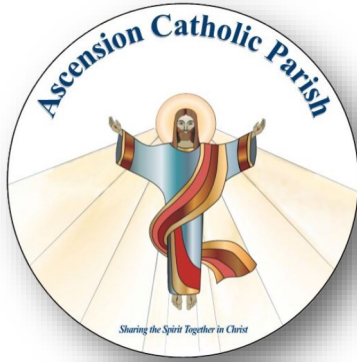


ASCENSION CATHOLIC PARISH

March 23-24, 2024



*Sharing the Spirit
Together in Christ*



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

"To be Missionary Disciples"

We invite you to encounter Christ deeply in the Eucharist within a vibrant Catholic Community where you can use your gifts and talents to spread the Gospel message with joy.

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

PALM SUNDAY

Dear friends,

On both Palm Sunday and Good Friday, we will hear the whole narration of the Passion, from Jesus' condemnation to His Death on the Cross.

As a child, I must admit that I always thought that it was a l-o-n-g Gospel! But at the same time, each year, I appreciate how much it reveals.

It reveals the human heart. It reveals the tenderness and bravery of St. Veronica or Simon of Cyrene. It reveals, too, how fear can paralyze us.

It reflects, in some ways, our own suffering. Or rather, when we suffer, we can find there in the Gospel our Lord, Jesus, who understands our sorrow and pain... that very fact can comfort and strengthen us. St. Anthony of Padua said, "Christians must lean on the Cross of Christ just as travelers lean on a staff when they begin a long journey. They must have the Passion of Christ deeply embedded in their minds and hearts, because only from it can they derive peace, grace, and truth."

The reading of the Passion reveals, above all, just how much Jesus loved us and continues to love us.

Friends, let us strive to be kind to others, to help our friends, relatives and family members to carry their Cross. Jesus is moved when He sees us doing so, following His example.

With prayers,

Yours,

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 Associate

MASS TIMES

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - Saturday: 9:00am

Wednesday: 6:00pm

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 5:00pm & 7:00pm

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

12:00pm & 4:00pm

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. John Gannon
(Administrative Leave)

Associate: Fr. JP Luxbacher

Vicar: Fr. Adrian Martens
(Sundays)

Deacon: Patrick Woo

Admin Assist: Jenn Pashula

Sacraments: Linda Hengen

**Communications: Sophia
Nelson**

Bookkeeper: Cindy Kreutzer

Resource: Connie Raz

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday—Saturday

9:30am - 4:00pm

Closed for Lunch 12pm—1pm

FACTS OF FAITH

Holy Week Part Two

Last week we spoke about Christ's triumphant entrance into Jerusalem and followed His footsteps from Palm Sunday to Holy Thursday. **Easter Triduum** (pronounced trid-yoo-uhm) begins on Holy Thursday and ends with the evening of Easter Sunday. This time is also known as the Paschal Triduum.

"Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery" (USCCB)

Paschal Mystery is God's plan of redemption for the fallen human race through the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ who was both God and Man. It is one marvelous event stretched out over three days. (The Catholic Company Apr 04, 2017)

Good Friday - On Good Friday, there is no Mass. The Tabernacle is open to show that it is empty and the candle by the Tabernacle has been blown out. The Altar is bare and the consecrated Hosts were removed on Holy Thursday to the "Altar of repose". This tells us that Jesus has been Crucified and is gone.

Why do we call it Good Friday?

On Good Friday Jesus died and saved us from our sins, His Death and Resurrection are the most sacred times of our year. Jesus suffered for us, and saved us, this is why we call it Good. Our reverence, prayers and fasting on Good Friday are our way of showing gratitude.

The Good Friday readings tell us the story of Christ's arrest, torture, and death. We Venerate the Cross and share in a Communion service. It is a day of solemn prayer. We can take part in the **Stations of the Cross** at 9:00am and participate in one of the Good Friday **Services** at 12:00pm or 3:00pm. Good Friday is a day to slow down and spend time with God, reflecting on the agony of Jesus' sacrifice for us.

Easter Vigil is the most beautiful Mass of the year. It begins in a quiet dark Church, representing the world of darkness before the light of Christ. Outside, a bonfire is lit and from this one source of light the Paschal Candle is lit and then spread to the candles that are held by the parishioners. Slowly the light of Christ fills the Church, and our celebration of the risen Christ begins.

We listen to the history of our faith: readings from the Old and New Testaments are read, as the Old Testament is revealed in the New Testament and the New Testament is hidden in the Old Testament. The music is rich in tradition, and we welcome new catechumens to the Catholic Faith.

Easter Sunday is the final day of the Triduum and is a continuation of the celebration of the risen Christ. We celebrate the glory of Jesus' Resurrection and Death conquered.



Ascension Catholic Parish
Holy Week
Holy Thursday - March 28th, 2024
 Mass: 8pm
 Adoration: After mass until midnight
Good Friday - March 29th, 2024
 Stations of the Cross: 9am
 Service: 12pm & 3pm
Easter Vigil - March 30th, 2024
 Mass: 9pm
Easter Sunday - March 31st, 2024
 Mass: 8am, 10am, 12pm, & 4pm
(Doors will be locked when building capacity has been reached)

SACRAMENTS

Our programs for the school year 2023–2024 are in progress. We will open for registration for the school year 2024–2025 on **June 1st, 2024**. For all other Sacraments information, please check our [website](#).

YOUTH GROUP - METANOIA

Those in grade 5 to university are welcome to join our youth group called Metanoia. Our next meet up is on **April 4th at 6:30pm** in the Parish hall.

FINANCE COUNCIL

Last weekend our Parish began our 50/50 raffle in support of the **"Feed the Hungry"** program. Our total amount of purchases to date is **\$1,525.00**. Next weekend March 23rd and March 24th, we will be selling tickets in the Narthex after every Mass.

Draw to take place on April 8th.

Please join us in making this a successful raffle to help feed families in need.

Thank you.

NOTRE DAME MUSIC FOUNDATION

The Notre Dame Music Foundation (NDMF) is a parent-led organization, registered as a non-profit society in the province of Alberta. Our mandate is to support our children in their high school musical endeavors. Working closely with the directors, we organize and run sales and events to fund experiences in which students hone and display their talents. We also help offset the costs of local, national, and international performance-based travel. Sometimes we need help from music lovers like you, to reach these goals.

We are currently planning our annual silent auction, **"The Black and White Concert"**, being held on **April 12th, 2024**, and we invite donations of new silent auction items. If you honour us with a donation, we will happily advertise your generosity at the event.

To make a donation or for more information regarding the upcoming Black and White Concert fundraiser, please contact NDMF President, Liezl Chiang, via email at ndmfyc@gmail.com or by phone at **(403) 466-7544**.

MISSIONARY DISCIPLE - SPOTLIGHT



Hi, I'm Peter Aizenobie. I have been actively involved in serving in various ministries of our Parish for almost three years now. I serve as an Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Communion, a Greeter, and an active member of the St. Vincent de Paul Ministry.

Serving in the Church and my local community has always strengthened me. I have served

in various capacities in different Parishes of different countries where I have lived.

When I contribute in the little way that I can in service of God's people, I receive that unquantifiable and inexplicable inner satisfaction. It also gives me the opportunity to give back and pay forward a fraction of the many blessings I have received.

Serving as an Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Communion is the best part of my volunteering experience.

When you aren't sure if you're ready to volunteer, try to reflect deeply on the goodness of God in your life. An understanding of God's goodness will enhance an inner resolute motivation to volunteer in God's service.

MONTHLY RETREATS

Ascension Catholic Parish joyfully hosts a monthly retreat held on the last Wednesday of each month following the 6pm Mass.

These retreats provide an enriching opportunity for spiritual growth and reflection. We warmly invite you to join us in this journey of renewal and community.

**March 27th
Lantern Retreat
on the Last
Supper**

KOC - Bottle Drive

April 6th and 7th

Please leave your refundable containers in the marked trailer in front of the main entrance.

Proceeds from the drive will go towards supporting programs hosted by the Knights of Columbus.

Thank you for your support!

Divine Mercy
Sunday **April 7, 2024**

All are invited to join us for a beautiful, grace-filled **FEAST OF THE DIVINE MERCY** celebration with the Sisters of Divine Mercy!

SCHEDULE:
2:45pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 Opportunity for Confession (until 3:45pm)
 Divine Mercy Reflection - Sr. Katrina, SDM
 Chapel of Divine Mercy
3:45pm Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
4:00pm HOLY MASS
 followed by fellowship, reception
 and door prizes in the Parish Hall
 (Music led by the Sisters of Divine Mercy)

Jesus, I Trust in You

Ascension Catholic Parish
 1100 Berkshire Blvd NW
 Calgary, AB T3K 3M3
 (403) 275-2240

"Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My mercy."
 (Diary, 300)

Jesus I trust in You

MASS INTENTIONS FEB 24-MAR 2, 2024

Mar 23	5pm	For the special intentions of The Colaco Family
Mar 23	7pm	Mass for Parishioners
Mar 24	8am	For the soul of Mario Ching Eng Liu
Mar 24	10am	For the soul of Lori Chick
Mar 24	12pm	For the special intention of Francis Okwuraiwe
Mar 24	4pm	For the special intention of Rainer Oscan
Mar 25	9am	For the special intentions of Dom Anamali & Nessie Effemuai
Mar 26	9am	For the special intention of Thomas Momohi
Mar 27	9am	For the souls of Jonathan, Regina & Ronald Chia
Mar 27	6pm	For the special intentions of Mary Lovric & Children
Mar 28	9am	Holy Thursday - Mass for Parishioners
Mar 29	9am	Good Friday
Mar 30	9am	Easter Vigil - Mass for Parishioners



MINISTRY CONTACTS

Administrative Assistant: Jenn Pashula | office@ascensionparish.ca
 Communications: Sophia Nelson | communications@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 | ferdie.gayos@calgarydiocese.ca
 Marriage and Convalidation | office@ascensionparish.ca
 RCIA: Rob Kehrig | robkehrig@gmail.com

MINISTRIES

Parish Pastoral 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.oliverio23@gmail.com
 Liturgical Ministries: Andrew Harich | harich0307@gmail.com
 Lectors: Andrew Harich | harich0307@gmail.com
 Music: 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: Connie Raz | resource@ascensionparish.ca
 Youth: | youth@ascensionparish.ca
 Art and Environment: Maria San Miguel | let@shaw.ca
 Altar Serving: Mary Grace Gueco | 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
 Linens | angiepatawaran1@gmail.com
 Funeral Lunch | iwoytas@gmail.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 dePaul : Grant Dusyk | president.ascension.ssvp@gmail.com
 SSV: Hamper Request | 587.755.3855 | ssvp.ascension@gmail.com

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

The annual Good Friday collection was first taken at Pope VI's request fifty years ago. The monies collected support its pastoral, educational, and social works and helps to maintain the Holy Places, so important for the faith of Christians everywhere. For the sake of our brothers and sisters enduring hardships, please give generously during your Parish's Good Friday celebration on **March 29th, 2024**. If you are unable to attend service, it is possible to contribute by Interact e-transfer to teresainte@bellnet.ca or online at commissariat.ca – receipts will be issued.

Ascension
Society of St. Vincent DePaul
LENTEN SHARE
 Feb 17 - Mar 24





FINAL WEEKEND TO DONATE!

We are asking for your continued support to assist the needy. Non-perishable, non-expired food items can be placed in the food donation bin near the Knights' table. Cash or gift-cards can be placed in the box by the food bin. Please visit ascensionssvp.wixsite.com/website or scan the QR code for more details.



Couples

COCKTAILS & CONVERSATION

Couples Cocktails & Conversation, is a program designed to nurture the bonds of faith, marriage and parenthood. This unique program offers a blend of engaging presentations, heartfelt discussions, and delightful moments of connection. Share in the joy of wonderful conversations accompanied by fine wine and snacks.

Presenter: Fr. Daniel Wilson, LC
Topic: Marriage Vocation Statement
When & Where: April 12th, 2024, 7:00pm in the Parish Hall
Cost: \$20 per couple
Tickets can be bought on our [website](https://ascensionssvp.wixsite.com/website) or at our Parish office.

Mark Your Calendars: June 7th

Holy Week

This is a very special week. On Thursday we celebrate the day that Jesus ate the Last Supper with His apostles. This was the first Mass, when He gave His Body and Blood to them in what still looked like bread and wine. He also made them priests by giving them the power to turn bread and wine into His Body and Blood to offer them to the Father.

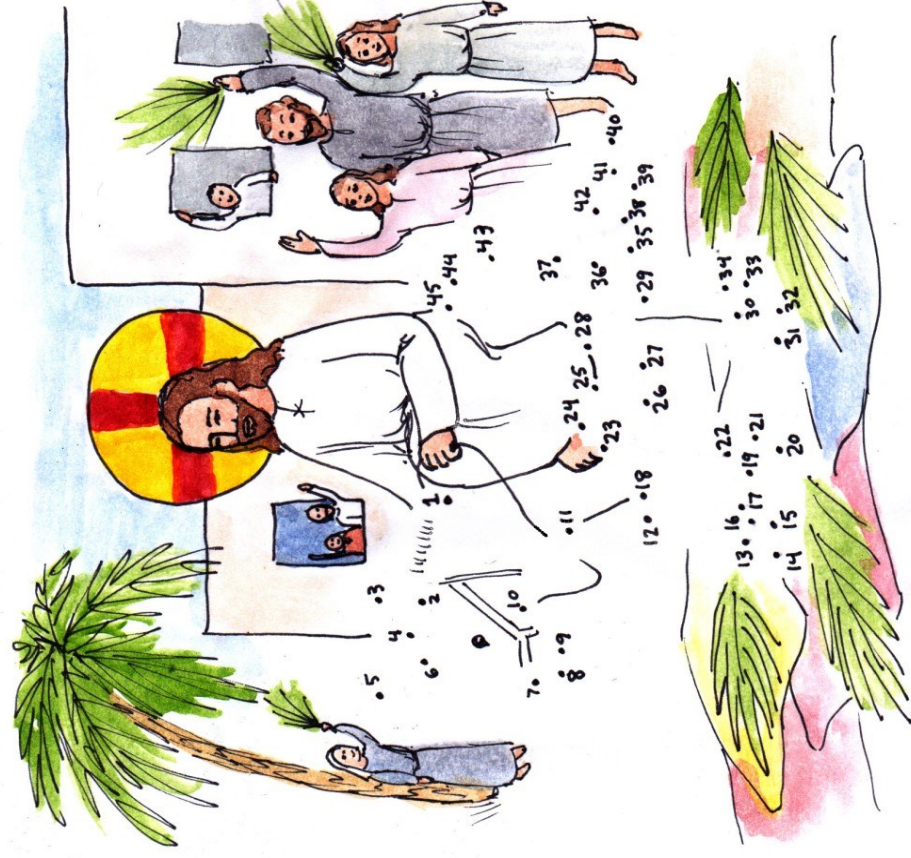
On Good Friday we remember the suffering and death of Our Lord. He was beaten and made fun of, and had to carry the heavy cross. Then He was nailed to the cross, where He hung for hours before He gave up His life to God for us.

On Holy Saturday we remember the day that Mary and the apostles and Jesus' other friends were very sad and upset by what had happened. Their best friend and leader had just been killed! Do you think they knew what was about to happen on Easter Sunday?



The Kids' Bulletin

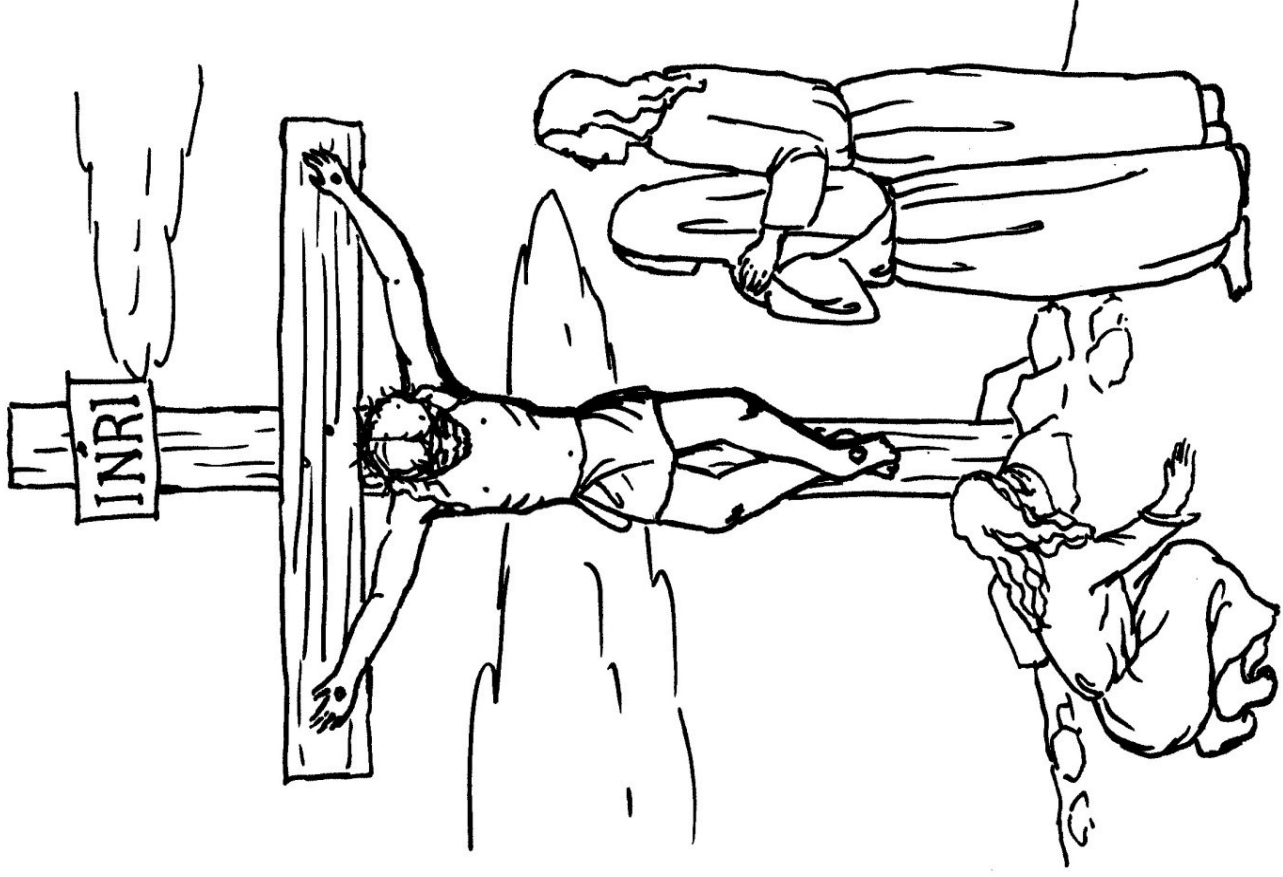
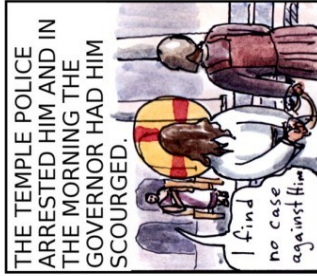
*Palm Sunday / Passion Sunday
March 24th, 2024*



A few days before He died on the Cross, Jesus came into Jerusalem while the people waved palm branches and shouted, "Hosanna!" He was riding on something that was a sign of peaceful times. What was it? Connect the dots to find out!

The Passion of Jesus

Holy Thursday and Good Friday



This is the story of the first Holy Thursday and Good Friday. Jesus always knew that this was what he came to do: to suffer and die to make up for the sins of all the people of the world. Because he did this we are all able to go to heaven. Now we just need to follow him!

A Good Friday picture for you to colour.

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com