

**The Twin Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Agnes & St. Anthony
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B
MARCH 21, 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

- 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. **Starting April 1, 2021 the cut-off mass online registration will be Friday at 3:00 PM. Mass registration list will be printed by the end of Friday afternoon.**
- 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
- Lent confession is available half hour before the weekday masses or call the parish office to book your appointment.

St. Agnes & St. Anthony Parish Staff:

Pastor Rev. Varghese Munduvelil CFIC
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	
March 13 & 14	Actual	YTD	Budget
Sunday, Holy Day	\$ 4,974	\$61,826	\$400,000
Building Maint. Fund	\$ 225	\$ 3,730	\$ 30,000
Together We Serve	\$ 30	\$ 4,190	\$ 51,600

“You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.” 2Corinthians 9:12
God bless you in your response to His love.

Twin Parishes Masses for the Week

Tuesday, March 23 Mass @ St. Anthony	7:00 pm
Wednesday, March 24 Mass @ St. Anthony	6:15 PM
Thursday, March 25 Mass @ St. Agnes	9:00 am
Friday, March 26 Mass @ St. Agnes	9:00 am
Saturday, March 27 Mass @ St. Agnes Mass @ St. Anthony	5:00 pm 7:30 pm
Sunday, March 28 Mass @ St. Agnes Mass @ St. Anthony Mass @ St. Agnes	9:00 am 10:30 am 12:00 Noon

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULES

Holy Thursday, April 1 – Mass 7:00 PM
St. Anthony Church
Good Friday Service, April 2 @ 12 Noon
St. Agnes Church
Good Friday Service, April 2 @ 3:00 PM
St. Anthony Church
Easter Vigil Mass – Saturday, April 3 @ 8:30 PM
St. Anthony Church
Easter Sunday – April 4 - 9:00 AM Mass St. Agnes
Easter Sunday – April 4 – 10:30 AM Mass
St. Anthony
Easter Sunday – April 4 – 12 Noon Mass St. Agnes

The “Hour Comes”

March 21, 2021- Scott Hahn Reflects on the Fifth Sunday of Lent Year B

**First Reading – Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15
Second Reading – Hebrews 5:7-9
Gospel – John 12:20-33**

Our readings today are filled with anticipation. The days are coming, Jeremiah prophesies in today’s First Reading. The hour has come, Jesus says in the Gospel. The new covenant that God promised to Jeremiah is made in the “hour” of Jesus-in His Death, Resurrection, and Ascension to the Father’s right hand.

The prophets said this new covenant would return Israel’s exiled tribes from the ends of the world (see Jeremiah 31:1, 3-4, 7-8). Jesus too predicted His passion would gather the dispersed children of God (see John 11:52). But today He promises to draw to Himself not only Israelites, but all men and women.

The new covenant is more than a political or national restoration. As we sing in today’s Psalm, it is a universal spiritual restoration. In the “hour” of Jesus, sinners in every nation can return to the Father-to be washed of their guilt and given new hearts to love and serve Him.

In predicting He will be “lifted up,” Jesus isn’t describing only his coming Crucifixion (see John 3:14-15). Isaiah used the same word to tell how the Messiah, after suffering for Israel’s sins, would be raised high and greatly exalted (see Isaiah 52:3). Elsewhere the term describes how kings are elevated above their subjects (see 1 Maccabees 8:13). Troubled in His agony, Jesus doesn’t pray to be saved. Instead, as we hear in today’s Epistle, he offers himself to the Father on the Cross-as a living prayer and supplication.

For this, God gives Him dominion over heaven and earth (see Acts 2:33; Philippians 2:9). Where He has gone we can follow – if we let Him lead us. To follow Jesus means hating our lives of sin and selfishness. It means trusting in the Father’s will, the law He has written in our hearts. Jesus’ “hour” continue in the Eucharist, where we join our sacrifices to His, giving God our lives in reverence and obedience-confident He will raise us up to bear fruits of holiness.

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

Think of St. Joseph

FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (March 19)

Let us think of St. Joseph, who watched over Mary and Jesus, of his care for the family God had entrusted to him, and of the attentive gaze with which he guided it to avoid the perils on the way. For this reason, may pastors know how to be in front of the flock to show it the way, in the midst of the flock to keep it united, and behind the flock to prevent anyone from being left behind and because the flock itself has, so to speak, a “good nose” for finding the way. This is how the pastor must move!

- Address, June 21, 2013

Reflection: *St. Joseph is a great model for all of us as we care for and protect the people in our lives. What can we learn from his example of uncomplaining obedience to God’s call and his wholehearted readiness to serve?*

CONFESSION

Fr. Varghese and one other priest will be available for confession on Friday, March 26th at 6:00 PM St. Agnes church. Fr. Varghese is also available half hour before the weekday masses or call the parish office to book your appointment.

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.

5th Sunday in Lent Year B

Jer 31: 31-34; Heb 6: 7-9; Jn 12: 20-33

Introduction:

Today's readings focus on the approaching death of Jesus which Paul considers a priestly sacrifice and John considers the moment of Jesus' "exaltation" and "glorification." The readings offer us a challenge. Just as Jesus became the "Promised Messiah of Glory" and the "Conquering Son of Man" by offering his life for others, we, too, if we would come to Heaven, must die to self by loving obedience, spending our lives in self-giving, sacrificial service.

The first reading, taken from the book of the Prophet Jeremiah, explains how God will replace the Old Covenant of Judgment with a New Covenant of Forgiveness of sins. This New or Renewed Covenant prophesied by Jeremiah was fulfilled, at least in part, through Jesus' life, death and Resurrection.

In the second reading, St. Paul tells the Hebrews that it is by Jesus' suffering and death, in obedience to his Father's will, that Jesus established the New Covenant. Using metaphors of the "sown wheat grain" and the "spent life" in today's Gospel, Jesus teaches the lessons that St. Paul will repeat.

Jesus tells us in today's gospel, "If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies it produces much fruit." When one buries his own comfort and convenience he finds joy and an inexplicable peace. Jesus uses the metaphors of the "dying grain of wheat" and of "surrendered life": Jesus explains to his apostles that it is by his suffering and death that he is bringing life and liberation to the sinful world. In the same way, it is by the self-sacrificial lives of holy men and women that life and salvation come to mankind. In other words, when we "die" to our selfishness, we "rise" to new life in Jesus Christ.

It is always because men have been prepared to die that the great things have lived. It is a fact that we have learned from history that only by spending life do we retain it. The man who loves his life is moved by two aims, by selfishness and by the desire for security. Only when people came out of this were they able to do something meaningful in their life.

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The Gospel hints at the inner struggle of Jesus in accepting the cup of suffering to inaugurate the New

and Eternal Covenant. However, Jesus accepts the cross as his "hour," meaning the stepping-stone to his passion, death, Resurrection and exaltation. Jesus also considers his "hour" as the way of glorifying his Heavenly Father and of being glorified by his Father. In addition, it is the way by which all people will be drawn into the saving action of God. Finally, the "lifting up" of Jesus on the cross and later into Heavenly glory by Resurrection and Ascension is the assurance of our own exaltation and glorification, provided we accept our crosses.

1) Today's Gospel teaches us that new life and eternal life are possible only by the death of the self through obedience, suffering and service. Salt gives its taste by dissolving in water. A candle gives light by having its wick burned and its wax melted. The oyster produces a priceless pearl by transforming a grain of sand through a long and painful process. Loving parents sacrifice themselves so that their children can enjoy a better life than they themselves have had. Let us pray that we may acquire this self-sacrificing spirit, especially during Lent.

2) Only a life spent for others will be glorified, sometimes here in this world but always in Heaven. We know that the world owes everything to people who have spent their time and talents for God and for their fellow human beings. Mother Teresa, for instance, gave up her comfortable teaching career, and with just 5 rupees (17 cents) in her pocket began her challenging life for the "poorest of the poor" in the crowded slums of Calcutta. We see similar cases in the history of great saints, scientists, and benefactors of mankind in all walks of life. They chose to burn out rather than to rust out. Let us, too, spend ourselves for others.



Our next Youth Night will be on Saturday, March 27th from 6:30 to 8:00! We will reflect on the Passion of Jesus, learn about St. Joseph, and have some fun Holy Week activities. **A special challenge to those who haven't tried our virtual Youth Night to give it a try from the comfort of your home!**

If you don't already have a Discord account, please go to [Discord.com/download](https://discord.com/download) to download the version needed for your device. You will have to make a Discord account if you don't already have one. Please add [Dianarosie#9763](#). Diana will add you to the server (St. Agnes & St. Anthony Youth Group). Please sign on to Discord at 6:20 pm Saturday (March 27th) night and we will start a video call around that time. We are hoping to wrap things up by 8:00ish. Please mark your calendars for our April 24th Youth Night!