

ASCENSION CATHOLIC PARISH



MARCH 2021



Sharing the Spirit Together in Christ

1100 Berkshire Blvd NW
Calgary, AB T3K 3M3
Phone 403.275.2240
Fax 403.274.3969
www.ascensionparish.ca

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday
9:30 am — 1:00 pm
By appointment only

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Avinash Colaco
Associate: Fr. Adrian Martens
Deacon: Patrick Woo
Resource: Sharron Robinson
Sacraments: Jenn Pashula
Bookkeeper: Nora Alzamora

Check out inside ...

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- *Auction information*
- *Finance Update*
- *SSVP Update*
- *PPC Update*
- *Building Fund Update*

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners -

I pray that you are all experiencing a meaningful Lent. These 40 days can be a beautiful time if we choose it to be. Jesus' final days and His crucifixion are a stark reminder for us of His ultimate sacrifice for the sins and salvation of the world. Are we ready to meet the Lord when our time comes?

Confessing our sins and admitting our guilt is not easy. But God knows we are not perfect. As Catholics, we are blessed to have the beautiful Sacrament of Reconciliation to prepare us for that final judgement. The more often we come to Him in repentance, humility and contrition, the closer we will be with Him. Let us go to Him and ease our hearts from the burden of sin.

Peace,
Fr. Avi



ONLINE AUCTION is LIVE!

PLEASE FOLLOW THIS LINK TO BID ON OVER 130 EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS!

<https://givergy.ca/ascensionparishauction>

Feel free to share this link with your network of family, friends, and coworkers and invite them to participate!

Online bidding will remain open until **March 27th at 9:00 pm**

All funds raised will go toward our Building Fund for our recent renovations.

Thank you for your support. Enjoy and have fun!

FINANCE UPDATE

Your Gifts to the Parish:

	Jan - Feb 2021
Collections - Operating	\$106,646
Government Grants	\$6,596
Total General Collections	\$113,242
Operating Cost	\$65,496
Diocese Assessment/Other	\$10,988
Over/(Shortfall)YTD Op Cost	\$36,759
Building Fund/Donor Wall Collections	\$74,690
Interest Paid on Central Fund Loan	\$19,968
Principal Payment	\$55,316
Over/(Shortfall)YTD Building Fund	(\$594)

Diocesan Annual Campaign

Together in Action Collections	\$6,803
2021 Target	\$37,642
Remaining Towards Goal	\$30,839

When you let go
of what's in your hand,
it's now empty to receive
greater blessings
from GOD.

Donations and Pre-Authorized Donor process— 'PAD' Program

A warm thank you for your continued financial support of Ascension Catholic Parish. We appreciate your commitment to giving, a virtue God calls us to do.

In late 2019, we introduced the **Pre-Authorized Donor** ('PAD') program to encourage every family to move from donating by cash, cheques, and the weekly envelope system. It was intended to reduce volunteer time for collection counting, cash handling, bank deposits and weekly data entry of donations. You still chose the split of your donation to Parish Operations, the Building Fund or 'Together In Action'. You have a unique confidential donor number to identify you to our office for your financial support. COVID 19 changed many things including no collection baskets, reduced Mass attendance, and difficulty in getting envelopes to the Church each week.

Benefits to adopting PAD in your financial support of Ascension Catholic Parish:

1. **'Set it and forget it'** with a monthly Pre-Authorized Donation you have a unique donor number assigned and provided to you from our office.
2. You will receive an **annual tax receipt** for charitable donations, including all PAD payments from your bank account or credit card tied to your donor number.
3. **Special Donations** (e.g., Mexican Missions, Christmas) can be tied to your unique PAD number, without adding further personal information to the payment (note your number with the payment).
4. It is easy to make a change to the PAD donation, just by contacting our office by email (finance@ascensionparish.ca) or via our Parish website.

Together we make Ascension Catholic Parish continue to meet operational, building loan commitments and work with our families to fulfill our spiritual well being.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL UPDATE

The Society wishes to express their gratitude to our donors for your generosity, to our schools for their enthusiasm in the many food and gift card drives throughout the year, to the Knights of Columbus for their dedication in several initiatives with our members, and for the dedication of our members in serving those in need in our community.

The Annual Report and updates for the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul may be viewed on our website at

<https://ascensionssvp.wixsite.com/website>.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC) UPDATE

A very Blessed Lent to you and your family. We are just a few weeks away from the weather warming up. With the warm weather we look forward to the flowers blossoming, longer days, and most importantly, Easter.

As we approach Easter and await for our Lord to be Risen, let's take this time to prepare our minds and hearts:

- **Every Friday join us for the Stations of the Cross, which is live streamed following the morning Mass at 9am.**
- **As we journey through Lent, every weekend, a video is posted featuring a member from Parish Council encouraging us to practice different good habits that we can do individually or as a family.**
- **Parish Council has also put together care packages for our parishioners in Senior Homes.**
- **Lent and Easter may be a bit different this year. As we continue to experience this pandemic, we must keep our faith in the Lord who sacrificed His only Son for us.**

On behalf of our Pastors and PPC we will be keeping you in our prayers this Lenten season. Stay safe and God Bless.



SACRAMENTAL UPDATE

Our RCIA program is gearing up for the most important part of the year. The Catechumens, those who will be Baptized, were received in the Rite of Election and became the Elect. They are currently journeying through the three Scrutinies in Lent. We also have brothers and sisters who have been Baptized and they are working toward being fully received into the Catholic faith, they are Candidates. There are 12 Elect and 13 Candidates and they will receive their Sacraments in the Easter Season. Please pray for their final preparations. We thank all the volunteers and sponsors who are involved in the RCIA program and the incredible work that they are doing.

Our Sacraments for Teens program for youth in grades 6 to 12, who have missed any of their Sacraments, is also in the final preparation for the students to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation. Our School aged children in grades 1 to 5 who wish to be Baptized have finished their preparation and will be Baptized in April. Please pray for the 35 students and their families. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer in our Sacramental programs, please contact Jenn at sacraments@ascensionparish.ca or call 403-275-2240 ext.6.

BUILDING FUND UPDATE

Did you know...

OUR DONOR WALL:

The new Donor Wall at the Parish is both big in size and in its potential for reducing our Parish mortgage debt.

When you purchase a Donor Wall plaque, you get to select the exact location on the wall

Have you noticed the size of the donor wall plaques? The plaque and lettering size gets bigger as the value of the plaque increases. The plaques range in price from \$2,500 to \$100,000.

By making a one-time contribution to our Donor Wall you will have a lasting memory of your contribution in building our Parish.

We pray that you will consider supporting this great project.

ST. PETER'S YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Who: Men & Women, ages 18 - 36
(all Parishes welcome!)

When: 1st & 3rd Friday of each month

Where: currently Zoom meetings only

Why:

- to learn more about our Catholic faith
- to make new friends
- to participate in discussions
- to hear a variety of great speakers
- to participate in fun ice breakers

For more information email Matthew at youngadultgroup@st-peters.ca
or check out our website at www.spyag.ca

MASS TIMES

Weekday Masses

Monday - Saturday: 9:00am

Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5:00pm & 7:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am; 10:00am; 12:00pm & 4:00pm

Please Note:

Registration is required to attend Mass in person. The link to register is on our Parish website. Dispensation from the Bishop to come to Holy Mass in person is still in place. Currently, our attendance is limited to 15% of our fire code capacity.

Live Stream Mass

Monday - Saturday: 9:00am

Sunday: 10:00am

CONFESSIONS

Fridays from 10am—12noon and
1pm—3pm

or

by appointment

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the office @ 403.275.2240.

When prompted, press 2 for

Fr. Avinash, press 3 for Fr. Adrian.

2021 MISSALS STILL AVAILABLE

If you have not yet purchased your 2021 Missal, they are available at the Parish Office during office hours at a cost of \$5.00.

2021 DONATION ENVELOPES

If you have not received your 2021 envelopes yet, please arrange for pickup during our office hours.

FLOCKNOTE

Keep in touch with us via email and text message!

Text **ACPYC** to **514.900.0130**

or connect with us online at

ascensioncatholicparish.flocknote.com

Sign up and stay connected!

MINISTRY CONTACTS

Volunteer Resource: Sharron Robinson | resource@ascensionparish.ca

Safety Coordinator Lead: Christine Russell | apvolunteer@shaw.ca

SACRAMENTS

Sacramental Preparation: Jenn Pashula | sacraments@ascensionparish.ca

Baptism Preparation: Jenn Pashula | baptism@ascensionparish.ca

Marriage Prep: William Abenes | marriageprepatascension@gmail.com

RCIA: Rob Kehrig | robkehrig@gmail.com

MINISTRIES

Parish Council: Rodel Cenabre | rodelcenabre@gmail.com

Finance Council: Christina Dao | c_dc_d@hotmail.com

Building Fund: Mark Holland | markholland@shaw.ca

Special Events Fundraising: Holly Davidson | hollyd@telus.net

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

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

Liturgical Ministries: Nadia Oliverio | nadia.oliverio@shaw.ca

Lectors: Andrew Harich | harich0307@gmail.com

Music Ministry (Interim): DeeDee Hedley | ddhedley@shaw.ca

Sacristy Care: James Chuah | jameschuah10248@gmail.com

Assist with Sacraments: DeeDee Hedley | ddhedley@shaw.ca

Ushers: Richard Svoboda | ricsvo@shaw.ca

Weekday Masses: Connie Raz | connieraz@gmail.com

Ascension Communication Team (ACT) | samandrafo@shaw.ca

LAY ASSOCIATIONS

Catholic Women's League: Twila Tayfel | cwl.ascension@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus: Phil Fitzgerald | gk10065@kofc.ab.ca

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Davina Janssens | ssvp.ascension@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Hamper Request | 587.755.3855

Stay up to date by visiting our Social Media

www.facebook.com/ascensionparishcalgary

<https://twitter.com/RCAscensionYYC>

<https://www.instagram.com/ascensioncatholic/>