

**The Twin Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Agnes & St. Anthony
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B
December 13, 2020**



St. Anthony
10661-82 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T6E 2A6
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St. Agnes
10826-62 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T6H 1N1
Ph: 780-432-0611

Office Hours: Monday – Friday
9:00 am – 12 Noon and 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
E-Mail: stanthony.edm@caedm.ca
Parish website: twinparishes.caedm.ca

St. Agnes & St. Anthony Joint Mission Statement

As sharers in the mission of Jesus Christ, we are committed to spreading the Gospel and building up the kingdom of God in our homes, in our parishes, and in the communities in which we live.

SACRAMENTS

MARRIAGE – Because the church is deeply concerned about each marriage, couples are asked to give a minimum of **six months' notice prior to the intended date of their wedding.** Normally the parish boundaries determine in which parish marriage planning should take place. St. Agnes & St. Anthony parishes offer a Marriage Preparation Course please contact the parish office.

**For Funerals contact the parish office
@ 780-432-0611**

NO Adoration at St. Anthony until further notice.

NO Meeting, and other activities in the church & meeting rooms until further notice.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **2021 Church donation envelopes are available at the parish office to pick up.**
- **For Advent Reconciliation call the parish office to book an appointment.**
- **Christmas masses schedules will be available at the parish website Sunday, Dec. 13 in the afternoon. Those who wish to attend please register online and no walk-ins for the Christmas masses.**

St. Agnes & St. Anthony Parish Staff:

Pastor	Rev. Varghese Munduvelil
Deacon	Guy Germain
Deacon	Michael Pucylo
Deacon	Ramon Morales
Business Manager	Don Wong
Administrative Assistant	Florentina Suce
Custodian (St. Anthony)	Ray Wagner
Custodian (St. Agnes)	Bruce Huynh

Twin Parishes Financial Pulse

		Actual	YTD	Full Year Budget
Dec 05 & 06				
<u>Sunday, Holy Day</u>	\$	10,835	\$311,618	\$460,000
<u>Building Maint. Fund</u>	\$	50	\$ 25,820	\$ 30,000
<u>Together We Serve</u>	\$	1,160	\$ 26,201	\$ 51,600

“On every Lord’s Day each of you should put aside something from what you have earned during the week, and use it for this offering. The amount depends on how much the Lord has helped you earn.” 1Timothy 6:6-8
God bless you in your response to His love.

Twin Parishes Masses for the Week

Tuesday, December 15 Mass @ St. Anthony	7:00 pm
Wednesday, December 16 Mass @ St. Anthony	6:15 pm
Thursday, December 17 Mass @ St. Agnes	9:00 am
Friday, December 18 Mass @ St. Agnes	9:00 am
Saturday, December 20 Mass @ St. Agnes Mass @ St. Anthony	5:00 pm 7:30 pm
Sunday, December 21 Mass @ St. Agnes Mass @ St. Anthony Mass @ St. Agnes	9:00 am 10:30 am 12:00 Noon

Attendees for weekend masses are by registration online at the parish website twinparishes.caedm.ca including all volunteers. Only at this time of the Covid-19 pandemic. Parishioners that have no access to the website call the parish office to register during office hours Monday to Friday 9 am-12 noon 1 pm-4pm. There is a cut-off of online registration at the website every Saturday at 12 Noon. **Click under Mass Registration**

The parish is not selling the St. Joseph Sunday Missal this year. Please call the Universal Church Supplies to order.

Straighten the Path

December 13, 2020- Scott Hahn Reflects on the
Third Sunday of Advent Year B

First Reading – Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

Psalm Luke 1:46-50, 53-54

Second Reading – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel – John 1:6-8, 19-28

The mysterious figure of John the Baptist, introduced in last week's readings, comes into sharper focus today. Who he is, we see in today's Gospel, is best understood by who he isn't.

He is not Elijah returned from the heavens (see 2Kings 2:11), although like him he dresses in the prophet's attire (see Mark 1:6; 2 Kings 1:8) and preaches repentance and judgement (see 1 Kings 18:21; 2 Chronicles 21:12-15).

Not Elijah in the flesh, John is nonetheless sent in the spirit and power of Elijah to fulfill his mission (see Luke 1:17; Malachi 3:23-24).

Neither is John the prophet Moses foretold, although he is a kinsman and speaks God's word (see Deuteronomy 18:15-19; John 6:14). Nor is John the Messiah, though he has been anointed by the Spirit since he was in the womb (see Luke 1:15, 44).

John prepares the way for the Lord (See Isaiah 40:3). The baptism he performs is symbolic, not sacramental. It is a sign given to stir our hearts to repentance.

John shows us the One upon whom the Spirit remains (see John 1:32), the One who fulfills the promise we hear in today's First Reading (see Luke 4:16-21). Jesus' bath of rebirth and the Spirit opens a fountain that purifies Israel and gives to all a new heart and a new Spirit (see Zechariah 13:1-3; Ezekiel 36:24; Mark 1:8; Titus 3:5).

John comes to us in the Advent readings to show us the light, that we might believe in the One who comes at Christmas. As we sing in today's Responsorial, the Mighty One has come to lift each of us up, to fill our hunger with bread from heaven

Registering for FORMED is easier than ever:

1. Go to formed.org/signup; click the 3rd button: I belong to a parish organization.
2. Select your parish: Enter Postal Code T6E 2A6 and select St. Anthony from the dropdown menu.
3. Register with your name and email address
4. Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED.

Pope Francis Corner



And the Joy of
Family Life Daily
Reflections

Let Your Heart Not Be Troubled

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE, December 12

Many Christian parents ask that their children be baptized (at) a Marian shrine, as a sign of their faith in her motherhood which brings forth new children for God. There, in these many shrines, we can see how Mary brings together her children who with great effort come as pilgrims to see her and to be seen by her. Here they find strength from God to bear the weariness and the suffering in their lives. As she did with Juan Diego, Mary offers ... maternal comfort and love, and whispers in their ear: "Let your heart not be troubled Am I not here, who I am your Mother?"

- *Evangelii Gaudium*

Reflection: *As a family, go online and search for a particular Marian shrine to learn about. For example, read about Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of Lourdes, or Our Lady of Fatima. What were the circumstances of Mary's appearance? Whom did she appear to? What did she say or do? Take her message to heart and talk about how you can incorporate it into your own life as a family.*

DONATE BUTTON

Parish website: twinparishes.caedm.ca

Here are three ways to give:

St. Agnes and St. Anthony would prefer if you use:

[Pre-Authorized Giving Agreement Form](#)

Envelopes can be dropped off or mailed to the parish office at:

St. Anthony,
10661-82 Avenue NW Edmonton,
AB T6E 2A6

My Offering

Donate online:

Thank you for being a good steward of
St. Agnes/St. Anthony Parish.

Every gift is truly appreciated.

Grace with lines inspired by the Readings for December 13, 2020 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Leader: *Lord Jesus, we thank you for your Word. You are the light foretold by John the Baptist. (John 1:8)*

All: *Lord, enlighten our world.*

Or

Leader: *Lord Jesus, we thank you for your Word. You alone are the Messiah. (John 1:20)*

All: *We are your people, Lord.*

POPE FRANCIS' REFLECTION ON THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 17, 2017

JOY IS AT HOME AT JESUS

Joy is the central theme of the third Sunday of Advent. Priests are allowed to wear rose coloured vestments instead of purple to symbolise the joyfulness of this Season of Grace. As Pope Francis was about to give his Angelus Address he noticed a banner in the crowd “Joy is at home in Jesus” and he referred to the banner during his Address on 14th December 2014.

For two weeks already, the Season of Advent has been calling us to spiritual vigilance in preparing the way for the Lord who is to come. On this Third Sunday, the Liturgy sets forth another interior attitude by which to live out this time of waiting for the Lord, that is joy. The joy of Jesus, as that sign [held up in St Peter’s Square] reads: “Joy is at home in Jesus”. That’s it, it proposes Jesus’ joy to us!

The human heart desires joy. We all desire joy, every family, every people aspires to happiness. But what is the joy that the Christian is called to live out and bear witness to? It is the joy that comes from the *closeness of God*, from his *presence* in our life. From the moment Jesus entered into history, with his birth in Bethlehem, humanity received the seed of the Kingdom of God, like the soil receives the seed, the promise of a future harvest. There is no need to look further! Jesus has come to bring joy to all people for all time. It is not just a hopeful joy or a joy postponed until paradise: as if here on earth we are sad but in paradise we will be filled with joy. No! It is not that, but a joy already real and tangible now, because *Jesus himself is our joy*, and with Jesus, joy finds its home, as your sign there says: joy is at home in Jesus. All of us, let us say it: “Joy is at home in Jesus”. Once more: “Joy is at home in Jesus”. And without Jesus is there joy? No! Well done! He is living, He is the Risen One, and He works in us and among us especially with the Word and the Sacraments.

We who are baptized, children of the Church, we are called to accept ever anew the presence of God among us and to help others to discover Him, or to rediscover what they have forgotten. It is a most beautiful mission, like that of John the Baptist: to direct the people to Christ — not to ourselves! — for He is the destination to which the human heart tends when it seeks joy and happiness.

In today’s liturgy St Paul again indicates the conditions for being “missionaries of joy”: praying constantly, always giving thanks to God, giving way to his Spirit, seeking the good and avoiding evil (cf. 1 Thessalonians 5:17-22). If this becomes our lifestyle, then the Good News will be able to enter so many homes and help people and families to rediscover that in Jesus lies salvation. In Him it is possible to find interior peace and the strength to face different life situations every day, even the heaviest and most difficult. No one has ever heard of a sad saint with a mournful face. This is unheard of! It would be a contradiction. The Christian’s heart is filled with peace because he knows how to place his joy in the Lord even when going through the difficult moments in life. To have faith does not mean to never have difficult moments but to have the strength to face those moments knowing that we are not alone. And this is the peace that God gives to his children.

With her gaze turned to Christmas already close at hand, the Church invites us to bear witness that Jesus is not a person of the past; He is the Word of God who today continues to illuminate the path of mankind; his gestures — the Sacraments — are the manifestation of the tenderness, consolation and love that the Father bears for every human being. May the Virgin Mary, “Cause of our joy”, render us ever more joyous in the Lord, who comes to free us from the many forms of interior and exterior slavery.

Prayer

Lord, as I look forward to the birthday of your Son,
May I experience the joy of salvation.
And celebrate the feast with love and thanksgiving,
Amen.

