuesday	January 28	6:30 PM	Topalian P. Doueihy (+)
Wednesday	January 29	9:00 AM	SI of Tan Siu Ing
Wednesday	January 29	6:30 PM	Holy Souls in Purgatory (+)
Thursday	January 30	9:00 AM	Nick Lobello (+)
Thursday	January 30	6:30 PM	Caridad Jaylo (+)
Friday	January 31	9:00 AM	Joe Lokanc (+)
Friday	January 31	6:30 PM	Nancy Fernandes (+)



CWL Membership Drive

The Catholic Women's League at Ascension Parish will be holding a membership drive on **February 1 & 2**. We offer hospitality and friendship, support and affirmation that empower women to reach their full potential. We are called to stand up, speak the truth, and renew our commitment to the call to holiness. We do this by providing faith-based opportunities for growth, leadership development, and avenues for service and social justice. All ladies over 16 years of age are invited to join. You will learn more about yourself and have an opportunity to share your gifts and talents to make a better world. For more information contact cwl.ascension@gmail.com



The CWL of Ascension Parish will be hosting a spaghetti dinner in the main hall on **Saturday, February 22nd at 6:00 PM**. The cost is \$15/person or \$45/family (maximum of 6 persons). Kids under 6 years old attend at no cost. For more information, please contact cwl.ascension@gmail.com

Finance Report - at a glance...

Gifts to the Parish	2020			
Week	1	2	3	
Offerings for the Week:	01-Jan-20	07-Jan-20	14-Jan-20	
	06-Jan-20	13-Jan-20	20-Jan-20	YTD
General Collections:				
Collections	13,378	10,841	14,817	39,036
Operating Cost	18,000	18,000	18,000	54,000
Over / (Shortfall) YTD Operating Cost	(4,622)	(7,159)	(3,183)	(14,964)
Central Fund Loan (Mortgage):				
Building Fund Collections	5,512	4,047	8,769	18,328
2019 Pledges	6,588	0	8,128	14,716
Donor Wall	0	5,000	0	5,000
Toonie Collection	0	2,337	0	2,337
Weekly Loan Payment	12,180	12,180	12,180	36,540
Over / (Shortfall) YTD Loan Payment	(80)	(796)	4,718	3,842
Diocesan Annual Campaign:				
Together In Action				
2020 Collections	877	75	860	1,812
2019 Collections				51,812
2019 Target				57,093
Remaining towards 2019 Goal				3,469
Other:				
Holy Childhood	48		369	417



Christian Life Program

Couples for Christ and its Family Ministries of Calgary invite you to the Christian Life Program Seminar starting here at our Parish on **February 15th** at 11:00 am.

This program is for couples, single men and women of all ages who want to deepen their faith and have a strong relationship with God.

Members of the Couples for Christ will be available in the Narthex after all Masses January 25/26, February 1/2 and 8/9 handing out flyers and can answer any questions you may have.

This is a free seminar, and all are invited to attend.



The Building Fund "Toonie Collection" is next week. Thank you for your continued support.

Parish Staff

- Pastor: **Fr. Avinash Colaco**
- Associates:
Fr. Rodel Abanto
Fr. Adrian Martens
- Deacon: **Patrick Woo**
- Secretary: **Nancy Mitchell**
- Receptionist: **Angelina Ling**
- Sacraments: **Monica Purnama**
- Baptisms: **Jenn Pashula**
- Youth: **Vicki Hayles**
- Bookkeeper: **Nora Alzamora Torres**
- Custodian: **Jose Gil**
- Evening Staff: **David Cadegan**
- Resource Coordinator: **Sharron Robinson (Volunteer Position)**
- Office Assist (**Volunteer Position**)

Office Hours

Monday to Friday: 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Lunch: 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM

Sacraments

Baptism for Infants: Baptisms are celebrated on the **2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays** of each month after the 12:00 PM Mass at 1:30 PM. Please call Jenn at 403.275.2240 or email baptism@ascensionparish.ca to register.

Baptism Preparation Class: Preparation classes take place on the **1st Saturday** of each month at 10:00 AM in the Sanctuary. Parents are to attend the class at least 3 weeks prior to the Baptism Celebration. Please call Jenn at 403.275.2240 or email baptism@ascensionparish.ca to register.

First Holy Communion (Gr. 2 & up): Please register your child in September 2020.

First Reconciliation (Gr. 2 & up): Please register your child in September 2020.

Confirmation (Gr. 6 & up): Please register your child in October 2020.

Marriage: By appointment, 6 months in advance. Call the Church office.

Marriage Preparation Class: 3rd Friday & Saturday of each month (some exceptions apply). Registration fee is \$100 per couple and includes course materials, snacks and lunch. To register please email William: marriageprepatascension@gmail.com

RCIA: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

For more information contact the Church office.

RCIA SPONSORS: We are seeking sponsors to assist RCIA catechumens as they become familiar with the Christian way of life. Contact Rob at robkehrig@gmail.com for information.

Anointing of the Sick & Dying: Call the Parish office at 403.275.2240

Outside of the office hours, please call 403.275.2240.

When prompted, press 2 for Fr. Avinash, press 3 for Fr. Rodel, press 4 for Fr. Adrian (Thursdays & Fridays).

Please leave a detailed message. The priest will return your call.

Ministry Contacts

Sacraments

Baptism Preparation: Jenn Pashula | baptism@ascensionparish.ca

Marriage Preparation: William Abenes | marriageprepatascension@gmail.com

RCIA: Rob Kehrig | robkehrig@gmail.com

Sacramental Preparation: Monica Purnama | sacraments@ascensionparish.ca

Parish Ministries

Building Fund Committee: Mark Holland | markholland@shaw.ca

Collection Counters: DeeDee Hedley | ddhedley@shaw.ca

Finance Council: Christina Dao | c_dc_d@hotmail.com

Funeral Mass Coordinator: Jocelyn Mugleston | jmugle92@shaw.ca

Funeral Lunch Committee: Irene Woytas | office@ascensionparish.ca

Kitchen Ministry Coordinator: Twila Tayfel | tmtayfel@yahoo.com

Parish Pastoral Council: Sandra Will-Krile | samandrafo@shaw.ca

Pastoral Care: Virginia Rappel | virginia.rappel@gmail.com

R.S.V.P.: Lucy Reyes | lucy.reyes@me.com

Social Justice: Pat Brown | patricia.brown@shaw.ca

Youth Ministry: Vicki Hayles | youth@ascensionparish.ca

Volunteer Resource: Sharron Robinson | resource@ascensionparish.ca

Liturgy

Altar Servers: Isabel & Charlotte Woo | server@ascensionparish.ca

Art & Environment: Maria San Miguel | let@shaw.ca

Ex-ord. Ministers of Holy Communion: Nadia Oliverio | nadia.oliverio@shaw.ca

Greeters: Eneyo Eyo | enevo_eyo@yahoo.com

Lectors: Andrew Harich | harich0307@gmail.com

Liturgy Committee: Holly Davidson | hollyd@telus.net

Liturgical Mentor: Casey Plettell | cke13@hotmail.ca

Music Ministry: Hoa Nguyen | music@ascensionparish.ca

Sacristans: Holly Davidson | hollyd@telus.net

Sacristy Care: James Chuah | jameschuah10248@gmail.com

Ushers: Jonathan Dixon | jonathandixon1@mac.com

Weekday Masses: Connie Raz | connieraz@gmail.com

Lay Ministries

Bible Study: Murray Britt | britmur127@gmail.com

Catholic Women's League: Sheena Koett | cwl.ascension@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus : Phil Fitzgerald | GK10065@kofc.ab.ca

Legion of Mary: Garry Bahen | gbahen03@shaw.ca

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Hamper Request | 587.755.3855

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Davina Janssens | ssvp.ascension@gmail.com