

# ASCENSION CATHOLIC PARISH

December 31, 2022—January 1, 2023



*Sharing the Spirit  
Together in Christ*



## **MASS TIMES**

### **WEEKDAY MASSES**

Monday - Saturday: 9:00am

### **WEEKEND MASSES**

Saturday: 5:00pm & 7:00pm

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

12:00pm & 4:00pm

## **PARISH STAFF**

**Pastor: Fr. John Gannon**

**Associate: Fr. JP Luxbacher**

**Vicar: Fr. Adrian Martens (Sundays)**

**Deacon: Patrick Woo**

**Admin Assist: Jenn Pashula**

**Sacraments : Linda Hengen**

**Bookkeeper: Nora Alzamora**

**Resource: Connie Raz**

## **OFFICE HOURS**

**Tuesday—Saturday**

**9:30am - 4:00pm**

***Closed for Lunch 12pm - 1pm***

## **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

**Psalm 67: May God be gracious to us and bless us.**

## **THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**

Dear friends,

It was beautiful to celebrate Christmas with you.

This weekend the world welcomes the New Year: a new gift of God, a day which is so often accompanied by new desires and new resolutions. On this day, the Church celebrates the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. May she accompany you in all of your undertakings and resolutions throughout 2023. As St Bernard wrote:

“In dangers, in hardships, in every doubt, call out to Mary... keep her in your heart.

Follow the example of her life and you will obtain the favor of her prayer.

Following her, you will never go astray,

Asking her help you will never despair,

Keeping her in your thoughts you will never wander away.

With your hand in hers, you will never stumble,

With her protecting you, you will not be afraid,

With her leading you, you will never tire.

Her kindness will see you through to the end.”



Thank you, on behalf of Fr John and myself, for all your Christmas gifts and greetings. Have a Blessed New Year!

God bless - Fr JP

## **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 Pastor

Press 3 for Associate

1100 Berkshire Blvd NW Calgary, AB T3K 3M3

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

## OFFICE NEWS

From all the office staff we wish you a joyful and meaningful New Year.

Our office will be closed on January 2nd, 2023.



## MESSAGE FROM PASTORAL COUNCIL

We look forward to the New Year with great anticipation and joy. We think about the new activities that will be planned and the celebrations that we will share together.

Here are a few items we are working on:

Jan. 1st Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God with Mass on Saturday at 5pm & 7pm, and Sunday at 8am, 10am, 12pm & 4pm.

Volunteer Retreat: January 27th or 28th; to renew and refresh all our extraordinary volunteers.

The Rescue Project: an 8 week program to experience the Kerygma with video and small group discussions.

May we live the gift of faith, and the blessings of hope and peace from His love in the New Year.

Parish Pastoral Council wishes you and your family a Blessed New Year.

## FINANCE COUNCIL &amp; BUILDING FUND COMMITTEE

From the Finance Council and the Building Fund Committee, we wish you a prosperous New Year.

Have you noticed the new **"Tap to Give"** machine in the Narthex? This unique, uncomplicated and secure donation method provides an easy, touchless and fast way to donate to the Church. You can donate in dollar values of \$5.00, \$10.00 or \$20.00. You can use your debit, credit card, apple pay or go pay. Just choose the donation amount and tap on it. If you want a tax receipt, please fill out a donation tax form and drop it into the Drop Box. It's that easy! We invite you to get tapping!

## HORIZON OF HOPE

A toolkit for Catholic Parishes on Palliative Care has been developed by the CCCB, as a positive response to end of life issues. It will assist in clarifying information, and reverse the deceptive messaging found in this increasing culture of death. This is a 4-module program being offered in 2023, through the Diocese at Ascension Catholic Parish every Monday from Jan. 9th to Jan. 30th, from 7pm - 9pm. For more information and to register go to <https://www.catholiccyc.ca/horizonsofhope.html>

## SACRAMENTS

**Confirmation Registration is open until January 14th.** If you have a child in grade six or higher who would like to be Confirmed please contact Linda at the office. **Sessions begin on January 18th.** Ascension Catholic Parish is here to journey with you as you make the commitment to raise your child in the Catholic Faith. If you would like information on any of the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion, Reconciliation, Marriage, Holy Orders, and the Sacrament of the Sick, please contact the office. Happy New Year and may God's Blessings be upon you.



## YOUTH GROUP - METANOIA

The youth group leaders are so excited to announce that Metanoia will be starting up again in the New Year! The first meeting will be on January 19th, from 6:30pm-8:00pm in the Church hall and will be held every two weeks after that. There will be games, snacks and faith activities from the Conquest program. It is open to students grades 5 and up. If you are interested, please contact the youth group leaders at [youth@ascensionparish.ca](mailto:youth@ascensionparish.ca).

## VOLUNTEER RETREAT JAN. 27TH OR 28TH

All volunteers are invited to come to one of the Volunteer Retreat session, "Renewing the Spirit" on either Jan. 27th from 6:30pm - 9pm or Jan 28th from 9am - 11:30am. It is a great gift that our Priests will set out time for us so that we can grow spiritually as we serve the Church. Together we give thanks for the gracious time we give to our Lord. To register go to [www.ascensionparish.ca](http://www.ascensionparish.ca).

## ATRIUM – CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

What if every child could have time and space specially set aside for an encounter with Christ? Ascension Catholic Parish is in the planning stage of bringing an Atrium to our pre-school children. An Atrium is a sacred space. It is set apart for children so that they may grow in their relationship with God. Our designated space has been assigned and we now need help to bring it alive in faith. Our Atrium will need movable cupboards to store the materials, child size tables and chairs, donations to purchase the faith materials and your prayers. For more information, please contact the office.



# God's Mother and Our Mother



Today, on the very first day of the new year, we celebrate the feast of the greatest saint in Heaven! Before He even made the world, God knew that He would make Mary to be His mother. When the time came that Jesus should come into the world He sent His angel Gabriel to tell Mary that God wanted her to be His mother. Because Mary was obedient and loved God she said "Yes" to Him.

God gives us mothers to look after us and feed and teach us. He chose Mary, who was the most perfect woman, to look after His Son, Jesus. She loved Him with all her heart and took the best care of Him that any mother ever did for her children.

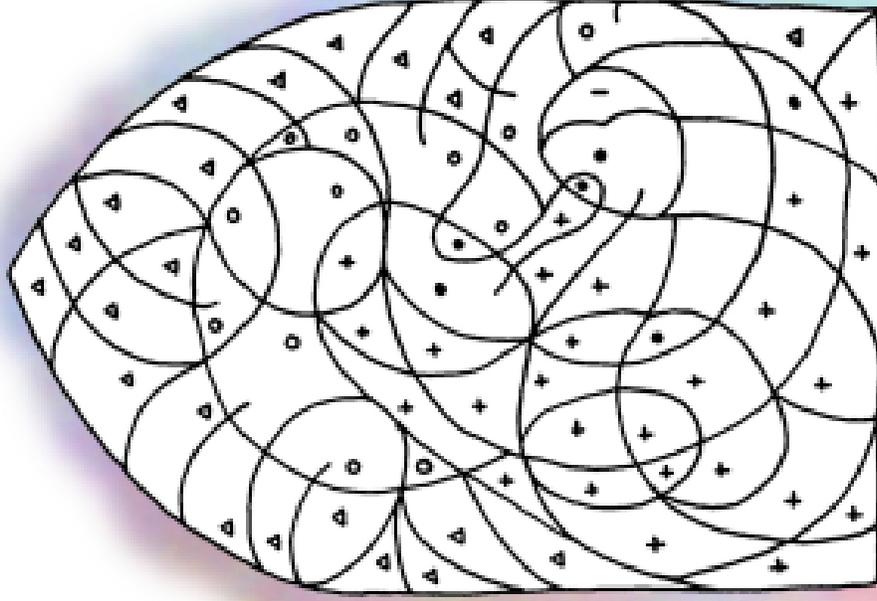
When Jesus was dying on the cross He gave His mother to us. So now we have His holy mother Mary for our mother in Heaven! Today we thank God for His holy mother. Can you remember to pray to Mary today and every day this year? She loves us because she is our mother and wants to help us every day!

Answer to Oration of Christmas Word-Find:  
Mary the Mother of God

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

# The Kids' Bulletin

Sunday January 1st, 2023  
Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God

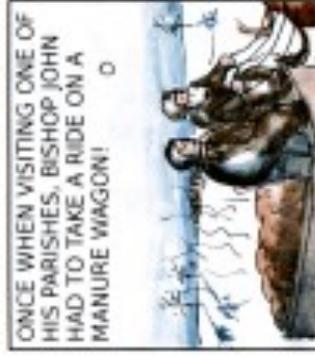


Whose feast is it on New Year's Day?  
Colour in the spaces to see! Here's the code:

- + Blue
- ▲ Pink
- Yellow
- ! Brown
- Skin colour

# Saint John Neumann

## January 5



SAINT JOHN NEUMANN WORKED TIRELESSLY TO HELP THE POOR PEOPLE WHO WERE SETTLING IN AMERICA. HE DID NOT LET HIS OWN POVERTY SLOW HIM DOWN. WE CAN LEARN FROM HIS EXAMPLE TO USE OUR TALENTS TO BRING GOD TO THE WORLD NO MATTER HOW MUCH OR HOW LITTLE WE HAVE.

[thekidsbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:thekidsbulletin@gmail.com)

# Octave of Christmas

## Word-Find

Can you find all the words in the list in the puzzle below? Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks at the end.

ANGELS	GLORY	PRAISE
ANIMALS	GOD	SAVIOUR
BABY	HOLY	SHEEP
BARN	JESUS	SHEPHERDS
BETHLEHEM	JOSEPH	SING
BORN	MANGER	SKY
COLD	MARY	STABLE
FIELDS	MOTHER	WONDER
FOUND	NIGHT	WORSHIP

W P M S I N G N I G H T  
 O R A T A N G E L S B  
 N A S A M O L S R E H  
 D I A B L A R Y E J O S E P H  
 R E I O R Y E S J O S E P H L  
 G L O R T H E S Y K Y R H E  
 F O A R W O R S H I P D E  
 U B A R M A N G I E R O F G  
 N Y R C O L D P B O R N

On the eighth day of Christmas we honour in a special way

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