



The Baptism of the Lord

January 11 & 12, 2020

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

Our Baptism calls us into communion with God and one another

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*)

The narration of Jesus submitting to John's baptism is a story that fleshes out what the hymn from Philippians teaches through its lyrics, that Christ, "though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped" (Philippians 2:6).

Jesus' baptism reinforces the message of the Christmas narratives. Jesus' baptism tells us that God's chosen way of being with us is not as an awesome ruler of the universe, but as one who chooses solidarity with us in all our weakness. Jesus' baptism depicts Emmanuel as one of us.

Jesus Emmanuel freely chooses the confines of human existence in order to lead us into all that we were created to be. This is the scandal of Christianity; we are the one world religion that conceives of God as incarnate, sharing all our limitations in order to reveal limitless love.

This scene is also the first depiction of God as Trinity. Here we encounter Jesus as Emmanuel, the spirit who descends on him and the voice of God affirming him. The Trinity is manifested in the humble scene of Jesus submitting to John's baptism.

The scene of the baptism shows how Jesus' discernment of the will of God opened him to hear God's confirma-

tion of his actions. Matthew draws a dramatic scene, saying that as "he came up from the water, the heavens were opened for him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him." That was Jesus' interior experience, the heavens opened for him and he saw the Spirit of God descending.

Jesus knew his Scriptures. His experience of the Spirit revealed that he was called to be the servant of God Isaiah had prophesied. The voice, heard again at the Transfiguration, came as a public confirmation: Jesus was the longed-for son of Israel, the son in whom God was well pleased.

What does this say to us? The scandal of Christianity is God's limitless solidarity with us. Emmanuel is "god with us" in every circumstance: in hope and love, in weakness and sin, disgrace and desperation. The way to union with this God necessarily passes through practicing the kind of presence Jesus showed us.

If we wish to know God, we can only do so through solidarity, through sharing one another's need and weakness so profoundly that we can also genuinely share one another's joys. Then we will know God because God will be acting in and through us.



Matthew 3.13-17

Jesus accepted baptism in union with us. Our baptism is a call and invitation to union with God and all of God's own. Jesus' baptism was a sign of his communion with us. Ours calls us into communion with God and one another.

*Sr. Mary M. McGlone
National Catholic Reporter*

Evening of Prayer for Christian Unity - January 27th

An Evening of Prayer will be hosted on **Monday, January 27 from 6:30-7:30 pm at our Parish.** Fr. Mathew Perreault, Curator of All Saints Church, Cochrane, will lead the program. Prayers will be followed by refreshments. You are all invited to join in this "Evening of Prayer for Christian Unity". This event is one amongst many being held across North America from January 18 – 25 to encourage prayer between Christians for their unity as one in Christ. "I in them and you in me – so that they may be brought to complete unity" John 23. For more information visit: <http://www.catholicycyc.ca/news.html>

Catechesis Corner

(For the week of January 11-17, 2020)



“Baptism of the Lord”

It was only until 1955 that Pope Pius XII instituted that the Baptism of the Lord be celebrated apart from the Epiphany. It might surprise us, but the Epiphany included the celebration also of the first miracle of Jesus: turning water into wine!

All of these celebrations of Epiphany serve to show the important fact that all of these holidays are distinct (today is Baptism of the Lord, while last week is Epiphany) - but we are also reminded that they are similar. They show us that now is the season for God to reveal himself to us anew.

Let us pray that God shows himself to us anew as we just begin the year and pray today for all that we have celebrated in these ancient words celebrating the Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord (from the ancient vespers): *“We celebrate a festival adorned by three miracles: a star led the Magi to the manger; water was changed into wine at the marriage-feast; Christ vouchsafed to be baptized by John in the Jordan, for our salvation. Alleluia.”*



Christmas Cards for Missions

Mission Council at the Catholic Pastoral Centre asks you to consider putting aside your used and unused greeting cards for our card making program which supports overseas missions.

Cards can be dropped in the box in the Narthex until the weekend of January 25/26 and we will deliver them to the Pastoral Centre. Thank you!



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.

Mass Intentions

January 11-17, 2020

Day	Date	Time	Intentions
Saturday	January 11	9:00 AM	Paul Roy (+)
Saturday	January 11	5:00 PM	SI of Lourdes S. Flores
Sunday	January 12	8:00 AM	Mariyamma Chacko (+)
Sunday	January 12	10:00 AM	Flora Diello (+)
Sunday	January 12	12:00 PM	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	January 12	4:00 PM	Paul & Anna Nguyen (+)
Monday	January 13	9:00 AM	SI of Florence Knoll
Tuesday	January 14	9:00 AM	Pa Lawrence Oboh (+)
Tuesday	January 14	6:30 PM	Amando & Inocensia Amigo (+)
Wednesday	January 15	9:00 AM	SI of Fr. Rodel Abanto
Wednesday	January 15	6:30 PM	Eufemia Amigo (+)
Thursday	January 16	9:00 AM	Merlita Reyes (+)
Thursday	January 16	6:30 PM	SI of Wilma McClafferty
Friday	January 17	9:00 AM	Anselm O. Oteze (+)
Friday	January 17	6:30 PM	SI of Cathy Gualtieri

Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY) WALK



Save the date: Saturday, February 22, 2020. This is a family-friendly fundraiser to support Feed the Hungry (a Diocesan program) and Bankview Apartments (low-income housing for those at risk of or previously experiencing homelessness). This is the 7th year for the Diocese, in partnership with KAIROS Calgary, to host this event in Downtown Calgary. Join 400 others in walking 2, 5 or 10-km routes and raise funds for these two worthy causes. More info at cnoy.org/location/calgarydowntown

Pre-Authorized Donor Program (PAD)

“Consistency can create miracles!

Do you know you can provide more support to Ascension Catholic Parish and its ministry work by enrolling in the Pre-Authorized Donation (PAD) Program to meet our operating costs and building fund payments?

A modest weekly/monthly donation direct from your bank account or credit card will show you quickly that your PAD offering makes a difference in helping Ascension Catholic Parish continue the growth of its ministry work.

It works because it is consistent, without fail, and it is so easy to start the process. Need help in determining where to start? Visit our website www.ascensionparish.ca for suggested donations suited to your financial circumstance. **Create a small personal sacrifice today in the Ascension Catholic Parish PAD program**

Finance Report - at a glance...

Finance reports for the Christmas and New Year collections are not available until next week. Thank you for your continued support.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Statistics for September, October & November 2019

76 Calls

74 Hampers

149 Adults & 156 Children

Donations	\$ 11,311
Gift Cards donated	\$ 390
Angel Tree Gift Cards Donated	\$ 2,125
Groceries Purchased	\$ 3,316
Gift Cards Purchased	\$ 4,000
Utilities	\$ 1,449
Rent	\$ 2,835
Property & Equipment	\$ 0
Office Expense	\$ 201
Bank Balance	\$ 6,796
Gift Cards Given Out	\$ 2,225

Special thanks to all parishioners for your financial support and to our schools for their support with Food Drives that helped to stock our hamper room shelves. Thank you for your Generosity!

Share Sunday is the 3rd weekend of each month. No donation is too small. Thank you for your generosity.

New members welcome. If you are interested in becoming a member please contact Davina Janssens at ssvp.ascension@gmail.com

Catechesis & Brunch!

Our Parish will combine this liturgical year's theme of Fellowship with last year's theme of Catechesis in an event called "Catechesis & Brunch"! All are invited to join Fr. Avi in the Hall on **Tuesday, January 14th** from 10:00 to 11:00 AM. We will enjoy potluck brunch items and enrich our understanding of our Catholic faith and share in fellowship with each other.

Come Holy Spirit

Fr Adrian will be presenting on the Church's Mission:
Evangelization & Social Doctrine

Wednesday, January 22
7 PM in room eight

Please join the Social Justice Committee as we explore this important topic. All are welcome.

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