

**The Twin Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Agnes & St. Anthony
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B
MAY 02, 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. The cut-off of online registration at the website is every Friday at 3:00 PM. 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

Contact the parish office at 780-432-0611 for registration of First Reconciliation, First Holy Eucharist, Confirmation and RCIA. All the class sessions will start on October 2021.

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	
April 24 / 25	Actual	YTD	Budget
Sunday, Holy Day	\$ 3,175	\$98,988	\$375,000
Building Maint. Fund	\$ 255	\$ 5,915	\$ 30,000
Together We Serve	\$ 130	\$ 8,695	\$ 51,600

“Everything in heaven and earth is Yours, O Lord. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. 1 Chronicles 29:13-14.

God bless you in your response to His love.

Twin Parishes Masses for the Week

Tuesday, May 04 Mass @ St. Anthony	7:00 pm
Wednesday, May 05 Mass @ St. Anthony	6:15 PM
Thursday, May 06 Mass @ St. Agnes	9:00 am
First Friday, May 07 Mass St. Agnes	7:00 pm
Saturday, May 08 Mass St. Agnes Mass St. Anthony	5:00 pm 7:30 pm
Sunday, May 09 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.

May 02, 2021- Scott Hahn Reflects on the
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading – Acts 9:26-31

Psalms 22:26-28, 30-32

Second Reading – 1 John 3:18-24

Gospel – John 15:1-8

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that He is the true vine that God intended Israel to be—the source of divine life and wisdom for the nations (see [Sirach 24:17–24](#)).

In Baptism, each of us was joined to Him by the Holy Spirit. As a branch grows from a tree, our souls are to draw life from Him, nourished by His word and the Eucharist.

Paul in today's First Reading seeks to be grafted onto the visible expression of Christ the true vine—His Church. Once the chief persecutor of the Church, Paul encounters initial resistance and suspicion. But he is known by his fruits, by his powerful witness to the Lord working in his life (see [Matthew 7:16–20](#)).

We too are commanded today to bear good fruits as His disciples so that our lives give glory to God. Like Paul's life, our lives must bear witness to His goodness.

Jesus cautions us, however, that if we're bearing fruit, we can expect that God will "prune" us—as a gardener trims and cuts back a plant so that it will grow stronger and bear even more fruit. He is teaching us today how to look at our sufferings and trials with the eyes of faith. We need to see our struggles as pruning, by which we are being disciplined and trained so that we can grow in holiness and bear fruits of righteousness (see [Hebrews 12:4–11](#)).

We need to always remain rooted in Him, as today's Epistle tells us. We remain in Him by keeping His commandment of love, by pondering His words, letting them dwell richly in us (see [Colossians 3:16](#)), and by always seeking to do what pleases Him. In everything we must be guided by humility, remembering that apart from Him we can do nothing.

As we sing in today's Psalm, we must fulfill our vows, turning to the Lord in worship, proclaiming his praises, until all families come to know His justice in their lives.

Pope Francis Corner



And the Joy of
Family Life Daily
Reflections

Work Fills Us With Dignity

Work is part of God's loving plan; we are called to cultivate and care for all the goods of creation and in this way share in the work of creation! Work is fundamental to the dignity of a person. Work, to use a metaphor, "anoints" us with dignity, fills us with dignity, makes us similar to God, who has worked and still works, who always acts (cf. John 5:17); it gives one the ability to maintain oneself, one's family, to contribute to the growth of one's own nation.

- General Audience, May 1, 2013

Reflection: *How does work bring meaning to your life? Where in your work can you find God? Reflect on how you can grow closer to God through the people your work with and the job that you do.*

Anyone who wants to become Catholics and Catholics who are 15 years old & above that have not yet received First Communion and Confirmation, and interested in learning more about RCIA please contact the parish office 780-432-0611.

**The Year of St. Joseph December 8,
2020 to December 8, 2021**



Pope Francis has declared this year a year dedicated to St. Joseph. Both Canada and our Archdiocese are dedicated to this wonderful saint, the Guardian of Jesus and Mary. He is invoked above all as the Guardian of the Universal Church.

May 1st is his feast day as patron of workers.

Novena to St. Joseph

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our afflictions, and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be kind to us and from heaven, assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.

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.

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B

Acts 9: 26-31; 1 Jn 3: 18-24; Jn 15: 1-8

Today's readings emphasize the need for Christians to abide in Christ as a condition for producing fruits of the kingdom of God. Today's Gospel is a part of Jesus' "*farewell discourse*" in which, Jesus uses the image of the vine and branches to help his disciples to understand the closeness of their relationship with him and the necessity of maintaining that relationship. They are not simply rabbi and disciples. Their lives are mutually dependent – as close as a vine and its branches.

In the Old Testament, Israel is considered as God's vine and vineyard. But the symbol of the vine is often used in the Old Testament with the idea of degeneration and infidelity that deserve Yahweh's severe punishment.

Since Israel has become a degenerate vine producing bitter wild grapes, Jesus makes the unique claim that he is the true and ideal Vine and his disciples are the fruit-producing branches, because the old vine, the original chosen people, was succeeded by the new Vine, the Church whose Head is Christ (cf. 1 Cor 3:9). To be fruitful, one must join to the new Vine, Jesus Christ. It is living the life of Christ, living the life of grace, which gives the believer the nourishment and enables a person to yield the fruits of eternal life.

This image of the Vine also helps us to understand the unity of the Church. St. Paul explains that we are Christ's Mystical Body in which all the members are intimately united with the Head and united to one another (1 Cor 12:12-26; Rom 12:4-5; Eph 4: 15-16).

St. John describes God as the Vine-grower who has planted a vine, Jesus. The Father removes every branch that bears no fruit and prunes the branches. Jesus tells his apostles that they have already been pruned by the words he has spoken to them. The apostles will not feel the full impact of this "pruning" until Jesus is taken away from them. Eventually, they will be pruned of all

attachment to the things of this world, so that they may be ready to attach themselves to the things of Heaven.

Even a well-pruned branch cannot bear grapes unless it abides in the vine. We abide in Christ by experiencing His presence with us & by living every moment as He has commanded us to do & by radiating the presence of Christ around us.

Fruit-bearing in Christian life is not of our own independent and unaided making. The Holy Spirit who dwells within us teaching us and reminding us of what Jesus taught. It is He who enables us to love Him and to keep His words (John 14:24, 26). This results not only in being with Jesus but also enabling us to **present** Jesus as a friend to others and **becoming** Jesus in this process.

As St. Paul said, *"It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives within me,"* (Gal 2:20). Being attached to Jesus is not merely memorizing the Bible, saying the right prayers and studying theology, even though, these are necessary for our spiritual growth. Being attached to Jesus is being detached from the compulsive desires for everything that is not God. Being attached to Jesus is **being with** Jesus and **becoming** Jesus in the way we think, feel, act, and react. Being united with Jesus happens when we serve Him hidden in the people we encounter.

It is by prayer, we are united with Jesus, and keep that union alive and active. To keep in touch with Jesus, there is no other substitute for prayer.

We need pruning in our Christian life. Cutting out of our lives everything that is contrary to the spirit of Jesus and renewing our commitment to Christian ideals every day is the first type of self-imposed pruning expected of us.

A second means of pruning is practicing self-control over our evil inclinations, sinful addictions and deviations. Cordial love and respect to all without selfish, judgmental, prejudicial tendencies so that we can treat

others in our society with Christian charity and openness.

Jesus prunes, purifies and strengthens us by enabling us to face the pain and suffering, contradictions and difficulties which He permits to enter our lives.

The Gospels teach us how to become true disciples of Jesus and how to abide in him and draw life from Jesus. Personal and liturgical prayers, frequenting of the Sacraments of the Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation, daily and meditative reading of the Bible, and acts of kindness, mercy and mutual forgiveness enable us to abide in Jesus & makes us fruit-bearing branches.

Declaring taxes

Taxes can be declared in support of the Catholic separate school division in your municipality, which benefits your children.

To ensure your property taxes are a demonstration of support for your Catholic separate school, we ask that you declare your school support as "separate" on your annual property assessment notice and tax bill.

If a declaration of school support is not filed by a property owner, the property assessment and tax defaults to indicating support for the public school district.

If your support designation is incorrect, it can easily be corrected by completing and submitting a School Support Declaration form, obtained from your local city, town or municipal office.

A change in school support does not take effect until the following calendar year.

Thank you for supporting Catholic education!