

**The Twin Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Agnes & St. Anthony
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B
JANUARY 24, 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 16 & 17 | | Actual | YTD | Budget |
| <u>Sunday, Holy Day</u> | \$ | 2,693 | \$16,453 | \$400,000 |
| <u>Building Maint. Fund</u> | \$ | 250 | \$ 885 | \$ 30,000 |
| <u>Together We Serve</u> | \$ | 295 | \$ 1,325 | \$ 51,600 |

*“Remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.”
Proverbs 3:9-10*

God bless you in your response to His love.

Twin Parishes Masses for the Week

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Tuesday, January 26 Mass @ St. Anthony | 7:00 pm |
| Wednesday, January 27 Mass @ St. Anthony | 6:15 pm |
| Thursday, January 28 Mass @ St. Agnes | 9:00 am |
| Friday, January 29 Mass @ St. Agnes | 9:00 am |
| Saturday, January 30 Mass @ St. Agnes Mass @ St. Anthony | 5:00 pm 7:30 pm |
| Sunday, January 31 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.

FOLLOWING HIM

**JANUARY 24, 2021- Scott Hahn Reflects on the
3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B**

First Reading – Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalm 25:4-9

Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel – Mark 1:14-20

The calling of the brothers in today’s Gospel evokes Elisha’s commissioning by the prophet Elijah (see 1 Kings 19:19-21).

As Elijah comes upon Elisha working on his family’s farm, so Jesus sees the brothers working by the seaside. And as Elisha left his mother and father to follow Elijah, so the brothers leave their father to come after Jesus.

Jesus’ promise-to make them “fishers of men”-evokes Israel’s deepest hopes. The prophet Jeremiah announced a new exodus in which God would send “many fishermen” to restore the Israelites from exile, as once He brought them out of slavery in Egypt (see Jeremiah 16:14-16).

By Jesus’ Cross and Resurrection, this new exodus has begun (see Luke 9:31). And the apostles are the first of a new people of God, the Church-a new family, based not on blood ties, but on belief in Jesus and a desire to do the Father’s will (see John 1:12-13; Matthew 12:46-50).

From now on, even our most important worldly concerns-family relations, occupations, and possessions-must be judged in light of the Gospel, Paul says in today’s Epistle.

The first word of Jesus’ Gospel-repent-means we must totally change our way of thinking and living, turning from evil, doing all for the love of God.

And we should be consoled by Nineveh’s repentance in today’s First Reading. Even the wicked Nineveh could repent at Jonah’s preaching. And in Jesus we have “something greater than Jonah” (Matthew 12:41). We have God come as our savior, to show sinners the way, as we sing in today’s Psalm. This should give us hope-that loved ones who remain far from God will find compassion if they turn to Him.

But we, too, must continue along the path of repentance-striving daily to pattern our lives after His.

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**

Daily Martyrdom

FEAST OF ST. AGNES (January 21)

But what does it mean “to lose one’s life for the sake of Jesus”? This can happen in two ways: explicitly by confessing the faith, or implicitly by defending the truth. Martyrs are the greatest example of losing one’s life for Christ....However, there is also daily martyrdom, which may not entail death but is still a “loss of life” for Christ, by doing one’s duty with love, according to the logic of Jesus, the logic of gift, of sacrifice.

- *Angelus address, June 23, 2013*

Reflection: *How can the logic of Jesus change the way you see your life? What daily martyrdom is God asking you to offer up to him?*

Pope Francis Speaks to our Hearts

The Lord Is There First!

We say we must seek God, go to him and ask forgiveness, but when we go, he is waiting for us; he is there first! In Spanish we have a word that explains this well: *primerear* - the Lord always gets there before us, he gets there first, and he is waiting for us! To find someone waiting for you is truly a great grace. You go to him as a sinner, but he is waiting to forgive you. This is the experience that the prophets of Israel describe, comparing the Lord to the almond blossom, the first flower of spring (cf. Jeremiah 1:11-12). Before any other flowers appear, he is there, waiting. The Lord is waiting for us.



*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

**Ordinary Time: III Sunday - [Year- B]
(Jan 24, 2021)**

Jon 3:1-5, 10; I Cor. 7:29-31; Mk 1: 14-20

By: Fr. Varghese Munduvelil

God's call to discipleship and renewal of life expected from us is the theme of today's readings. No matter what life, work, or ministry God calls us, He first calls us to conversion, to reform, to repentance – to the process of continually becoming new people. Those who are constantly being reformed by the Spirit will be able to follow, as true disciples, wherever God leads. Today's readings underline the absolute necessity of such repentance and ready response to God's call.

In today's Gospel like John, Jesus also called for repentance. But Jesus added the Good News that the Kingdom of God was at hand. For, where Jesus is, there is the Kingdom of God. Then Jesus called on his listeners to believe in the Good News of God's love, mercy and salvation. When Jesus invited Simon, Andrew, James, and John to join him and help in his preaching and healing ministry, they promptly accepted his call, for discipleship is the only complete response a believer can make to that proclamation and invitation.

In The Gospel Jesus proclaimed: “The time is fulfilled.” Jesus is alerting us to the possibility of encountering the kingdom of God at any given moment in historical time, if we repent and believe.

Invitation to repentance: Jesus used exactly the same words John the Baptist had used: *“Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven has come near.”* The Greek word used *“metanoia”* means to change one's mind or direction. Repentance means that we make a complete change of direction in our lives. This involves a radical conversion

(*metanoia*), a change of direction and priorities in our lives.

The mark of genuine repentance is not a sense of guilt, but a sense of sorrow, of regret for having taken a wrong turn. For Jesus, repentance is not merely saying, “I'm sorry,” but also promising, “I will change my life.” Real repentance means that a man has come, not only to be sorry for the consequences of his sin, but to hate sin itself. We often think of repentance as feeling guilty, but it is really a change of mind or direction — seeing things from a different perspective. Once we begin to see things rightly, it might follow that we will feel bad about having seen them wrongly for so long. But repentance starts with the new vision rather than the guilt feelings. By true repentance we are giving up control of our lives and throwing our sinful lives on the mercy of God. We are inviting God to do what we can't do ourselves — namely- to change and recreate us. “Repent” is used in the present tense — “Keep on repenting!” “Continually be repentant!” This means that repentance must be the ongoing life of the people in the Kingdom.

The Kingdom of God is the theme of Jesus' preaching. This Kingdom is any society or state where God's will is done as it is done in Heaven. Hence, a person who does the will of God perfectly is already in the Kingdom of God. Being in the Kingdom offers us a new healing and freeing access to God, already to be tasted in Jesus' own ministry.

Jesus is telling us that we can dwell in this Kingdom now, provided we repent or turn away from the idols that crowd our lives and do the will of God as it is done in Heaven, thus allowing God to reign in our lives.

Believe in the “Gospel” or “Good News.” The Good News is that God is our loving and forgiving Father and not a punishing judge, and that He wants to save us through His son

Jesus. To believe in the Good News simply means to take Jesus at his word, to believe that God is the kind of God that Jesus has told us about, and to believe that God so loves the world that He will make any sacrifice to bring us back to Himself. To believe in the “Good News” involves a total commitment – the investing of one’s whole self in God without any guarantees or preconditions.

The call of the apostles: The two greatest aspects of discipleship in Mark are being with Jesus and sharing in his mission. Disciples are invited to be with Jesus on a great spiritual journey and to share in Jesus’ mission of proclaiming God’s Kingdom in word and deed. Jesus calls two pairs of brothers – Andrew and Peter, James and John – inviting them to become his disciples. The men respond immediately, leaving their nets, their boats, and their father *“in the boat along with the hired men, (1:20),”* to follow Jesus. Abandoning their nets is a way of speaking of what must be left behind when one embraces radical discipleship. The disciples were simple fishermen with no great background. What Jesus needs are ordinary folk who will give Him themselves. What Christ needs is not our ability, but our availability. What Jesus teaches His disciples is not a course of study, but a way of life to follow. Hence, Jesus offers these men the opportunity to observe him at close range on a daily basis

Call to make fishers of men: In describing the call of Jesus’ first disciples, today’s Gospel also emphasizes how we are to respond to Him: with total commitment, abandoning our accustomed attitudes and styles of life to follow Him in thought, word, and deed. We have very little control over our own lives, but as fish caught in the net of God’s love, we can trust that we are under God’s control. We have to believe that being captured by God’s love, that

responding to the command to repent and die to self, that being raised to a new life by God, is not only right for us, but is a message we need to share with the entire world. The disciples will be trained to do precisely what Jesus is doing right now: proclaiming the Kingdom, recruiting people for it, and drawing them into a community that experiences God’s reign.

Let us appreciate our call to be Christ’s disciples: Be we religious, priests, married or single people, we are all called, and in this call we become what God wants us to be. The call begins with our Baptism. God is relentless in calling us back to Himself, even when we stray away from Him. Let us be thankful to God for His Divine grace of calling us to be members of the true Church. Let us make personal efforts to see in her the Light of Christ and to grow in holiness, learning the truths that are revealed through the Church and receiving the Sacraments. Let us be shining lights in the world as Christ was and make a personal effort to bring others to the truth and the light, so that they may rejoice with us in the Mystical Body of Christ, the invisible Kingdom of God.

“Don’t neglect your family. Be at home. If today so many young people are misled, it is because the grandparents are in some institution, mother is so busy that she is not there when the child comes home from school. There is nobody to receive them, or play with them and they go back into the streets where there are drugs and drinks and so many other things. It is the same everywhere. Everything depends on how much we love one another.”

Blessed Mother Teresa

