

**The Twin Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Agnes & St. Anthony
SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B
JANUARY 17, 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 9 & 10 | | Actual | YTD | Budget |
| <u>Sunday, Holy Day</u> | \$ | 3,210 | \$13,760 | \$400,000 |
| <u>Building Maint. Fund</u> | \$ | 170 | \$ 635 | \$ 30,000 |
| <u>Together We Serve</u> | \$ | 150 | \$ 1,030 | \$ 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 19 Mass @ St. Anthony | 7:00 pm |
| Wednesday, January 20 Mass @ St. Anthony | 6:15 pm |
| Thursday, January 21 Mass @ St. Agnes (Feast Day of St. Agnes) | 6:30 pm |
| Friday, January 22 Mass @ St. Agnes | 9:00 am |
| Saturday, January 23 Mass @ St. Agnes Mass @ St. Anthony | 5:00 pm 7:30 pm |
| Sunday, January 24 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.

HEARING THE CALL

**JANUARY 17, 2021- Scott Hahn Reflects on the
2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B**

First Reading – 1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19

Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-10

Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20

Gospel – John 1:35-42

In the call of Samuel and of the first apostles, today's readings shed light on our own calling to be followers of Christ.

Notice in the Gospel today that John's disciples are prepared to hear God's call. They are already looking for the Messiah, so they trust in John's word and follow when he points out the Lamb of God walking by.

Samuel is also waiting on the Lord – sleeping near the Ark of the Covenant where God's glory dwells, taking instruction from Eli, the high priest.

Samuel listened to God's word and the Lord was with him. And Samuel, through his word, turned all Israel to the Lord (see 1 Samuel 3:21; 7:2-3). The disciples too heard and followed – words we hear repeatedly in today's Gospel. They stayed with the Lord and by their testimony brought others to the Lord.

These scenes from salvation history should give us strength to embrace God's will and to follow His call in our lives.

God is constantly calling to each of us- personally, by name (see Isaiah 43:1; John 10:3). He wants us to seek Him in love, to long for His word (see Wisdom 6:11-12). We must desire always, as the apostles did, to stay where the Lord stays, to constantly seek His face (see Psalm 42:2).

For we are not our own, but belong to the Lord, as Paul says in today's Epistle.

We must have ears open to obedience, and write His word within our hearts. We must trust in the Lord's promise-that if we come to Him in faith, He will abide with us (see John 15:14; 14:21-23), and raise us by His power. And we must reflect in our lives the love He has shown us, so that others too may find the Messiah.

As we renew our vows of discipleship in this Eucharist, let us approach the altar singing the new song of today's Psalm: "Behold I come ... to do your will O God."

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**

What Does a Mother Do?

I ask myself: What does a mother do? First of all, she teaches how to walk through life; she teaches the right path to take through life; she knows how to guide her children; she always tries to point out to them the right path in life for growing up and becoming adults. And she does so with tenderness, affection, and love, even when she is trying to straighten out our path because we are going a little astray in life or are taking roads that lead to an abyss.

A mother knows what's important for a child to enable him to walk the right way through life. Moreover she did not learn it from books but from her own heart. Then university of mothers is their heart! They learn there how to bring up their children.

- General Audience, September 18, 2013

Reflection: *We don't always have the best examples of motherhood or fatherhood in our lives. But we always have the Holy Family, who teach us how to love Jesus and make him the center of our lives. Pray a Hail Mary and ask God to help you love Our Lady more.*



*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

Second Sunday: Year- [B]

I Sam 3:3b-10, 19; I Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

By: Fr. Varghese Mundavelil

John's Gospel presents John the Baptist's role is pre-eminently one of witnessing. Instead of building up his own following, John selflessly directed his disciples to Jesus. They went to Him at John's direction rather than in response to Jesus' call. On the second day of Jesus' public ministry, John the Baptist introduced Jesus to the Jews as the "**Lamb of God.**" (Jn 1:29). On the third day, he pointed out Jesus, the *Lamb of God*, to two of his own disciples, Andrew and John.

The Lamb of God is the most meaningful title given to Jesus in the Bible. It sums up the love, the sacrifice, and the triumph of Christ. John's introduction might have brought five pictures of the "lamb" to the minds of his Jewish listeners. 1) The Lamb of Atonement (Lv 16:20-22). A lamb was brought to the Temple on the Day of Atonement ("Yom Kippur"). Placing his hands over its head, the high priest transferred all the sins of his people to the lamb. It was then sent into the wilderness (*as the lamb who takes away the sins of the Jews*) to be killed by some wild animal. 2) The Lamb of Daily Atonement (Ex 29:38-42; Nm 28:1-8). This was the lamb sacrificed on the "Black Altar" of the Temple every morning and evening to atone for the sins of the Jews. 3) The Paschal Lamb (Ex 12:11ss.). The Paschal Lamb's blood saved the firstborn of the Jewish families in Egypt from the "Angel of destruction." The event was

memorialized yearly in the sacrifice of the Paschal Lamb at Passover. 4) The Lamb of the Prophets, an image portraying One Who, by dying a sacrificial death, would redeem God's people: "The gentle lamb led to the slaughterhouse" (Jer 11:19), "like a lamb to the slaughter" (Is 53:7). Both, as we know, refer to the sufferings and sacrificial death of Christ. 5) The Lamb of the Conquerors. The picture of a horned lamb on the Jewish flag at the time of the Maccabean Liberation War was used as a sign of conquering majesty and power. The great Jewish conquerors like Samuel, David and Solomon were described by the ancient Jewish historians as "horned lambs."

Addressing Christ as Lamb of God has become familiar to us in the Eucharist, when, at "the breaking of the bread," we proclaim what the Baptist said: *Agnus Dei - "Lamb of God, Who take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us (twice)...grant us peace (once)."*

In this prayer, we give expression to our deepest understanding of the identity and purpose of Jesus Christ in coming to earth as the Messiah of God. We believe and affirm that Jesus is the One Who came and continues to come into a broken world to take our sins upon himself in the Holy Mass.

In the opening verses of today's Gospel, John points out to his disciples that the One who is passing by is the "Lamb of God." Two of John's disciples follow Jesus Who turns and asks them what they are seeking. Somewhat confused, they ask Jesus where he is staying. Jesus does not tell them. Instead, he invites them to "come and see." "Each one of us is called personally by God to "stay with" Jesus, to follow His way, and

to continue His mission of spreading the Good News (in a manner appropriate to our vocation in life)" (CCC #871). For each of us, belief in Jesus develops in stages.

First, we respond to testimony given by others, then, having "seen" where Jesus dwells, moves to a commitment which is based on our own experience of the Lord. Finally, our conversion is completed when we become witnesses for Jesus.

In Andrew's case, his conversion reveals his belief in Jesus as the Messiah. He then brings his brother Peter to Christ. Jesus looks at Simon and says, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called 'Cephas' or 'Peter.'" Such name-changes indicate the beginning of a new life—a new purpose—a new relationship with God. Simon's new life in Christ is symbolized by his new name, "Peter". The first people to be evangelized preached Jesus in their turn to relatives, friends, and even to strangers. We, too, must find and grow in Faith through our grace-assisted lifelong seeking of God's will, as we come to God through Jesus, whom we find in the local Christian community, as well as in the Church, the Sacraments -particularly the Eucharist — and the Scriptures.

Our Christian vocation is to live and die like the *Lamb of God*:

- 1) by leading humble, selfless lives, obeying Christ's commandment of love;
- 2) by appreciating the loving providence and protecting care of the Good Shepherd for his Church;
- 3) by partaking of the Body and Blood of the Good Shepherd in the Holy Eucharist and deriving spiritual strength from the

Holy Spirit through prayer and the Sacraments.

We are called to die like the *Lamb of God*: a) by sharing sacrificially our blessings of health, wealth, and talents with others in the family, parish, and community; b) by bearing witness to Christ in our illness, pain, and suffering through our graceful acceptance of all of it; c) by offering our sufferings for God's glory, as penance for our sins, and for the conversion of sinners.

Our call is to bear witness to the *Lamb of God*. Doing this requires a personal experience of Jesus as our Lord and Savior that we get through the meditative reading and study of the Bible, through personal and family prayers, and through our active participation in the Eucharistic celebration. Once we have experienced the personal presence of Jesus in our daily lives, we will start sharing with others the *Good News* of love, peace, justice, tolerance, mercy, and forgiveness preached and lived by Jesus.

Pope Francis Speaks to Our Hearts

Encountering Jesus

Believing in Jesus

St. John brings out the importance of a personal relationship with Jesus for our faith by using various forms of the verb "to believe." In addition to "believing that" what Jesus tells us is true, John also speaks of "believing" Jesus and "believing in" Jesus. We "believe" Jesus when we accept his word, his testimony, because he is truthful. We "believe in" Jesus when we personally welcome him into our lives and journey towards him, clinging to him in love and following in his footsteps along the way.