



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

"Do good to those who hate you"

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)

What makes Christians different and what makes Christianity distinct from any other religion? It is *grace* - treating others, not as they deserve, but as God wishes them to be treated - with loving-kindness and mercy. God is good to the unjust as well as the just. His love embraces saint and sinner alike. God seeks our highest good and teaches us to seek the greatest good of others, even those who hate and abuse us. Our love for others, even those who are ungrateful and selfish towards us, must be marked by the same kindness and mercy which God has shown to us. It is easier to show kindness and mercy when we can expect to benefit from doing so. How much harder when we can expect nothing in return.

St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430 AD) describes Jesus' double precept to *give and forgive* as two essential wings of prayer: "*Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given you.*" These are the two wings of prayer on which it flies to God. Pardon the offender what has been committed, and give to the person in need" (Sermon 205.3). "Let us graciously and fervent-

ly perform these two types of almsgiving, that is, giving and forgiving, for we in turn pray the Lord to give us things and not to repay our evil deeds" (Sermon 206.2). Our prayer for those who do us ill both breaks the power of revenge and releases the power of love to do good in the face of evil. How can we possibly love those who cause us harm or ill-will? With God all things are possible. He gives power and grace to those who believe in and accept the gift of the Holy Spirit. His love conquers all, even our hurts, fears, prejudices and griefs. Only the cross of Jesus Christ can free us from the tyranny of malice, hatred, revenge, and resentment and gives us the courage to return evil with good. Such love and grace has power to heal and to save from destruction. That is why Paul the Apostle tells those who know the love and mercy of Jesus Christ to "bless and not curse.. nor take revenge.. and to overcome evil with good" (Romans 12:14,17,21). Do you know the power of God's love, mercy, and righteousness (moral goodness) for overcoming evil with good?



Lk. 6.27-38
"Do not judge"

"Lord Jesus, your love brings freedom and pardon. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and set my heart free with your merciful love that nothing may make me lose my temper, ruffle my peace, take away my joy, nor make me bitter towards anyone."

Don Schwager

www.dailyscripture.net

LENT

Pray + Fast + Give



Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. During this holy season the Catechumens prepare for Christian initiation and current Church members prepare for Easter by a recalling of Baptism and by works of penance, that is, prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Lent helps us grow closer to Christ. We are missing out on so many graces if we do not participate fully in Lent. It is not necessary to be perfect, but we should put forth a good effort. A good practice is to do something extra in prayer, something involving fasting (whether limiting our intake of food or giving up something non food-related), and something involving almsgiving (giving money or goods to the needy or doing extra acts of charity).

Ash Wednesday Masses, March 6th: 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 4:30 PM, 6:00 PM and 7:30 PM.

Catechesis Corner

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



Pray the Rosary

We may not be aware, but the use of beads for saying repeating prayers goes back to the earliest days of Christianity's origin. There is still the ancient venerable tradition in the Eastern Catholic Churches of saying the following prayer numerous times on prayer beads that predates the Rosary: **“Jesus Christ, son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner”**. The origin of the Rosary is fairly recent and took place in a time similar to ours. The 13th century was dealing with a great decline in Mass attendance by traditionally Christian areas. Missionary areas were flourishing, but there was great moral laxity amongst lay Catholics and their priests. The Cathar heresy was also widespread and taught that the material word was not real (similar to philosophies popular today in the media which deny the exist-

ence of reality and categories expressed in words like “truth is what you want it to be”). In this context, the Rosary was revealed to St. Dominic. The words of the Rosary oft repeat that St. Mary was the real mother of God against the Cathar heresy: “Hail Mary full of Grace”, and that she is model for all Christians of purity of singlemindedness for God, against the moral laxity of Christians at the time: “blessed are thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb”. May the rosary be a tool to use against moral laxity and lack of belief in God in our time.

Application: Pray the Rosary this week and insert the following intentions: lack of belief in the power of God and moral laxity.

EASTERN EUROPE TOUR INFORMATION SESSION With Fr. Adrian Martens

Join Fr. Adrian Martens on a Royal Orchid Enchanting Eastern Europe Tour of Czech Republic—Poland—Hungary—Slovenia—Croatia—Bosnia & Herzegovina. Sights: Miraculous Black Madonna—Church of the Visitation of Mary—Home of St. John Paul—Sanctuary of Divine Mercy—Our Lady of Medjugorje. 16-Day All Inclusive Tour Departs August 5, 2019! **An information/planning session is booked for Tuesday, March 5th at 6:00 PM at our Parish.** For more information contact Anand Alvares at 403.700.3763 or Email: royalorchid@shaw.ca

Mass Intentions

February 23rd - March 1st, 2019

Day	Date	Time	Intentions
Saturday	February 23	5:00 PM	Augustin & Candida Jumawid (+)
Saturday	February 23	7:00 PM	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	February 24	8:30 AM	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	February 24	10:30 AM	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	February 24	12:30 PM	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	February 24	5:00 PM	Mass for Parishioners
Monday	February 25	9:00 AM	Holy Souls in Purgatory (+)
Tuesday	February 26	9:00 AM	Milagros Calderon (+)
Wednesday	February 27	9:00 AM	Beatriz Gatapia (+)
Wednesday	February 27	6:30 PM	Carolina & Francesco Gualtieri (+)
Thursday	February 28	9:00 AM	Jaime Calderon (+)
Friday	March 1	9:00 AM	Flora Rita French (+)



Palms are Blessed Objects

They should be treated with reverence. To dispose of old palms, you may burn or bury them. They should not be thrown in the garbage. Palms can be returned to the Church before Ash Wednesday. A container is available in the Narthex by the coat rack.

FEELING LONELY IN YOUR MARRIAGE RELATIONSHIP?



Maybe you are frustrated, angry, disillusioned or just dissatisfied because your marriage relationship seems to be in a stalemate? The “Help Our Marriage” program being offered by Retrouvaille Calgary teaches married couples important practical communication skills that help them to identify and address these negative feelings together in a meaningful way. The spring program starts on the **March 8-10** weekend. 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	7
Offerings for the Week:	12-Feb-19	18-Feb-19
	Last Week	YTD
General Collections:		
Collections	5,950	69,852
Operating Cost	14,300	100,100
Over / (Shortfall) YTD Operating Cost	(8,350)	(30,248)
Central Fund Loan:		
Building Fund Collections	4,451	83,357
Weekly Loan Payment	11,350	79,450
Over / (Shortfall) YTD Loan Payment	(6,899)	3,907
Diocesan Annual Campaign:		
Together In Action		
2018 Collections		47,347
2019 Collections	60	2,819
2018 Target		61,355
Remaining towards 2018 Goal		(11,189)
Collections in our Diocese:		
Holy Childhood	172	1,579

2018 Tax Receipts

2018 tax receipts for church donations and Society of St. Vincent de Paul donations have been mailed. Thank you for your generous support of our Parish throughout 2018.

Inquiries for church donations:

Nora at finance@ascensionparish.ca

Inquiries for SSVP donations:

Davina at davinamj@telus.net



Sharing in the Eucharist is the main reason we come together. It is the defining moment of the Mass where we profess our belief and faith. If you would like to serve as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (EMHC) please join us for training on **Tuesday, February 26th at 7:00 PM** in the Sanctuary.

NEW SANCTUARY, NEW MASS TIMES!!

Let us give thanks to the Lord for He is good. On the first weekend of Lent , **March 9th & 10th**, we will celebrate Masses in our new Sanctuary! Morning Masses will be cancelled on Thursday, March 7th & Friday, March 8th as we work to set up our new Sanctuary.

New weekend Mass Schedule : Saturday at 6:00 PM & Sunday at 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM and 4:00 PM.



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