

ASCENSION CATHOLIC PARISH

April 1 - 2, 2023



*Sharing the Spirit
Together in Christ*

Ascension Catholic Parish Holy Week Schedule



- **Penitential Service** – April 4, Mass @ 6:30pm, Confessions @ 7pm
- **Parish Mission** – April 5, Mass @ 6:30pm
Mission talk @ 7pm (Fr. John Bartunek LC)
- **Holy Thursday** – April 6, Mass @ 8pm,
Adoration until Midnight
- **Good Friday** – April 7, Stations of the
Cross 9am, Services @ Noon & 3pm
- **Easter Vigil** – April 8, Mass @ 9pm
- **Easter Sunday** – April 9, Mass @ 8 am,
10am, Noon & 4 pm

MASS TIMES

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - Saturday: 9:00am

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 5:00pm & 7:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am; 10:00am;

12:00pm & 4:00pm

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. John Gannon

Associate: Fr. JP Luxbacher

Vicar: Fr. Adrian Martens (Sundays)

Deacon: Patrick Woo

Admin Assist: Jenn Pashula

Sacraments : Linda Hengen

Bookkeeper: Nora Alzamora

Resource: Connie Raz

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday—Saturday

9:30am - 4:00pm

Closed for Lunch 12pm - 1pm

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Ascension Catholic Parish is a community of disciples of Jesus Christ, the Risen Lord, guided on our journey by the Holy Spirit to further the Kingdom of God, through committed Worship, Catechesis, Fellowship and Service

Psalm 22: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

PALM SUNDAY

Dear friends,

With the celebration of Palm Sunday, we begin Holy Week. How can we live it well?

First, **foster a sense of gratitude** for Jesus' love for us. This week should shift our focus from ourselves to Him and what He has done for us.

Second, if sin's burden is still weighing down your soul, get back into the state of grace. We have a **Penitential service on Tuesday evening**, with the chance to go to confession.

Third, accompany Jesus more closely. It might be a good time to propose a week of "digital fasting" from social media, TV, all of the noise it brings into our lives. Silence can be scary, but it is good for the soul. The **Mission Talk on Wednesday night** will give you some food for thought.

Attend the Holy Week Services on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and of course on Easter!

Finally, spread a bit of Gospel **goodness and kindness** around you, whether it be at work, at home, or in other encounters. Have a blessed Holy Week!

United in prayer with you, Fr JP



CONFESSIONS

Tuesday - Saturday:

8:15am - 8:45am

Saturdays: 4:00pm - 4:45pm

or by appointment

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the office at 403.275.2240

When prompted

Press 2 for Pastor

Press 3 for Associate

1100 Berkshire Blvd NW Calgary, AB T3K 3M3

Phone 403.275.2240 | Fax 403.274.3969 | www.ascensionparish.ca

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- April 2nd Palm Sunday** Mass - Sat. 5pm & 7pm,
Sun. 8am, 10am, 12pm & 4pm.
- April 4th Penitential Service**, after 6:30pm Mass
- April 5th Parish Mission** with Fr. John Bartunek after
6:30pm Mass "The Passion of the Christ."
- April 6th Holy Thursday** Mass 8pm and Adoration
until Midnight.
- April 7th Stations of the Cross** - 9am
- April 7th Good Friday** Services - Noon or 3pm
- April 8th Holy Saturday** - Easter Vigil - 9pm
- April 9th Easter Sunday** - Mass 8am, 10am, 12pm &
4pm.

HOLY WEEK MISSION



We pray for those families who have signed up for the Holy Week Mission. Please attend the **4pm Mass on April 2nd, Palm Sunday.**

You will be commissioned as Missionaries and receive a Mission packet. As part of your formation, attend the Parish Mission and an hour of Adoration on Holy Thursday. On Saturday April 8th, we'll run the two Missions: one collecting food for St. Vincent de Paul and one praying at a seniors' facility in our community.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Volunteers are invited to meet at 10am on Saturday, April 15th in the Youth Room (our new Atrium!). We will share an introduction to the program, a peek at some new materials and the different ways in which volunteers may participate. Everyone interested is invited to join us. See you there!



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion marks the beginning of Holy Week, the final week of preparation before the feast of Easter. In the Roman Rite, the celebration of Mass has particular traditions that make it look much different than a typical Sunday Mass. Many of these traditions are centuries old, having roots in the early Church, based on the events that occur in the Gospel passages. The differences are meant to enrich our celebration of Jesus' Passion, immersing us into the events in a unique way to help our souls ponder the beauty and riches of the Paschal mystery.

SACRAMENTS

We are blessed to have 648 candidates going through Sacramental preparation in our Parish. Please join in praying for them as they continue on their spiritual journey. We have 380 preparing for Holy Communion, 239 children and 8 adults preparing for Confirmation, 29 teenagers preparing for various Sacraments, and 19 adults in the RCIA program, who will be received into the community at Easter.

For more information about our Sacraments please check our website or email Linda at sacraments@ascensionparish.ca.

Reconciliation / First Holy Communion (Grade 2 and above) Registration for the school calendar year 2023/2024 will open on June 1st, 2023.



Confirmation (Grade 6 and above) Registration for the school calendar year 2023/2024 will open on June 1st, 2023.

Sacraments for Teens. This program is for those teens who have missed one or more of the Sacraments. Registration for the school calendar year 2023/2024 will open on June 1st, 2023.

Baptism for School Aged Children: In collaboration with our Catholic Schools, we offer Baptism for School Aged Children between the ages of seven and twelve. Our next session is in June; please register online.

Baptism for Infants are celebrated Saturday at 10am and Sunday at 2pm.

Baptism Preparation Class: are on the **1st Saturday** of each month beginning with Mass at 9am. The child's Baptism will be arranged after your attendance in the class.

Marriage: By appointment, 6 months in advance. Contact the office.

Marriage Convalidation –This is a ceremony for Catholics who have had a civil marriage and want their marriage recognized as a Sacramental covenant. Please call the office to begin this process.

Marriage Preparation: 3rd Saturday of every month at the Parish or through the Diocese at <https://www.catholiccyc.ca/marriageprep.html>.

Adult Confirmation: If you are over 18 years old and have been Baptized, you can register for our Adult Confirmation sessions. For more information contact Linda at sacraments@ascensionparish.ca

RCIA: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
For more information contact the Parish office.

MISSIONARY DISCIPLE SPOTLIGHT

Hello, I am Nancy Murphy, I have been a parishioner at Ascension Catholic Parish for over 25 years. I began volunteering about 10 years ago as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. I have also served, before Covid, for 5 years as a Sacristan. I volunteer to assist in serving and building our Parish community and to thank God for His many blessings. Volunteering has allowed me to walk into the Church and be able to call so many wonderful people by name. It is not difficult to volunteer. There are people eager to train and support you. All you need to do is show up and do your best. I keep in mind a line from Psalm 37:3 "Trust in the Lord and do good."



VOCATION CHALICE



Our Parish continues to pray for Vocations with a traveling Chalice. By bringing the Chalice to your home you are able to devote time during your busy day to pause and pray for this special Ministry. To sign up [click here](#)

MASS INTENTIONS APRIL 1 - APRIL 8, 2023

| | | |
|---------|---------|--|
| April 1 | 5:00pm | For the soul of Joyce Seale & James Edward McCone |
| April 1 | 7:00pm | For the soul of Bruce Ellwand |
| April 2 | 8:00am | For the Special Intentions of our Parishioners |
| April 2 | 10:00am | For the Special Intentions of Nora Alzamora |
| April 2 | 12:00pm | For the Special Intentions of Adeniji- Somefun Family |
| April 2 | 4:00pm | For the soul of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fernandes |
| April 3 | 9:00am | For the Special Intentions of Veronica Azichoba |
| April 4 | 9:00am | For the Special Intentions of Veronica Azichoba |
| April 4 | 6:30pm | For Thanksgiving |
| April 5 | 9:00am | For the soul of Maria Carmela Filossera |
| April 5 | 6:30pm | For the Special intentions of Daniel & Christine Pashula |
| April 6 | 8:00pm | For the Special intentions of Joe Hengen |
| April 8 | 9:00pm | For the Special Intentions of our Parishioners |

PALM SUNDAY

Why does Mass begin with a procession?

Besides imitating Jesus' procession into Jerusalem, the Sanctuary of the Church is naturally a place that symbolizes heaven, with the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

Why palms or other plants are used for the procession?

Biblical scholars often translate the branches people used for Jesus' triumphal entry in generic terms, such as in the Gospel of Matthew, "The very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road" (Matthew 21:8). The branches are meant to be a symbolic gesture, symbolizing the need to lay down our hearts before Jesus, allowing him access into our inmost being. This is why, even if you don't have branches of any sort for your celebration, you can still participate in the spiritual theme of Palm Sunday.

Why are statues and images veiled?



It seems strange that during the most sacred time of year Catholics cover everything that is beautiful in their Churches, even the Crucifix. Shouldn't we be looking at the painful scene at Calvary while we listen to the Passion narrative on Palm Sunday? While it may appear counter-intuitive to veil statues and images during the final weeks of Lent, the Catholic Church recommends this practice to heighten our senses and build within us a longing for Easter Sunday.

What should I do with my blessed palms?

After leaving Church on Sunday, you may have come home with several long palm branches from the celebration of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. You may be asking yourself, "Well, what should I do with these?" Whatever you do, don't throw them away! According to the Code of Canon Law, blessed items are not to be discarded in a trash can, but treated with respect (cf. #1171). At Mass these palm branches were set apart by a blessing from the Priest and made into a "Sacramental," an object that is meant to draw us closer to the celebration of the seven Sacraments. Keep them in a prayer corner or special place in your home. Next year we will ask you to bring them to the Church before Ash Wednesday, and the palms will be burnt to make the Ashes.



MINISTRY CONTACTS

Administrative Assistant: Jenn Pashula | office@ascensionparish.ca

Volunteer Resource: Connie Raz | resource@ascensionparish.ca

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Linda Hengen | baptism@ascensionparish.ca

Sacramental Preparation: Linda Hengen | sacraments@ascensionparish.ca

Marriage Prep: Ferdie Gayos | marriageprep.ascension@telus.net

RCIA: Rob Kehrig | robkehrig@gmail.com

MINISTRIES

Parish Council: Rodel Cenabre | rodelcenabre@gmail.com

Finance Council: Christina Dao | c_dc_d@hotmail.com

Building Fund: Mark Holland | markholland@shaw.ca

Special Events Fundraising: Holly Davidson | hollyd@telus.net

Ex-ord. Min. of Holy Communion: Nadia Oliverio | nadia.oliverio@shaw.ca

Liturgical Ministries: Nadia Oliverio | nadia.oliverio@shaw.ca

Lectors: Andrew Harich | harich0307@gmail.com

Choirs: Maryna Szojka | music@ascensionparish.ca

Sacristans: James Chuah | jameschuah10248@gmail.com

Ushers: Vinay Parmar | vparmar@flyht.com

Greeters: Eneyo Eyo | eneyo.eyo@gmail.com

Mass Participation Tracker: Flor De Souza | flordes18@yahoo.ca

Weekday Masses: Connie Raz | connieraz@gmail.com

Ascension Communication Team (ACT) | office@ascensionparish.ca

Pastoral Care: Sharron Robinson | parishprojects@ascensionparish.ca

Youth: | youth@ascensionparish.ca

Art and Environment: Maria San Miguel | let@shaw.ca

Altar Serving: Adewole Ajayi | server@ascensionparish.ca

RSVP: Lucy Reyes | Lucy.reyes@me.com

Landscaping Ministry: Vinay Parmar | vparmar@flyht.com

Property Management Team: Russell Todd | property@ascensionparish.ca

Vocation Chalice Coordinator: Violeta Romero | violy1416@yahoo.com

LAY ASSOCIATIONS

Catholic Women's League: Sheryl Bennett | cwl.ascension@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus: Chris Rappel | gk10065@kofc.ab.ca

Legion of Mary: Mary Shu | mary.dp.shu@hotmail.com

Regnum Christi: Eileen Coady | calgaryregnumchristi@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Davina Janssens | ssvp.ascension@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Hamper Request | 587.755.3855

FEAST OF ASCENSION FUNDRAISING DINNER

JUNE 3, 2023



As part of our Feast of Ascension Fundraising Dinner we are planning an auction. This is an awesome opportunity for everyone in the Parish to get involved by reaching out to their network of family, friends and colleagues to help support the auction. We are looking for 75-80 new items including unique experiences, electronics, gift cards, golf (green fees, golf bag, clubs), staycations and wine.

All funds raised from the dinner and auction will be directed to the building fund. If you are interested in donating an auction item or would like ideas, please contact Holly at hollyd@telus.net. Thank you for your support.

Stay up to date by visiting our Social Media

www.facebook.com/ascensionparishcalgary <https://twitter.com/RCAscensionYYC> <https://www.instagram.com/ascensioncatholic/>



April 2023

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--|
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 |
| Palm Sunday Attend Mass | 3 Read your favorite Bible story | 4 Read the Passion of Christ | 5 Prepare for the Paschal Triduum | Holy Thursday 6 | Good Friday Abstain from Meat 7 | Admit any self-weakness and work through it Holy Saturday 8 |
| Easter Sunday 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

Holy Week

Did you know that this week is the most important one in the whole year? Holy Week has Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. On these days we remember and celebrate the most important things that Jesus did before His resurrection on Easter Sunday.

On Holy Thursday Jesus said the first Mass and made his apostles the first priests. Go to Mass on Thursday if you can, and think about what Jesus did- He made bread and wine into Himself so that He could still be with us after He went back into Heaven.

On Good Friday Jesus suffered terribly and then died on the cross because of our sins. He offered up His life, even though He had never sinned, so that all of us could go to Heaven. That's why we call it "Good" Friday. Can you offer some sacrifice to Jesus in return for what He did for you?

On Holy Saturday Jesus' body was in the tomb. His friends were all shocked by what had happened and were afraid and sad. They did not remember what was going to happen next... Do you remember what happened after Holy Saturday?



Answer to Puzzle on Front: This is my Blood of the New Covenant which will be shed for many.

Answer to Word-Find: He died for sinners.

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Palm Sunday / Passion Sunday

April 2nd, 2023

T A H B I C S D I E S F M G Y H B I L J
O K O L D M O N F O T P H Q E R N S
E T W U C W O X V Y E Z N A A B N C T
D W E H F I G C H H I W J I K L L L M
B N E O S P H Q E R D S F T O U R V
M W A X N Y Y Z



Use every second letter to fill in the blanks.

T H



Palm Sunday



ON PALM SUNDAY EVERYBODY CHEERED FOR JESUS, BUT A FEW DAYS LATER THEY SHOUTED AT HIM AS HE WAS LED TO HIS DEATH. WE MUST BE FAITHFUL TO JESUS WHEN IT'S EASY AND EVERYONE AROUND US IS, AND WE MUST ALSO BE FAITHFUL WHEN IT'S REALLY HARD AND EVERYONE ELSE IS AGAINST HIM.



Good Friday Word-Find

H H W E D B H E A V Y
 D H I E M U R E S J I V
 J O L P T A R I O M S I N R
 S E S A L V E D F N S C I O
 P I S C R O S S E T E A
 I N C Y R E N S T O M B
 N A G D A L E N E S S

See if you can find all the words in CAPITALS in the puzzle.

Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks:

What did Jesus do on the cross?

On Good Friday JESUS was taken before King HEROD and the governor, PILATE. Even though He had not committed any crime He was scourged and condemned to die on the CROSS. He CARRIED the cross as far as He could up CALVARY hill, but when He got too weak a man named SIMON of CYRENE was forced to help Him. On the way He met His mother, MARY, who WEPT at seeing her Son in such pain. A woman named VERONICA wiped the blood and sweat from His face with a cloth. At the top of the HILL Jesus was thrown onto the cross and His HANDS and FEET were fastened to it with NAILS. They raised the cross, where Jesus hung for three hours before He DIED. He did all this to SAVE us from Hell. At the cross were JOHN, Mary MAGDALENE, His mother, and some other women. At the moment He died the curtain of the old Temple was TORN in half. When His body was taken down from the cross JOSEPH of Arimathea and NICODEMUS BURIED Him in a new TOMB and rolled a HEAVY STONE in front of the door.

