

# ASCENSION CATHOLIC PARISH

4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT - December 18 & 19, 2021



Sharing the Spirit  
Together in Christ



## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Ascension Catholic Parish is a community of disciples of Jesus Christ, the Risen Lord, guided on our journey by the Holy Spirit to further the Kingdom of God, through committed Worship, Catechesis, Fellowship and Service

## MASS TIMES

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - Saturday: 9:00am

### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 5:00pm & 7:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am; 10:00am;

12:00pm & 4:00pm

### LIVE STREAM MASS

Sunday: 10:00am

## PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Avinash Colaco

Associate: Fr. Naveed Arif

Vicar: Fr. Adrian Martens (Sundays)

Deacon: Patrick Woo

Seminarian: Ian Mahood

Admin Assist: Jenn Pashula

Sacraments : Linda Hengen

Bookkeeper: Nora Alzamora

Resource: Connie Raz

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday

9:30am - 4:00pm

Closed for Lunch 12 - 1pm

## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S

### MASS TIMES

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve – 9am,  
2pm, 4pm (live stream),  
6pm, 8pm, 10pm & Midnight

Dec. 25 - Christmas Day - 8am,  
10am (live stream),  
12pm & 2pm

Dec. 26 – Sunday - 8am, 10am, 12pm,  
2pm & 4pm

Dec. 27 – 30 – 9am

Dec. 31 – New Year's Eve - 9am,  
4pm, 6pm & 8pm

Jan. 1 – New Year's Day – 8am,  
10am & 12pm

### (Anticipated Sunday Masses):

5pm & 7pm

Jan. 2 – Sunday - 8am, 10am,  
12pm & 4pm



**Fourth Sunday of Advent** - Mass Readings | Exhorting and Expecting. Even in these troubled times, we are urged to rejoice this day, this week, this season. The question posed by nearly everyone to John the Baptist – What should we do? – is also our question. Saint Paul reminds us that the Lord is near. While we actively wait for Jesus Christ to come again, we are told to be merciful and just.

- *What in my closet can be given to clothe someone in need?*

- *What actions in my job or my retirement can be fairer and more just?*

- *What words from my mouth will speak only truth?*

*(Source: Diocese of Springfield)*

## REGULAR CONFESSIONS

Tuesday - Saturday:

8:15am - 8:45am

Saturdays: 4:00pm - 4:45pm

Sundays: 7:00am - 7:45am

Or by appointment

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the office at  
403.275.2240.

When prompted,  
Press 2 for Fr. Avinash,  
Press 3 for Fr. Naveed.

1100 Berkshire Blvd NW Calgary, AB T3K 3M3

Phone 403.275.2240 | Fax 403.274.3969 | [www.ascensionparish.ca](http://www.ascensionparish.ca)

**DID YOU KNOW?*****Tax credits are available for supporting our Parish!***

For the tax year 2021, the federal government provides a tax credit for your donations to Ascension Catholic Parish. They provide a 15% tax credit on the first \$200, and 29% on the remainder to a maximum of 33% tax credit. **As well**, the Alberta government also provides a 10% tax credit on the first \$200 donated and 21% on the excess.

**Example: A \$1000 donation to our Parish can provide a tax credit of \$450. This means your “out of pocket” cost will only be \$550!**

To help understand how tax saving benefits your financial support, the table below provides examples of the estimated tax savings for monthly donations.

Yearly Income	Donation %age of Income	Monthly Donation	Yearly Donation	Alberta Tax credit	Federal Tax credit	Total Tax Credits	Donation AFTER tax credits	Net cost %age annual income
\$60,000	1.0%	\$50	\$600	\$104	\$146	\$250	\$350	0.6%
\$70,000	1.3%	\$75	\$900	\$167	\$233	\$400	\$500	0.7%
\$80,000	1.5%	\$100	\$1,200	\$230	\$320	\$550	\$650	0.8%
\$100,000	1.5%	\$125	\$1,500	\$293	\$407	\$700	\$800	0.8%
\$120,000	2.0%	\$200	\$2,400	\$482	\$668	\$1,150	\$1,250	1.0%
\$130,000	2.7%	\$300	\$3,600	\$734	\$1,016	\$1,750	\$1,850	1.4%
\$150,000	4.0%	\$500	\$6,000	\$1,238	\$1,712	\$2,950	\$3,050	2.0%
\$200,000	4.2%	\$700	\$8,400	\$1,742	\$2,408	\$4,150	\$4,250	2.1%
\$250,000	4.8%	\$1,000	\$12,000	\$2,498	\$3,452	\$5,950	\$6,050	2.4%
\$300,000	6.0%	\$1,500	\$18,000	\$3,758	\$5,192	\$8,950	\$9,050	3.0%

Please note this information comes from public sources and is provided for **informational purposes only** and is not to be construed as accounting, financial, tax, or legal advice. Please consult with a professional in respect of your own personal circumstances.

Here is another link for information on tax credits:

[TaxTips.ca - Donation Tax Credit Rates for 2021](https://www.taxtips.ca/donation-tax-credit-rates-for-2021/)

*Ascension Parish Finance Council thanks you for your support!*

**SUNDAY MISSALS**

Available for purchase at the Parish office on weekdays during office hours. The cost is \$5 each.

**SERRA CLUB*****Interested in promoting Priestly vocations for the Diocese of Calgary?***

Recently, Bishop McGrattan requested that the Serra Club, an international organization dedicated to promoting Priestly vocations, establish a chapter in the Diocese of Calgary. This local chapter will pray for vocations, promote vocations through events at Parishes and schools, and host important functions such as Ordinand Dinner and the Bishop's Altar Server Awards.

**SACRAMENTS****Youth Sacrament Programs**

Baptism is the gateway into our Sacraments and is the initiation into God's family. During 2021, our Parish, celebrated 204 Baptisms. In the total, 155 were children ages 0 - 6, 45 were children ages 7 - 16, and 13 were adults. In Baptism you receive a spiritual mark of belonging to Christ on your soul. As parents and godparents, we make promises to live our lives in faith and raise our children knowing Jesus and giving thanks for the abundant blessings we receive. May you and yours light your Baptism candles this Christmas and celebrate the birth of Christ and the birth of your faith at Baptism.

The **Sacraments for Teens** program continues with 18 students immersing themselves into an in-depth study of Baptism, Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation. They are preparing to receive some or all of the Sacraments of Baptism to Confirmation. Sessions will resume on January 19, 2022 at 6:00pm.

**Reconciliation** - We have completed our third session and will be taking time off to prepare for the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Sessions will resume on January 13 and 15, 2022.

**Confirmation** – Our registration for Confirmation remains open for children who are in grade 6 or higher, have been Baptised and have received their First Holy Communion. We will be hosting an 'Information Night' on January 20, 2022, at 6:30pm for all parents and candidates that missed the previous sessions. Please mark your calendars! Our sessions are in-person and will begin on January 27 and 29, 2022.

**Baptism for Infants:** Baptisms are celebrated Wednesday to Saturday at 10am. Please call Linda at 403.275.2240 ext 6 or email [baptism@ascensionparish.ca](mailto:baptism@ascensionparish.ca) to register.

**Baptism Preparation Class:** Preparation classes take place on the **1st Saturday** of each month at 10am. Baptism celebration will be booked after you attend the class. Please call Linda at 403.275.2240 ext 6 or email [baptism@ascensionparish.ca](mailto:baptism@ascensionparish.ca) to register.

**Marriage:** By appointment, 6 months in advance. Please contact the office.

**Marriage Preparation:** 3rd Saturday of every month. Please contact the office for more information.

**RCIA: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

For more information contact the Parish office.

**STAFF SPOTLIGHT—CONNIE RAZ**

**Bloom Where You Are Planted**

Hello, my name is Connie Raz. I am the Volunteer Resource Coordinator and also the Coordinator for Weekday Masses. I have been a member of this Parish for over a decade.



I was born and raised in the Philippines to parents who were devout Catholic and deeply religious. They instilled in us, their children, a deep love for God and neighbour especially the poor and marginalized. It is our way of life. My parents have long joined our Creator but they left us with this lasting legacy of love.

I came to this beautiful Country twenty years ago on an adventure not realizing this is where God wanted me to be. It was a whole new world for me trying to learn and embrace the Country’s culture and diversity, not to mention the cold weather. The care and support of friends and having relatives around made life easier. Through the years, I devoted my life to serving God in the Church and my community. It is my little way of thanking the good Lord for the countless blessings and graces he has poured into my life. The joy and gratitude for the grace to be able to serve our Parish and be nourished and strengthened daily in the Holy Eucharist are beyond measure. I was blessed to have served as past president of the Filipino Catholic Society of the Diocese of Calgary, a charitable organization whose primary mission is to raise funds to support the seminarians, orphanages and street children in the Philippines. And I was privileged to be one of the founding members and past president of BABAE—Council of Filipino Canadian Women. Currently, I serve as member of the board of the Philippine Festival Council of Alberta. Indeed, my greatest joy and fulfillment in life is being able to share my time, talent and resources when they are needed. The following scripture rings true in my heart, *"The service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing of many expressions of thanks to God."* –2 Corinthians 9:12

I live each day with these beautiful lines by an anonymous writer. They remind me always of what truly matters in life -

"I shall pass through this world but once;  
If, therefore, there be any kindness I can show,  
Or any good thing I can do,  
Let me not defer, or neglect it,  
For I shall not pass this way again."

**FINANCE COUNCIL**

Here is a suggestion for PAD and envelope users to help simplify your weekly support for Ascension Catholic Parish.

- ◆ Take a supply of the white donation envelopes on hand in the Narthex.
- ◆ Write your PAD Donor number or envelope number on the envelopes.
- ◆ Keep them in your purse or your vehicle for when you come to Church.
- ◆ When you make a cash/cheque donation there is no need to add any other personal information.
- ◆ Know you will get a tax receipt annually for helping our Parish do the good works we do for our community.

<b>Gifts to the Parish</b>		
Year 2021	Week : 49	
<b>Offerings for the Week:</b>	<b>4-Dec-21 to</b>	<b>10-Dec-21</b>
<b><u>General Collections</u></b>	<b>Last Week</b>	<b>Y-T-D</b>
General Collections	\$8,289.80	\$831,501.46
Operating Cost	-\$12,076.16	-\$516,557.50
Over(Shortfall) YTD Op Cost	-\$3,786.36	\$314,943.96
<b><u>Central Fund Loan</u></b>	<b>Last Week</b>	<b>Y-T-D</b>
Building Fund Collections	\$3,892.50	\$343,459.87
2019 Pledges	\$0.00	\$150,361.63
Donor Wall	\$5,000.00	\$177,500.00
Toonie	\$0.00	\$2,065.50
Weekly Loan Payment	-\$8,686.62	-\$425,644.15
Over(Shortfall) YTD Loan Payment	\$205.88	\$247,742.85
<b><u>Diocesan Annual Campaign:</u></b>	<b>Last Week</b>	<b>Y-T-D</b>
<b><u>Together in Action</u></b>	<b>Last Week</b>	<b>Y-T-D</b>
Collections	\$1,220.00	\$45,071.50
2021 Target		\$35,244.00
<b>Thank you! We reached our goal for this year.</b>		
<b><u>Collections in our Diocese</u></b>	<b>Last Week</b>	<b>Y-T-D</b>
<b><u>National Collections:</u></b>	<b>Last Week</b>	<b>Y-T-D</b>
Needs of the Church in the Holy Land	\$0.00	\$2,272.00
Pope's Pastoral Works	\$5.00	\$215.00
World Mission Sunday	\$10.00	\$4,702.00
<b><u>Second Collections:</u></b>		
Good Shepherd Sunday	\$0.00	\$552.00
Catholic Education Sunday	\$29.55	\$4,056.69
<b><u>Approved Collections:</u></b>		
Mission Mexico	\$50.00	\$50.00
<b><u>Other (Optional):</u></b>		
Holy Childhood		\$600.00
Disaster Relief	\$0.00	\$0.00

## MINISTRY CONTACTS

Administrative Assistant: Jenn Pashula | [office@ascensionparish.ca](mailto:office@ascensionparish.ca)

Volunteer Resource: Connie Raz | [resource@ascensionparish.ca](mailto:resource@ascensionparish.ca)

### SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Linda Hengen | [baptism@ascensionparish.ca](mailto:baptism@ascensionparish.ca)

Sacramental Preparation: Linda Hengen | [sacraments@ascensionparish.ca](mailto:sacraments@ascensionparish.ca)

Marriage Prep: Ferdie Gayos | [marriageprep.ascension@telus.net](mailto:marriageprep.ascension@telus.net)

RCIA: Rob Kehrig | [robkehrig@gmail.com](mailto:robkehrig@gmail.com)

### MINISTRIES

Parish Council: Rodel Cenabre | [rodelcenabre@gmail.com](mailto:rodelcenabre@gmail.com)

Finance Council: Christina Dao | [c\\_dc\\_d@hotmail.com](mailto:c_dc_d@hotmail.com)

Building Fund: Mark Holland | [markholland@shaw.ca](mailto:markholland@shaw.ca)

Special Events Fundraising: Holly Davidson | [hollyd@telus.net](mailto:hollyd@telus.net)

Ex-ord. Min. of Holy Communion: Nadia Oliverio | [nadia.oliverio@shaw.ca](mailto:nadia.oliverio@shaw.ca)

Liturgical Ministries: Nadia Oliverio | [nadia.oliverio@shaw.ca](mailto:nadia.oliverio@shaw.ca)

Lectors: Andrew Harich | [harich0307@gmail.com](mailto:harich0307@gmail.com)

Choirs: DeeDee Hedley | [ddhedley@shaw.ca](mailto:ddhedley@shaw.ca)

Sacristans: James Chuah | [jameschuah10248@gmail.com](mailto:jameschuah10248@gmail.com)

Ushers: Richard Svoboda | [ricsvo@shaw.ca](mailto:ricsvo@shaw.ca)

Greeters: Eneyo Eyo | [eneyo.eyo@gmail.com](mailto:eneyo.eyo@gmail.com)

Mass Participation Tracker: Flor De Souza | [flordes18@yahoo.ca](mailto:flordes18@yahoo.ca)

Weekday Masses: Connie Raz | [connieraz@gmail.com](mailto:connieraz@gmail.com)

Ascension Communication Team (ACT) | [samandrafo@shaw.ca](mailto:samandrafo@shaw.ca)

Pastoral Care: Nalini Plesche | [plesche@shaw.ca](mailto:plesche@shaw.ca)

Youth: Ian Mahood | [youth@ascensionparish.ca](mailto:youth@ascensionparish.ca)

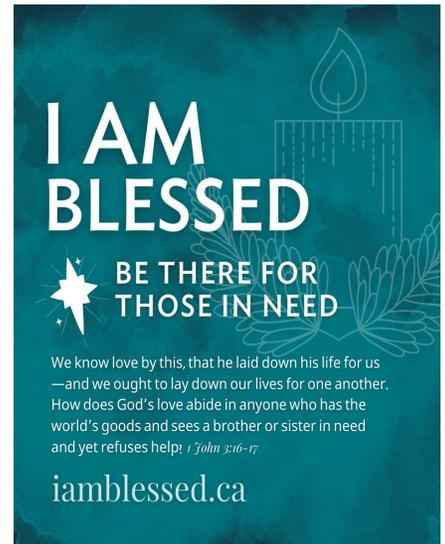
Sanitizing: Manny Lorica | [elorica@shaw.ca](mailto:elorica@shaw.ca)

### LAY ASSOCIATIONS

Catholic Women's League: Twila Tayfel | [cwl.ascension@gmail.com](mailto:cwl.ascension@gmail.com)

Knights of Columbus: Phil Fitzgerald | [gk10065@kofc.ab.ca](mailto:gk10065@kofc.ab.ca)

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Davina Janssens | [ssvp.ascension@gmail.com](mailto:ssvp.ascension@gmail.com)



Action items highlighted this year:

1. **Pray now** - Supporting others with prayer by praying in solidarity with them; ideas on what prayers to pray and what to do if others ask to pray for them.
2. **Act now** - Offering tips on how to be a good friend especially to those who are in need; getting familiar with services available in our midst as we may need to lead others to seek help.
3. **Give now** - Providing financial assistance online to programs and initiatives that empower others.

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

We hope that as we light the final candle on the Advent wreath, which symbolizes love, that you will reflect on the love God has for us in sending his only Son for our redemption. Hopefully you will take time to reflect on your spiritual journey throughout Advent and ask how you can place yourself in service to God.

The prayer in the video this week online:

Let us pray that as Advent comes to a close that Christ will truly come into our hearts.

**Lord, fill our hearts with your love as I wish to show my gratefulness to you and place myself in service to you as the Virgin Mary placed her life at your service. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Some suggestion to do with your family this week:

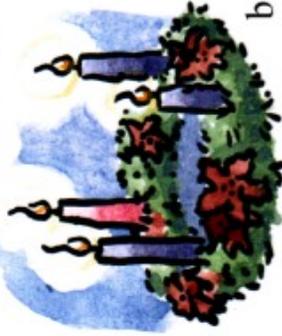
- ✝ Be a snow angel
- ✝ Pray
- ✝ Volunteer at the Church
- ✝ Sign up to help in a ministry
- ✝ Share your love with someone in need through charitable works



Stay up to date by visiting our Social Media

[www.facebook.com/ascensionparishcalgary](https://www.facebook.com/ascensionparishcalgary) <https://twitter.com/RCAscensionYYC> <https://www.instagram.com/ascensioncatholic/>

# Christmas is Almost Here!



Now it's only a week until Jesus' birthday! Are you all ready for it? If you have an Advent wreath then this is the week that all the candles will be lit. Jesus is coming soon, so the light should be getting very bright!

Do you have a Christmas tree? Do you know what it represents? A long time ago people used to have plays at Christmas time about how Adam and Eve sinned when they ate the fruit from the tree, and how Jesus was born to save us from that sin. So a Christmas tree is there to remind us of why Jesus came.



Does your family have a nativity scene? It should be all ready for Christmas, but the Baby Jesus doesn't get put in the manger until Christmas Eve.

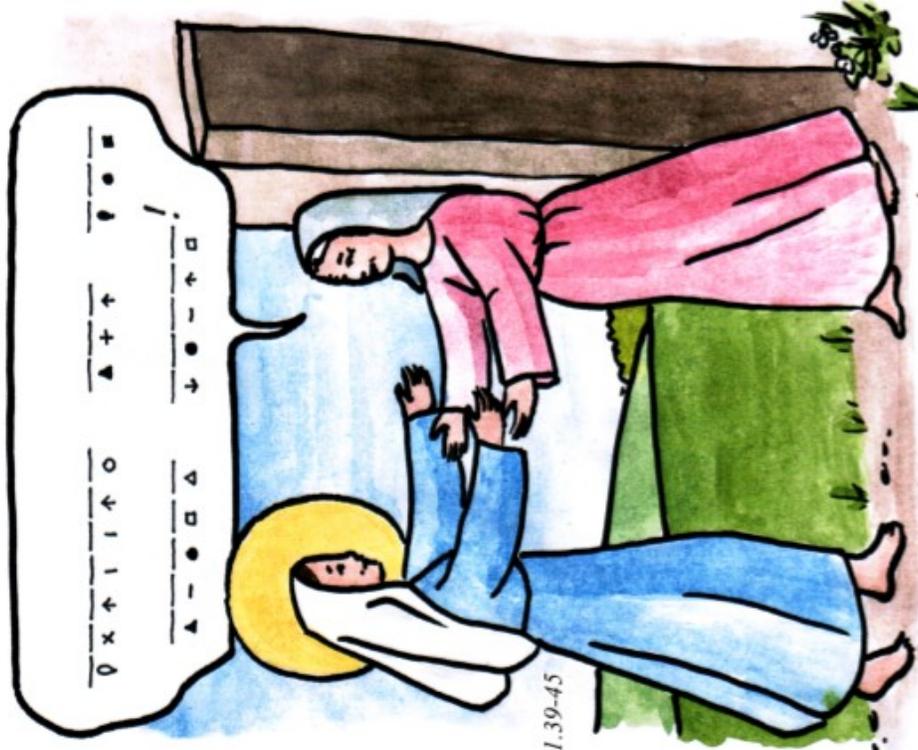


Answer to front page puzzle: Blessed are you among women!  
 Answer to True or False: 1.true, 2.false, 3.false, 4.true, 5.true, 6.false, 7.true.

[www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com)

# The Kids' Bulletin

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
 December 19, 2021



Luke 1.39-45

Elizabeth knew that Mary was the mother of the Messiah. What did she say to Mary when she came to visit her?

Use the code to find out!

▲ B D E G L M N O R S U W Y  
 ▼ ♡ ○ ↑ △ × - □ + i ■ ↓ ♣

# Saints Adela and Irmina

December 24



IRMINA AND ADELA WERE BOTH PRINCESSES, BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN THAT THEY WERE SPOILED AND SELFISH. THEIR GOOD PARENTS RAISED THEM TO LOVE GOD. WE CAN LEARN FROM THEIR EXAMPLE THAT FAMILIES CAN HELP EACH OTHER TO BECOME HOLY PEOPLE. HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR FAMILY?

# Mary Visits Elizabeth True or False?

How well do you know the story of the Visitation?  
See if you can figure out which are true and which are false!

1. Mary was expecting baby Jesus when she went to visit her cousin Elizabeth. True or False?
2. Elizabeth was married to Jeremiah. True or False?
3. Elizabeth was a bit sad when she saw Mary. True or False?
4. When Elizabeth heard Mary, her baby inside her jumped. True or False?
5. Elizabeth's baby was Saint John the Baptist. True or False?
6. Mary had to tell Elizabeth that she was going to have a baby because Elizabeth didn't know. True or False?
7. Elizabeth knew that Mary's baby was the Messiah. True or False?

