



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

The beatitudes strengthen us in virtue and excellence

Mass Times:

Weekday Masses:

Monday-Friday: 9 AM

Wednesday: 6:30 PM
(Mother of Perpetual
Help Novena: 6:15 PM)

Weekend Masses:

Saturday:

5:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Sunday:

8:30 AM, 10:30 AM,
12:30 PM & 5:00 PM

Reconciliation:

Tuesday - Friday:

8:30 AM - 8:55 AM

Wednesday Evening:

6:00 PM - 6:25 PM

Saturday:

4:00 PM - 4:45 PM

Sunday:

7:30 AM - 8:15 AM

Adoration & Benediction:

Monday - Friday:

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM

First Friday:

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

When you encounter misfortune, grief, or tragic loss, how do you respond? With fear or faith? With passive resignation or with patient hope and trust in God?

When Jesus began to teach His disciples He gave them a "way of happiness" that transcends every difficulty and trouble that can weigh us down with grief and despair. The word *beatitude* literally means *happiness or blessedness*. Jesus' way of happiness, however, demands a transformation from within - a conversion of heart and mind which can only come about through the gift and working of the Holy Spirit. How can one possibly find happiness in poverty, hunger, mourning, and persecution? If we want to be filled with the joy and happiness of heaven, then we must empty ourselves of all that would shut God out of our hearts. Poverty of spirit finds ample room and joy in possessing God alone as the greatest treasure possible. Hunger of the spirit seeks nourishment and strength in God's word and Spirit. Sorrow and mourning over wasted life and sin leads to joyful freedom from the burden of guilt and oppression.

St. Ambrose (339-397 A.D.), an early church father and bishop of Milan, links the beatitudes with the four cardinal virtues which strengthen us in living a life of moral excellence. He writes: "Let us

see how St. Luke encompassed the eight blessings in the four. We know that there are four cardinal virtues: temperance, justice, prudence and fortitude. One who is poor in spirit is not greedy. One who weeps is not proud but is submissive and tranquil. One who mourns is humble. One who is just does not deny what he knows is given jointly to all for us. One who is merciful gives away his own goods. One who bestows his own goods does not seek another's, nor does he contrive a trap for his neighbor. These virtues are interwoven and interlinked, so that one who has one may be seen to have several, and a single virtue befits the saints. Where virtue abounds, the reward too abounds... Thus temperance has purity of heart and spirit, justice has compassion, patience has peace, and endurance has gentleness."

God reveals to the humble of heart the true source of abundant life and happiness. Jesus promises His disciples that the joys of heaven will more than compensate for the troubles and hardships they can expect in this world. Thomas Aquinas said: "No person can live without joy. That is why someone deprived of spiritual joy goes after carnal pleasures." Do you know the joy and happiness of hungering and thirsting for God alone?



Lk. 6.17, 20-26
"Blessed are you"

"Lord Jesus, increase my hunger for You and show me the way that leads to everlasting happiness and peace. May I desire You above all else and find perfect joy in doing your will."

Don Schwager

www.dailyscripture.net

Knights of Columbus Holy Hour of Prayer and Adoration

The Knights of Columbus will be holding a Holy Hour on **Friday, February 22nd starting with Mass at 6:30 PM**, here at our Parish. All men of the Parish are invited to join the Knights for one hour of prayer and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 7:00-8:00 PM. Fellowship and fraternity will follow in the small hall downstairs.





Priest in Alb Priest with the Stole

Vestments: Alb & Stole

Catechesis Corner

(For the week of February 18-24, 2019)

As we said last week, there is a spiritual meaning behind all the vestments that a priest, servers, and deacons wear. These are not simply clothes, but each part of the attire represents something spiritual. Let's now talk about the Alb (the white robe under the priest vestment) and the stole (the long vestment similar to a scarf). The Alb represents that God makes us all clean from our sins through the Mass. The following prayer can be said by the priest, deacon or server while putting it on: "Cleanse me, O Lord, and purify my heart, that washed in the Blood of the Lamb, I may attain everlasting joy." When priests, deacons and servers say these prayers they are said for the intentions of everyone. The stole represents spiritual authority

given to priests and deacons. The prayer thanks the authority given to the priest or deacon, despite being unworthy because of their personal sin and sin that is inherited through all our first parents: "Return to me, O Lord, the stole of immortality, which I have lost in the sin of my first parent; and although I, unworthy, approach Thy sacred Mystery, grant to me, nevertheless, everlasting joy."

Application: Talk to 2 friends about the joy your Catholic faith gives you and pray the Alb prayer before talking to them: "Cleanse me, O Lord, and purify my heart, that washed in the Blood of the Lamb, I may attain everlasting joy."



A Visit to Beth Tzedec Synagogue with Fr. Adrian Martens

You are invited to visit Beth Tzedec Synagogue with Fr. Adrian Martens on **Friday, March 1** from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM. Cost: \$40 (includes kosher lunch and transportation to and from the event). Open to those 18 years and older. RSVP or register by February 22: 403-218-5501 | <http://events.calgarydiocese.ca>

Mass Intentions

February 16th - 22nd, 2019

Day	Date	Time	Intentions
Saturday	February 16	5:00 PM	Rosie Fernandes (+)
Saturday	February 16	7:00 PM	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	February 17	8:30 AM	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	February 17	10:30 AM	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	February 17	12:30 PM	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	February 17	5:00 PM	Mass for Parishioners
Monday	February 18	9:00 AM	Samuel Jumawid (+)
Tuesday	February 19	9:00 AM	Flora Rita French (+)
Wednesday	February 20	9:00 AM	Gail Payne (+)
Wednesday	February 20	6:30 PM	Cesar Catacutan (+)
Thursday	February 21	9:00 AM	Paul Le & Nghi Nguyen (+)
Friday	February 22	9:00 AM	Cesar Catacutan (+)



CWL

All women from 16 years old, Catholic and non-Catholic, are welcome to join. Our meetings are held at the Parish every **2nd Wednesday of the month after the 6:30 PM Mass.**



CONSIDERING SEPARATION OR DIVORCE? Please talk to a Priest. Also, some marriage counsellors suggest to married couples that they attend the **Retrouvaille** program as a last recourse prior to filing for divorce because they have heard about the success of the methods of communication taught in this program. The spring program begins on the weekend of March 8-10. For confidential information call 403-879-7893. To register for the program, go to the link on their website at www.helpourmarriagecalgary.com



THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTION / FEBRUARY

Universal – Victims

For a generous welcome to the victims of human trafficking, enforced prostitution, and violence.

Finance Report - at a glance...

Gifts to the Parish	February 2019	
	Week	6
Offerings for the Week:	5-Feb-19	11-Feb-19
	Last Week	YTD
General Collections:		
Collections	11,374	63,902
Operating Cost	14,300	85,800
Over / (Shortfall) YTD Operating Cost	(2,926)	(21,898)
Central Fund Loan:		
Building Fund Collections	10,063	78,906
Weekly Loan Payment	11,350	68,100
Over / (Shortfall) YTD Loan Payment	(1,287)	10,806
Diocesan Annual Campaign:		
Together In Action		
2018 Collections		47,347
2019 Collections	1,062	2,759
2018 Target		61,355
Remaining towards 2018 Goal		(11,249)
Collections in our Diocese:		
Holy Childhood	177	1,407

Society of St. Vincent de Paul



The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul will be meeting this Wednesday, February 20th at 7:00 PM in Room 2 in the lower level. New members welcome. Please contact Davina Janssens at davinamj@telus.net



Capital Campaign Commemorative Items

Ascension commemorative items are being sold as a renovation fundraiser and to mark the dedication of our new Sanctuary. Order forms are in the narthex and can be put in a sealed envelope and put in the weekly collection or in the office lock box. Please support our renovation.

Marriage Encounter Weekend

OSG YYC Prayer Group invites all married couples to attend the Marriage Encounter Weekend on **April 27-28, 2019** at the FCJ Retreat and Conference Center. This weekend is for all couples who desire a richer and fuller life together. It is designed to deepen and enrich the joys a couple share, whether they have been married a short time or for many years. For more details, please contact Hector or Amparito at 403-879-7784 or info@OSGCalgary.com



Parish Staff

- Pastor: **Fr. Avinash Colaco**
- Associates:
Fr. Rodel Abanto
Fr. Adrian Martens
- 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 Saturdays** of each month at 10:00 AM (except during Lent). 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 and Godparents are to attend the class at least 3 weeks prior to the Baptism Celebration.

First Holy Communion (Gr. 2 & up): Registration is closed. Please register your child in September, 2019.

First Reconciliation (Gr. 2 & up): Registration is closed. Please register your child in September, 2019.

Confirmation (Gr. 6 & up): Registration is closed. Please register your child in November, 2019.

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

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

RCIA: Rob Kehrig | robkehrig@gmail.com

Sacramental Preparation: Monica Purnama | sacraments@ascensionparish.ca

Parish Ministries

Ascension Renovations Committee: John Arbeau | jarbeau@telus.net

Capital Campaign: 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 | gimug@shaw.ca

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

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

Pastoral Care: Diane Lincoln | lincolfamily@gmail.com

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

Youth Ministry: Vicki Hayles | youth@ascensionparish.ca

Volunteer Resource: Sharron Robinson | resource@ascensionparish.ca

Liturgy

Altar Servers: Jehan Esguerra & Brooklyn Kerner | server@ascensionparish.ca

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

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

Greeters: Elizabeth De Guzman | edguzzman7@gmail.com

Lectors: Donna Hickie | donna.hickie@cssd.ab.ca

Liturgy Committee: Holly Davidson | hollyd@telus.net

Music Ministry: Gwen Raymundo | gwen.raymundo@gmail.com

Sacristans: Holly Davidson | hollyd@telus.net

Sacristy Care: Rita Johnson | office@ascensionparish.ca

Ushers: Chris Rappel | crappel@shaw.ca

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: Gary Bahen | gbahen03@shaw.ca

Prayer Warriors: Mary Keizer | mary.c.keizer@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Hamper Request | 587.755.3855

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Davina Janssens | davinamj@telus.net