

Sacred Heart Church

Founded in 1910



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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 29 , 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

Saturday 4:00 pm. (Confessions may also be arranged by request).

Office Hours: Monday to Friday: 9 am - 3 pm
Closed 12 noon to 12:30 pm

STEWARDSHIP CORNER:

May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and in all.

(1 Thessalonians 3:12)



Today's reading from Jeremiah recalls the first advent of the Messiah in history. The gospel heralds His future advent at the end of time. In the Epistle, Paul challenges us to bring about a daily advent of the Lord through our love for one another in the present time.



SIGNS AND WONDERS

Signs in the heavens, nations in agony and the powers of the skies shaken are not mere tabloid scenarios; they are the markers of our liberation by the Son of Man, who will come with all the saints to gather up his own on the last day. He calls us to holiness and blamelessness in the sight of God. Are we ready to meet the Son of Man face to face?

First Sunday of Advent, Year C. Illustration © 1998 S. Espamer
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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 Orlowska **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.



Musings & Meditations

Fr. Colin O'Rourke

Waiting and Watching

Advent is once again upon us. Though we can see it coming from quite far away, when it does arrive it always seems to be as a thief in the night, taking us by surprise. The surprise isn't of something unexpected — anyone who looks ahead on the calendar can surely see the dates for Advent, Christmas, Easter, and so forth. Rather it is coming face to face with our own self-deception, our willful ignorance, which catches us off guard. Advent and Christmas are particularly prone to this kind of self-deception because people generally don't want to think about winter, and they don't want to think about all the work that goes into "celebrating the season." When these times and events of the year do arrive, people often go around acting as if they arrived when they weren't looking—which is, of course, precisely what they did.

In a small but important way these day-to-day illusions that we keep holding on to are signs of a much deeper problem, for we are prone to hold on to illusions regarding the faith as well. Advent is the season in which we look ahead to the coming again of Christ in glory. We know it in the same way we know the days of the year, but do we also fool ourselves in the same way? Do we turn a blind eye to Christ's return by continuously, perhaps habitually, holding on to the notion that it won't be now? Do we live our lives without any regard for the things to come, refusing to think about those things, like Christ's coming again, which we profess and even pray for at mass every Sunday?

As every year is brought to a close, we hear once again the call to prepare ourselves for the Advent of Christ, yet it is a part of our sinful and fallen nature to ignore the pleadings of John the Baptist and even of Jesus himself. In effect, we hear without hearing and see without seeing, for we have become accustomed to setting aside such thoughts as belonging to some other time or some other era, and have become certain within ourselves that such things are not going to happen during our own lifetime.

Jesus cautions us to be alert, to be on our guard, to be free from worldly distractions, and to be prayerful. This is the central theme of the Advent season. In the words of St. Paul to the Romans, we are to wake from our sleep. This Advent then do not be surprised that the days are here, for you knew they were coming. Instead be watchful with prayer and faithful in your lives such that you will be ready for the approaching dawn and the coming of salvation. As Jesus says to those who are prepared: "Now when these things begin to take place, look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

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 noon, in Housey Hall. First Reconciliation 2015: Nov 15 - Dec 13 Celebration Dec 16th. Confirmation 2016: Feb 14-Mar 13 Celebration Mar 20, 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.

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.



Fire in the Rose.

“Be watchful! Be alert!

Family Violence does not happen in a vacuum. It couldn't be so widespread or have carried on so long in silence if it were only a matter of a few people not controlling their tempers. Abuse is rooted in a host of personal and social values that we have come to accept as right or necessary or “normal.”

Think about who you admire, look up to or want to be like. What is it about them that you value? Think about whom in our society has status and power. What does this say about the qualities society thinks are important? Are these values similar or different from the ones Jesus taught?

“God, we know that many of your children have been hurting for a long time. Open our eyes to their pain and help us to reflect on the values we hold which may contribute to the pain and silence around family violence.”

For more information on Fire in the Rose, contact Jane Oxenbury at 255-7004. New members welcome!

Called to Protect Training for All Volunteers Serving the Vulnerable – December 6, 12:15 PM Housey Hall All Sacred Heart volunteers who serve the vulnerable (children, seniors, disabled) are required to participate in Called to Protect Training including annual refresher training. This includes Children's Liturgy, St. Vincent de Paul (esp. deliveries), Inn From the Cold (esp. Overnight, serving guests), and Pastoral Care volunteers. Training is a mandatory requirement per Diocesan policy. Any and all other volunteers are welcome – as we can all play a role in “Strengthening Our Parish Community”. The first 20 minutes will be an overview of key principles intended for both first time (‘induction’) and also refresher training for those who have already taken part in Called to Protect Training. For those being trained for the first time, the session will continue with a video, discussion and a more detailed description of key principles and how they are applied in the Diocese in general and Sacred Heart in particular.

Online training is also available for volunteers who cannot attend December 6th. Please follow up with your ministry Coordinators to find out how to take the training online – **which must be completed before**



Inn From The Cold Ministry. We host Inn from the Cold on Monday Dec.7, 2015. We are in need of volunteers as well as donations of personal hygiene products and underwear. As always thank you very much to everyone for your

ongoing support.

To learn more or to volunteer contact Mike Swanson at mikeswansonQC@gmail.com.



How are we doing financially?

	YTD Budget	As of Nov. 24
Regular Collection	\$ 354,800	\$ 337,740
Building Fund	\$ 125,280	\$ 252,688
	2015 Target	YTD Actual
Together In Action	\$ 62,254	\$ 67,515



Mission Mexico Day. December 12 Bishop Henry has once again proclaimed December 12th the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mission Day in the diocese. **All toonies collected weekend of December 12 & 13th** will go to Mission Mexico. Thank you for your support.

Children's Christmas Party. Jingle, jingle, jingle... join us on **December 13 at 12 noon** for the Sacred Heart Children's Christmas Party (right after the 11 am Mass) in the Upper Hall. There will be games and crafts and snacks for children 12 and under (and a visit from Santa's helpers too!)



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 **Holy Mass**, follow by talk
Topic: Divine Mercy Message.

Tuesday, Dec 15: 6:30 **Holy Mass**, follow by talk
Topic: Divine Mercy as a Way of Life.

Wednesday, Dec 16: 6:30 Concluding talk follow by **Penitential Service** with Adoration and Music.

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.”

In and around the Parish 2015		
December 2	Advent Mass	7:00 PM
December 7	Inn from the Cold	6:00 PM
December 12	Columbarium Mass	9:00 AM
December 13	Children's Party	Noon
December 14-16	Advent Mission	6:30 PM



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, Dec 12, 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 11AM - 6PM Monday to Sunday **except December 25 - open 11 AM - 1 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

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 12mm glass/aluminum

Relics on display now. We have placed in the Old Narthex the relics which Sacred Heart Church has kept for years. The collection includes relics from St Francis, St Bonaventure, the Canadian Martyrs, St Therese of Lisieux and St Pius X as well as a rock chip from the Holy Sepulchre and a wood particle from the Holy Cross.



Celebrations & Intentions

Sun, November 29	7:30 am	Patrick Yantha	RIP
	9:00 am	Special Intention	SI
	11:00 am	Parishioners	SI
	5:00 pm	Bruna Cappelletto	RIP
Mon, November 30	12:05 pm	Al Confranciscoc	RIP
Tues, December 1	12:05 pm	Special Intention	SI
Wed, December 2	10:30 am	Doreen Degenstein	RIP
	12:05 pm	Alex & Adele Solomon	RIP
Thurs, December 3	12:05 pm	Special Intentions	SI
Fri, December 4	12:05 pm	Sophie Bielecki	RIP
Sat, December 5	5:00 pm	Rosa Vetere	RIP
Sun, December 6	7:30 am	Special Intention	SI
	9:00 am	Special Intention	SI
	11:00 am	Parishioners	SI
	5:00 pm	Terry Arseniuk	RIP