

Sacred Heart Church

Founded in 1910



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THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 13, 2015

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5:00 pm (Vigil Mass)
Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm

Weekday Schedule Monday to Friday

Rosary 11:40 am
Angelus 12:00 noon
Mass 12:05 pm
Wednesday 10:30 am Mt. Royal Care Center

Friday Exposition follows the 12:05 pm Mass

Adoration for Vocations 1:30 pm
Benediction 2:45 pm

Morning Prayer Sunday, 8:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Friday 11:00 am - Noon
Saturday 4:00 pm. (Confessions may also be arranged by request).

Office Hours: Monday to Friday: 9 am - 3 pm

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: *Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! (Zephaniah 3:14)*

This season is the most stressful in our society because it imposes stylized expectations of what we should have in terms of wealth, family, and happiness. Gaudete Sunday asks us to pause from the frenzy and consider the gift of the first coming of Jesus for our salvation and the promise of His second coming at the end of the ages. How we are rich, loved and joyful in the Lord!

UNBOUNDED JOY

The victorious Lord is already in our midst, rejoicing with gladness and dancing with delight! Jesus revels in his birth among us through his mother Mary. He glories in becoming one of us. He welcomes our response to the good news proclaimed by John the Baptist; baptism with water and baptism with the Holy Spirit and fire. This bath gives us a safe place with God's people. The Lord comes—Emmanuel, Wisdom, Mighty Lord, Root of Jesse, Key of David, Dayspring, Desire of Nations, O happy time!



Third Sunday of Advent, Year C. Illustration © 1998 S. Erspamer
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We are a welcoming and caring community dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, helping each other discover who God is calling us to be."

Pastor Rev Edmund Vargas **Associate Pastor** Rev Colin O'Rourke **Deacon/Business Manager** Deacon Paul Kennedy **Parish Secretaries** Beata Banka / Cathy Munro **Pastoral Assistant** Karen Howells **Music Director** Barbara Orłowska **Pastoral Council** Claire Hagel **Finance Council** Michael Walsh **Arts & Environment Committee** Vacant **Children's Liturgy** Linda Mackie **Pastoral Health Care** Vacant **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** Lisa Gilead/Patricia Tsang **Lectors** Shirley Teasdale **Weekday Liturgy** Addie Dedio **Altar Servers** Sogna Stipanov **Hospitality Ministry** Vacant **Stewardship** Contact the Office **RCIA** Robert Perrin / Karen Howells **Liturgy Committee** Karen Howells **CD's, Booklets Ministry** Darlene Moriarty **Inn from the Cold** Mike Swanson / Red Armstrong **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** Red Armstrong **Annual Bishop's Appeal** Ed Marchand **CWL** Anna Marinelli / Janet MacPhee **Reception** Stephanie Hugo **Knights of Columbus** Lorne Gartner **Fire in the Rose** Jane Oxenbury **Marriage Preparation** Peter & Leah Lavoie **Building Committee** Terry Allen **In-residence** Rev Gilles Le Blanc.



METAPHORS

from a priest
efvargas@shaw.ca



Gift of Christ's presence

This Gaudete or Rejoice Sunday, we light three candles, two purple and one pink, of the four candles of the Advent wreath. The pink candle of the Advent wreath symbolizes our joy of realizing that Christmas is at hand.

We rejoice at the nearness of our celebration of the event that has made God present in our humanity. We rejoice at the fast approaching celebration of Christ's birth that has made God present among us, in the sacraments and in prayer, in our daily life and in the signs of the times, in other people and in occasions of serving one another. We rejoice at the promised gift of God's only begotten Son's taking on human form through the Blessed Virgin Mary that renewed our world from within, bringing about an abiding source of supernatural life and liberation from sin.

Our reason for great rejoicing is Christ's presence in our midst which began on the first Christmas Day. We see and feel Christ's presence in people whose lives reflect His love, mercy and forgiveness. Although harder to see and understand, God is also with us in pain and suffering.

As we hasten towards Christmas, let us offer the gift of Christ's presence to our loved ones as well as to those who need most our love, especially this season. Let us be more generous with our gift-giving, knowing that we give on behalf of Him who gave up his life for our sake.

As we begin to partake of the happiness of togetherness in family and friendship during this season, let us also remember those who are faced with hatred, indifference and anger in their relationships. As we enjoy bounty of food and drink in the luxury of our homes during this happy period of the year, let us also remember those who have nothing to eat or have nowhere to lay their heads for their needed rest.

As Christmas approaches, let us re-learn to welcome Christ not only in our hearts but also in the lives of others, especially those who are struggling to gain their human dignity in the midst of poverty, sickness and need for love and comfort. The joy of Christmas is rooted in sharing Christ's love and presence with others in community. The birth of the Emmanuel, which means God is with us, highlights the continuing presence of God in our world through the life we live as followers of Christ. May our Eucharistic celebration strengthen us in our witness to Christ's presence in our midst.

WELCOME! Registration as well as volunteer forms are available at the Hospitality Desk or online. Have them completed and placed in the collection basket. Donation envelopes are also available at the Hospitality Desk.

BAPTISMS are celebrated outside of Mass every fourth Sunday at 12:15 pm and during Mass on other weekends, that, first Sunday at 9:00 am, second Sunday at 11:00 am and third weekend on Saturday at 5:00 pm, Baptisms are discouraged during the Lenten season. The next Baptism Preparation Class will be on January 16 2016 at 9:00 am. Please call the office to set up an appointment to register.

WEDDING ARRANGEMENTS are arranged only after an initial interview with a Priest or Deacon. Next Marriage Preparation Class is on March 4 and 5, 2016. Contact office for details.

THE PASTORAL HEALTH CARE TEAM welcomes the opportunity to visit and bring the Eucharist to our housebound parishioners. Please call the Parish office to schedule visits.

SACRAMENTAL PREP DATES: All classes held Sundays 12:00 Confirmation 2016: Feb 28-Mar 27 Celebration Apr 2 5:00 PM, First Holy Eucharist_2016: May 1-May 22 Celebration May 29. Register at office.

OUR WEBSITE. www.sacredheartcalgary.ca is our domain name. Check it out and forward your comments. For more information, please call the Parish during office hours (9:00 am - 3:00 pm).

CHILDREN'S LITURGY. Program runs from September through May at the 9:00 & 11:00 am Mass. (11 am Summer Songs Program). Please call the office for details.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS is open to all Catholic men over age 18. We meet in the Columbus room the first Tuesday of the month.

NEW LIFE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC COMMUNITY holds Worship & Praise Service every Sunday, 2-4 pm, in the church. For details, call Joseph Gingco at (403) 390-0724.

CWL (Catholic Women's League) invites all ladies of the parish over 16 years of age to join them. For details, contact Anna Marinelli at 403-245-1654.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is offered year-round for those thinking about becoming a Catholic or completing sacraments of initiation. Please call Karen at 244-2741 ex.234.



"Chance 2 Enhance" car raffle for **Catholic Education** After all masses on Dec 12th and 13th and Jan 16th and 17th, please consider buying a ticket (\$20 each or 3 for \$50 – cash only) and help support the Catholic Education Foundation. Your assistance to ensure the continued support of learning opportunities for students in academics, art and sport programs would be appreciated. Please contact Anna Marinelli for more information at 403-245-1654

Mission Mexico Day. December 12th the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, as Mission Day in the diocese. **All toonies collected this weekend, December 12 & 13** will go to Mission Mexico. Thank you for your support.



Fire in the Rose.

"Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Victims of violence and poverty often feel abandoned by their faith communities. As John the Baptist was the one to herald the way for Christ's coming, let us be the ones to create the paths to support systems for these victims. Become active in our parish and in your families to be part of the solution.

If you have interest in joining Fire in the Rose, or want more information, contact Jane Oxenbury at 403-255-7004/ jmoxenbury@shaw.ca.



Inn From The Cold Ministry. "Sacred Heart hosted a wonderful Christmas Inn from the Cold on Monday. In addition to serving a delicious warm meal, the kitchen volunteers prepared turkey sandwiches for individual lunches and a Christmas stocking with assorted goodies for each guest. These included the gift cards generously donated by the young members of the Sacred Heart "Children's Liturgy" group. Support by members of our parish for the collection of personal hygiene items has been remarkable. Thanks everyone for your continued support of our homeless outreach and best wishes for a holy Advent season ! Please contact me if you would like to volunteer or help in any way at mikeswansonQC@gmail.com"

Sacred Heart Church hosts the Simbang Gabi on Saturday **December 19 at 7 pm**, preceded by carols at 6:30 pm. Please join us! Siimbang Gabi is one of the longest and most popular Filipino traditions celebrated the Philippines. It is when Catholic churches across the nation open their doors shortly before the break of dawn to welcome the faithful to the Simbang Gabi Mass, held before daybreak, hence the Filipino term Simbang Gabi. The custom lasts for nine days (December 16-24). Simbang Gabi is a significant tradition because it strengthens relationships among family members and the community. This is the time when we most strongly feel the presence of the Lord because it is our spiritual preparation for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.



In and around the Parish 2015		
December 14	Parish Mission	6:30 PM
December 15	Parish Mission	6:30 PM
December 16	Parish Mission & Penitential Service	6:30 PM
December 19	Christmas Hamper Packaging & Delivery	7:00 AM-4:00 PM

How are we doing financially?		
	YTD Budget	As of Nov. 30
Regular Collection	\$ 361,600	\$ 342,680
Building Fund	\$ 127,600	\$ 252,973
	2015 Target	YTD Actual
Together In Action	\$ 62,254	\$ 65,145



SACRED HEART ADVENT MISSION: Divine Mercy: A Way of Life” Dec 14-16

Come, be inspired to live out the corporal and spiritual Works of Mercy as we begin this Jubilee of Mercy. Sr. Annunciata & Sr. Katrina from Sisters of Divine Mercy will be the presenters. All are invited, and free-will offerings accepted **Monday, Dec 14:** 6:30 pm **Holy Mass**, follow by talk *Topic: Divine Mercy Message.* **Tuesday, Dec 15:** 6:30 pm **Holy Mass**, follow by talk *Topic: Divine Mercy as a Way of Life.* **Wednesday, Dec 16:** 6:30 pm concluding talk followed by **Penitential Service** with Adoration and Music.

The Christmas Hamper Program is on Saturday, **December 19** Volunteers are needed to pack the hampers starting at 9 am and to deliver the hampers starting at 12 noon. Please call the office at 403-244-2741 ext. 221 to volunteer. Also needed are donations of children's Christmas gifts to accompany the hampers for recipient families. The gift needs of the children will be detailed on the white paper ornaments hung on the Christmas trees in the Narthex. Please put your **wrapped Christmas gift** under the tree in the Narthex (where you got the white paper ornaments) before **December 15th** and mark it with the (age and gender) of the recipient using the same white paper ornament.



Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation: Rejoice in God's Mercy Wednesdays in

Advent December 2, 9, 16, & 23 7:30-8:30 pm. In addition to the regular parish schedule.

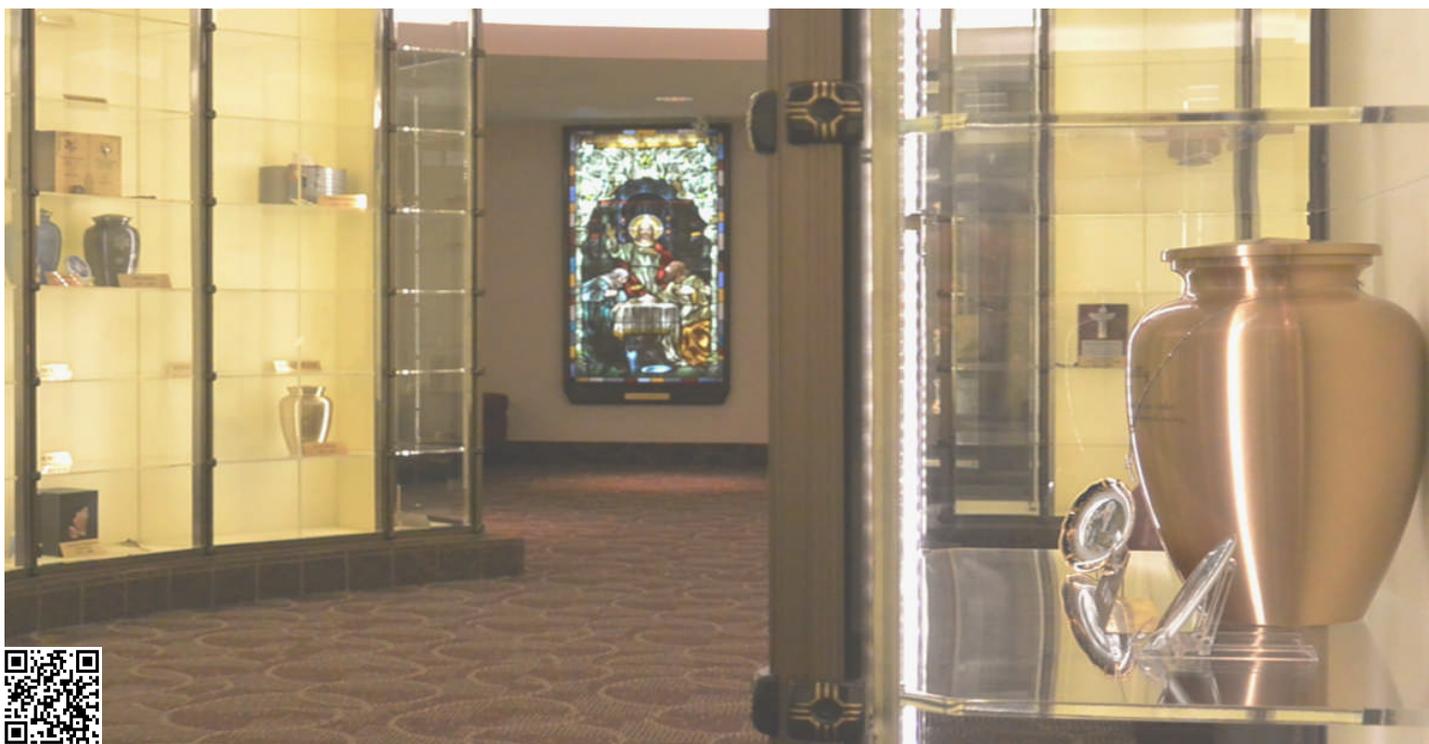
Sacred Heart CWL Scholarship Presentation:

On December 20 at the 11:00 mass, the Sacred Heart CWL will be presenting its annual scholarship to Salena Maxwell. Join us after the mass for a reception to be held in the narthex. All are welcome to offer congratulations to Salena.



Christmas & New Year's Mass Times

- Christmas Masses Times December 24th will be at 7 pm & 10 pm on with carols beginning half hour before Mass and December 25th 7:30, 9:00, & 11:00 am. Dec 31 5:00 pm and January 1st 7:30, 9:00, & 11:00 am.



Sacred Heart Columbarium: Holy See and Holy Land Columbaria.

Open daily: 11 am to 6 pm - Holidays 11 am to 1 pm.

A reminder the next Columbarium Memorial Mass will be on **Saturday, Jan 9, at 9:00 a.m.**

Sacred Heart Columbarium Update: Purchases to date total 301 niches valued at \$1,525,786. We have placed 160 urns of family members to date in the Columbaria. We have only 1 double niche remaining available in the centre section of Holy Land Columbarium. Hours are 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM Monday to Sunday **except December 25 - open 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Holiday Hours & December 26 – closed.**

Planning Ahead? – Think about it! Do you decide where your remains will be placed or will that decision be made by others based strictly on the cost. It is your choice. Planning ahead works better.

For more information, or you would like to book a tour of our beautiful and peaceful facility, please call Deacon Paul Kennedy (403) 244 – 2741 extension 231; email: busmgr@sacredheartcalgary.ca or website: www.columbariumcalgary.ca



Under a Starry Sky - A New Christmas Musical - Take a Christmas Journey from Why to Bethlehem and everywhere in between. Dec 17-23, Symons Valley United Church Theater
 Tickets \$20.00 adults, \$10.00 children, Contact info: chorusfoundation.ca/events or 1-877-783-2372.

Door replacements. With the upcoming Jubilee of Mercy, we are looking at replacing the wood panel door of the Reconciliation Room on the North side with a 10mm all-glass door with the rendering of Rembrandt's Prodigal Son drawing quoted at \$2,535.75 (door) plus \$1000 (artwork). We also need sponsorship for a replacement door in the front north entrance (old wood door to be replaced with the more efficient glass/aluminum door) quoted at \$4,991.02



Suggested church protocol: "Please come to Mass early enough not to disrupt. Leave late enough not to insult. Worship reverently enough not to distract. And dress proudly enough not to offend."

Celebrations & Intentions				
Sun, December 13	7:30 am	Chris Akinuoye	RIP	
	9:00 am	Christine Mary Rose Flynn	RIP	
	11:00 am	Parishioners	SI	
	5:00 pm	Agapito Manalastas	RIP	
Mon, December 14	12:05 pm	Special Intention	SI	
	6:30 pm	Carlos Aguilera	RIP	
Tues, December 15	12:05 pm	Judith McCoy	RIP	
	6:30 pm	Luc-Mri Vuksani	RIP	
Wed, December 16	10:30 am	Pashk Lek Vuksani	RIP	
	12:05 pm	Carlos Aguilera	RIP	
Thurs, December 17	12:05 pm	Francisco Bausa	RIP	
Fri, December 18	12:05 pm	Helen & Chester Sapieha	RIP	
Sat, December 19	5:00 pm	Foujumasih & Majibibi	RIP	
Sun, December 20	7:30 am	Chris Akinuoye	RIP	
	9:00 am	Christine Mary Rose Flynn	RIP	
	11:00 am	Parishioners	SI	
	5:00 pm	Agapito Manalastas	RIP	