

**The Twin Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Agnes & St. Anthony
BAPTISM OF THE LORD
JANUARY 10, 2021**



St. Anthony
10661-82 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T6E 2A6
Ph: 780- 432-0611
Fax: 780-434-4969

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 2021 Church donation envelopes are available at the parish office to pick up.
- All participants for the mass must wear a face covering or mask inside the church.
- 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.
- NO Adoration at St. Anthony until further notice.
- NO Meeting, and other activities in the church & meeting rooms until further notice.
- For Funerals contact the parish office 780-432-0611
- **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.

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

		Full Year	
January 2 & 3	<u>Actual</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<u>Sunday, Holy Day</u>	\$ 10,550	\$10,550	\$400,000
<u>Building Maint. Fund</u>	\$ 465	\$ 465	\$ 30,000
<u>Together We Serve</u>	\$ 880	\$ 29,106	\$ 51,600

*"Give in proportion to the blessings the Lord has given you." Deuteronomy 16:10
God bless you in your response to His love.*

Twin Parishes Masses for the Week

Tuesday, January 12 Mass @ St. Anthony	7:00 pm
Wednesday, January 13 Mass @ St. Anthony	6:15 pm
Thursday, January 14 Mass @ St. Agnes Mass @ St. Anthony	5:00 pm 7:30 pm
Friday, January 15 Mass @ St. Agnes	9:00 am
Saturday, January 16 Mass @ St. Agnes Mass @ St. Anthony	5:00 pm 7:30 pm
Sunday, January 17 Mass @ St. Agnes Mass @ St. Anthony Mass @ St. Agnes	9:00 am 10:30 am 12:00 Noon

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.

THE ANOINTING

JANUARY 10, 2021- Scott Hahn Reflects on the BAPTISM OF THE LORD

First Reading – Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Psalm 29:1-4, 9-10

Second Reading – Acts 10:34-38

Gospel – Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

The Liturgy last week revealed the mystery of God's plan – that in Jesus all peoples, symbolized by the magi, have been made “co-heirs” to the blessing promised to Israel. This week, we're shown how we claim our inheritance.

Jesus doesn't submit to John's baptism as a sinner in need of purification. He humbles Himself to pass through Jordan's waters in order to lead a new “exodus” – opening up the promised land of heaven so that all peoples can hear the words pronounced over Jesus today, words once reserved only for Israel and its king: that each of us is a beloved son or daughter of God (see Genesis 22:2; Exodus 4:22; Psalm 2:7).

Jesus is the chosen servant Isaiah prophesies in today's First Reading, anointed with the Spirit to make things right and just on earth. God puts His Spirit upon Jesus to make Him “a covenant of the people,” the liberator of the captives, the light to the nations. Jesus, today's Second Reading tells us, is the One long expected in Israel, “anointed ... with the Holy Spirit and power.”

The word Messiah means “one anointed” with God's Spirit. King David was “the anointed of the God of Jacob” (see 2 Samuel 23:1-17; Psalm 18:51; 132:10, 17). The prophets taught Israel to await a royal offshoot of David, upon whom the Spirit would rest (see Isaiah 11:1-2; Daniel 9:25).

That's why people of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to John. But it isn't John they're looking for. God confirms with His own voice what the Angel earlier told Mary-Jesus is the Son of the Most High, come to claim the throne of David forever (see Luke 1:32-33).

In the Baptism that He brings, the voice of God will hover over the waters as fiery flame, as we sing in today's Psalm. He has sanctified the waters, made them a passage-a way to healing and freedom-a fountain of new birth and everlasting life.

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

Even in the worst of Times

Let us always remember to say, with trust, even in the worst of times, even in moments of illness, when we realize that we have to ask for extreme unction because there is no way out: “Lord, history did not begin with me nor will it end with me. You go on, I'm ready.” (And thus we place ourselves) in the hands of the Lord.

God walks with us; God makes history; God puts us to the test; God saves us in the most difficult moments, because he is our Father. (Indeed,) according to Paul, he's our dad.... Lord, enable us to understand this mystery of his journey with his people in history, of his testing his chosen ones who take upon themselves their suffering, the problems, even appearing as sinners – let's think of Jesus – in order to carry on with history.

- *Domus Sanctae Marthae, December 18, 2014*

Reflection: *Do you place yourself in the hands of the Lord each day? Are you willing to let go of control? Are you willing to move from the driver's seat over to the passenger's seat? Pick a particular way to give over control this week – whether it be with a specific suffering, a situation at work, or a challenge at home.*



Marriage Preparation

Engaged Couples, register now for ONLINE MARRIAGE PREPARATION in 2021!

Includes a Virtual Weekend Course:

- February 5-7, 2021
- April 23-25, 2021

\$150 registration fee includes all course materials. Register ASAP by Email:

marriage.preparation@caedm.ca

Register ASAP by emailing Mona:

marriage.preparation@caedm.ca

“God dwells in us. It doesn't matter where you are as long as you are clean of heart. Clean of heart means openness, that complete freedom, that detachment that allows you to love God without hindrance, without obstacles. When sin comes into our lives that is a personal obstacle between us and God. Sin is nothing but slavery.”

Blessed Mother Teresa

Baptism of Our Lord -2021

The Christmas season comes to an end with the feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. The Baptism of the Lord is the occasion of the first public revelation of all the Three Persons in the **Holy Trinity**. It is the official revelation of **Jesus as the Son of God** to the world by God the Father. It marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry.

Neither John nor Jesus invented baptism. It had been practiced for centuries by the Jews as a ritual as a means of spiritual cleansing, to remove spiritual impurity and sin. Converts were also expected to take this bath before entering Judaism. The Orthodox Jews still practice this rite. John preached that such a bath was necessary for the preparation to welcome the Messiah. **By His Baptism**, Jesus transformed this ritual into a sacrament by which we began our life of Faith.

In his Baptism, we see a foreshadowing of His death upon the cross. Jesus' baptism by John was the acceptance and the beginning of his mission as God's suffering Servant. He allowed himself to be numbered among sinners. Jesus submitted himself entirely to his Father's will. Out of love for humanity He consented to His baptism of death for the remission of our sins.

Many Fathers of the Church explain that Jesus received John's baptism to identify himself with his people, who, as a result of John's preaching, became aware of their sins and of their need for repentance. The Jews had the traditional belief that only the Gentiles who embraced Jewish religion needed the baptism of repentance, for, as God's chosen people, the Jewish race was holy. The Fathers of the Church point out that the words which the Voice of the Heavenly Father speaks are revealing Jesus' identity and His mission of saving mankind by His suffering and death.

The opening of the Heavens with Holy Spirit descending upon Jesus, and the Voice declaring of Jesus, "This is My beloved Son with Whom I am well pleased," are God's revelation to mankind of the Mystery that He is Triune..

The Heavens' opening indicates that this was a moment of God's powerful intervention in human history and in the life of His Son. His baptism by John was a very important event in the life of Jesus. First, it was a moment of **decision**. It marked the end of Jesus' private life, which had prepared him for his public ministry. Second, it was a moment of **identification** with his people in their God-oriented movement initiated by John, the Baptist. Third, it was a moment of **approval**. Jesus might have been waiting for a signal of approval

from his Heavenly Father, and during his baptism Jesus received this approval as the Father's "beloved Son." Fourth, it was a moment of **conviction**. At this baptism, Jesus received certainties from Heaven about his identity and the nature of his mission: a) He was the "Chosen One" and the "beloved Son of God"; b) his mission of saving mankind would be fulfilled, not by conquering the Romans, but by becoming the "suffering servant" of God, i.e., by the cross. Fifth, it was a moment of **empowerment**. When He descended on Jesus in the form of a dove, the Holy Spirit empowered Jesus with the power of preaching the "Good News": that is, God is a loving Father Who wants to save all human beings from their sins through His Son Jesus.

1) The baptism of Jesus reminds us of our **identity and mission**. First, it reminds us of **who we are and whose we are**. By Baptism we become the sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters of Jesus, members of his Church, heirs of Heaven and temples of the Holy Spirit. We became incorporated into the Church, the Body of Christ, and made sharers in the priesthood of Christ [CCC #1279]. Hence, "Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit and the door which gives access to the other Sacraments" (CCC, #1213). Most of us dip our fingers into the holy water font and bless ourselves when we enter into Church. *Why?* This blessing is supposed to remind us of our Baptism. And so when I bless myself with Holy Water, I should be thinking of the fact that I am a child of God; that I have been redeemed by the Cross of Christ; that I have been made a member of God's family and that I have been cleansed and purified by the Blood of the Lamb.

Second, Jesus' baptism reminds us of **our mission**:

(a) to experience the presence of God within us, to acknowledge our own dignity as God's children and to appreciate the Divine Presence in others by honouring them, loving them and serving them in all humility; (b) to live as the children of God in thought, word and action so that our Heavenly Father may say to each one of us as He said to Jesus: "You are My beloved son/daughter with whom I am well pleased." It means that we are to let His thoughts direct our thoughts, His mind control our mind, His concerns be our concerns. (c) to lead a holy life and not to desecrate our bodies which are the temples of the Holy Spirit. (d) to grow daily in intimacy with God by personal and family prayers, by reading the Word of God, by participating in the Holy Mass, and by frequenting the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

3) *This is the day for us to remember the graces we have received in Baptism and to renew our Baptismal promises.*