

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

Great are those who teach and obey the commandments

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*)

Why do people tend to view the "law of God" negatively rather than positively? Jesus' attitude towards the law of God can be summed up in the great prayer of Psalm 119: "Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day." For the people of Israel the "law" could refer to the ten commandments or to the five Books of Moses, called the Pentateuch or Torah, which explain the commandments and ordinances of God for his people. The "law" also referred to the whole teaching or way of life which God gave to his people. The Jews in Jesus' time also used it as a description of the oral or scribal law. Needless to say, the scribes added many more things to the law than God intended. That is why Jesus often condemned the scribal law because it placed burdens on people which God had not intended.

Jesus made it very clear that the essence of God's law - his commandments and way of life, must be fulfilled. God's law is true and righteous because it flows from his love, goodness, and holiness. It is a law of grace, love, and freedom for us. That is why God commands us to love him above all else and to follow in the way of his Son, the Lord Jesus who taught us how to love by laying down our lives for one another.

Jesus taught reverence and respect for God's law - reverence for God himself, reverence for the Lord's Day, reverence or respect for parents, respect for life, for property, for another person's good name, respect for oneself and for one's neighbor lest wrong or hurtful desires master and enslave us. Reverence and respect for God's commandments teach us the way of love - love of God and

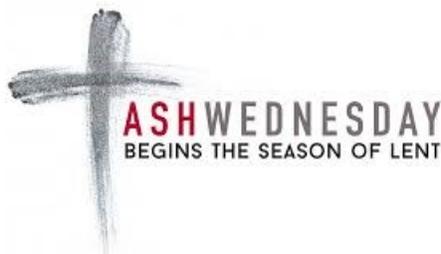
love of neighbor. What is impossible to humans is possible to God who gives generously of his gifts and the power of the Holy Spirit to those who put their faith and trust in him.

God gives us the grace, help, and strength to love as he loves, to forgive as he forgives, to think and judge as he judges, and to act as he acts with mercy, loving-kindness, and goodness. The Lord loves righteousness and hates wickedness. As his followers we must love his commandments and hate every form of sin and wrong-doing. If we want to live righteously as God desires for us, then we must know and understand the intention of God's commands for us, and decide in our heart to obey the Lord. Do you seek to understand the intention of his law and to grow in wisdom of his ways?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, begin a new work of love within me. Instill in me a greater love and respect for Your commandments. Give me a burning desire to live a life of holiness and righteousness. Purify my thoughts, desires, and intentions that I may only desire what is pleasing to You and in accord with Your will. Amen

Don Schwager - www.dailyscripture.net



Ash Wednesday, February 26, 2020 - Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption. Our foreheads are marked with ashes to humble our hearts and remind us that life passes away on Earth. Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice. The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. The ashes are christened with Holy Water and are scented by exposure to incense.

While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts. His Divine mercy is of utmost importance during the season of Lent, and the Church calls on us to seek that mercy during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer and penance.

Ash Wednesday Masses, February 26th: 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 5:00 PM & 7:00 PM.

Catechesis Corner

(For the week of February 15-21, 2020)



Countdown to Lent: Anxiety

Anxiety is part of life here on earth after the Fall of our Mother and Father, Adam and Eve. We can see this in the reaction of Adam and Eve after their sin: they hide from the Lord and are scared of His presence (Gen. 3:8). Since this time our relationship with God has been ruptured. But thanks to the work of Jesus Christ on the Cross we have access to redemption and forgiveness of sins. Nevertheless, we still remain in this earth which has been marked by the consequences of sin (CCC 402-406) This is expressed in the opening song for this Sunday from the Roman Gradual which comes from the Psalms and expresses David’s frustration with the Lord as we struggle with life here on earth: *“Arise, why dost Thou sleep, o Lord? Arise, and drive us not away forever! Why dost Thou turn Thy face away, forgetting our tribulation? Our belly cleaveth to the earth; arise, O Lord, help us, and deliver us!”* (Ps. 44).

We are reminded today in our anxiety of keeping of the commandments in our readings. It might seem like a surprising thing for the Lord to tell us to keep the commandments in the midst of the anxieties of life, but this is what we should do for this reminds us of our utter dependence on God and to keep His word alone. So let us follow the commandments no matter how we feel! Lent begins in two weeks.



SCAM ALERT!

Please be aware that some emails are being sent from scammers claiming to be our Bishop, Priests or office staff. Names are being pulled from Parish and Diocesan websites to create fake email (often Gmail) accounts. There have also been fake text messages. You will notice the email address may have some correct information, though in an unfamiliar form with additional characters, numbers or periods. Most will ask you to contact them or send information. If you are in doubt, contact the person the email is claiming to be from using an alternate contact method. Please do not reply to any suspicious emails. If in doubt, please contact the Parish office.

Also note: At no time will our Bishop, Priests, Deacons, religious or Diocesan staff contact you seeking Google Play cards, iTunes cards or any other form of personal financial assistance.

Mass Intentions

February 15-21, 2020



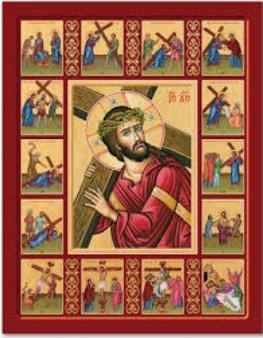
Bottle Drop-off

The Knights of Columbus will be holding a bottle drop-off after all Masses next weekend. Please bring your bottles to the Knight’s trailer, which will be parked at the front of the Church. All proceeds will go to support the Calgary Pro-Life Association.

Store Cards

Store Cards are available in the narthex every weekend. Your participation helps to support Parish Ministries and the needy. A portion of the proceeds goes towards our Building Fund.

Day	Date	Time	Intentions
Saturday	February 15	9:00 AM	Zehra Abbas (+)
Saturday	February 15	5:00 PM	Agnelo Francisco Rodrigues (+)
Sunday	February 16	8:00 AM	SI of Adevoekhai Family
Sunday	February 16	10:00 AM	Joe Lokanc (+)
Sunday	February 16	12:00 PM	Rosie Fernandes (+)
Sunday	February 16	4:00 PM	Mass for Parishioners
Monday	February 17	9:00 AM	Eutropio Vasquez (+)
Tuesday	February 18	9:00 AM	SI of Karina Kurniasih
Tuesday	February 18	6:30 PM	Felecia Tuba (+)
Wednesday	February 19	9:00 AM	Maria Aroche (+)
Wednesday	February 19	6:30 PM	Domenico Vergate (+)
Thursday	February 20	9:00 AM	Gail Payne (+)
Thursday	February 20	6:30 PM	Susan E. Brown (+)
Friday	February 21	9:00 AM	Candida & Agustin Jumawid (+)
Friday	February 21	6:30 PM	SI of Kene Azichoba



Stations of the Cross & Soup

Stations of the Cross or the Way of the Cross - is a Catholic devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man. The 14 devotions, or stations, focus on specific events of His last day, beginning with His condemnation. The stations are commonly used as a mini pilgrimage as the individual moves from station to station. At each station, the individual recalls and meditates on a specific event from Christ's last day, we can imagine ourselves walking with Jesus on this journey.

Please join us every Friday, from February 28 to April 3 – Rosary at 6:00pm, Mass at 6:30pm, Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm, followed by Soup and Bread. Each week different Ministries in our Parish will host the Stations and provide the Soup and Bread.



Collection of Palms

We will be collecting Palms from previous years, from now until Ash Wednesday, in the container in the Narthex. Please treat the palms with utmost reverence, as they are blessed objects. To dispose of your palms from previous years they can be burned, buried, or brought back to the Church.

Finance Report - at a glance...

Gifts to the Parish	2020	
	Week	6
Offerings for the Week:	4-Feb-20	10-Feb-20
	Last Week	YTD
General Collections:		
Collections	7,528	71,694
Operating Cost	18,000	108,000
Over / (Shortfall) YTD Operating Cost	(10,472)	(36,306)
Central Fund Loan (Mortgage):		
Building Fund Collections	3,884	34,582
2019 Pledges	150	21,210
Donor Wall	2,500	10,000
Toonie Collection	1,657	3,994
Weekly Loan Payment	12,180	73,080
Over / (Shortfall) YTD Loan Payment	(3,989)	(3,294)
Diocesan Annual Campaign:		
Together In Action		
2020 Collections	943	4,256
2019 Collections		51,812
2019 Target		57,093
Remaining towards 2019 Goal		1,025
Other:		
Holy Childhood	0	1,054



2019 Donation Receipts

Your donation tax receipts are available to be picked up in the Narthex after Mass the weekends of February 15/16 & February 22/23. After these dates the remaining receipts will be mailed out. Please make sure the office has your current mailing address.

If you have any questions please contact our Bookkeeper at finance@ascensionparish.ca



Altar Server training will take place on February 15th and 22nd; this is for all servers at each Mass. Please sign up using the Google Form sent to your email. If you would like to sign up to be an Altar Server you are most welcome to fill out a ministry sign-up sheet in the Narthex. We will email you further information regarding training and scheduling.



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

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