



## ST. AGNES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



Address: 302 Veterans Way S, PO Box 575, Carstairs, AB, TOM ONO Phone: (403) 940-1100

Pastor: Fr. Antonio Newton Rodrigues

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Admin. Assistant / Bookkeeper: Sharon Neumiller

Email: [stagnes@shaw.ca](mailto:stagnes@shaw.ca) Mobile: (587) 777-0271

Office: Mon - Fri. 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

(Call to confirm Father is available in case of emergencies.)

E-Transfer donations: Send to [stagnes@shaw.ca](mailto:stagnes@shaw.ca)

### REFLECTIONS FROM FATHER'S DESK...



#### 'SENT BY THE SPIRIT':

Mother Church is extremely sensitive and she is aware that we are putting great effort into our Advent preparation so as to be ready for the Lord's coming. Accordingly she arranges for us to take a break, as it were and relax. This third Sunday is called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means celebrate. And that is what we are asked to do. The proliferation of verbs of rejoicing etc in our 1st and 2nd Readings are enough to carry us along into the mood of the moment. The text from Isaiah in our 1st Reading, which Jesus will later quote when he enters public ministry, is a wonderful message of Good news. It is about freedom for prisoners, the binding up of broken hearts, and good news for poor people. Our 2nd Reading sweeps us along further into celebration. Paul tells us to rejoice in the Lord and pray in gratitude for all that has been given. We trust in the Lord of peace to perfect us in purity. Our Gospel brings us face to face with John the Baptist. He makes it clear that he is not the Messiah. He is the prophetic voice crying in the wilderness – prepare the way of the Lord. It is crucial that we hear what John says! The purpose of our rest is strength to carry on.

Thousands of thoughts run through our minds.

We're left to decide which ones stay.

### SACRAMENT TIMES

#### Masses:

Saturday	5:00 pm
Sunday	10:00 am
Tues. & Wed.	6:30pm
Thurs., Fri. & Sat.	9:00 am
(Christmas Schedule on Page 3)	

#### Confession:

Saturday	4:00 pm
or by appointment	

#### Adoration

Wednesday	7:00 pm
First Fridays	9:30 am

#### Youth Adoration:

Last Friday	6:30 pm
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#### Rosary

20 min. before masses

## **PARISH MINISTRIES**

### **Lector Schedule**

10:00am

Dec 17 Maria & Toryn  
Dec 24 Keith & Fran  
Dec 25 Lynne B & Lynn  
Dec 31 Maria & Pat  
Jan 01 Fran & Dayna

### **Church Cleaners**

Crystal (403)827-9353

Dec 22 Crystal Campbell (Family)  
Dec 29 Shirley

### **Altar Serving**

Contact Fr. Newton

### **Family Fun Night (Potluck)**

December 16, 2023 6:00 pm

### **Music Ministry**

Crystal (403) 827-9353

### **Confirmation Session**

December 17, 2023 11:15 am  
in the rectory basement.

### **Faith Formation**

Pierrette

Tuesdays 7:00 pm  
in the rectory bsmnt or by email.

### **Parish Council**

January 4, 2024

## **FOOD BANK & TOY DRIVE**



During Advent we will be collecting items for the Mountain View Food Bank. Please see the posters at the church entrance for a list of items most needed. The Toy Drive will be of used toy donations (clean and gently used, no pieces missing) and will be delivered to Nu2U Thrift Store in Olds. Thank you all for your generosity and support for our community.

## **LADIES AFTER DARK: 18+ SOCIAL**



The adult women of the parish are invited on December 20, 2023 at 6:30 pm for mass and adoration and to then gather at a local eatery for community time.

## **ST. AGNES WOMEN OF FAITH**



Saturday, Dec 16, 2023 all women of the parish are invited to join us for 9:00 am Mass followed by a morning of reflection on the themes of the Book of Ruth by Karin Raber. Donations welcome to support future women's retreats.

## **FAMILY FUN NIGHT POTLUCK**



All parishioners are welcome to a potluck and games night December 16, 2023 at 6:00 pm in the rectory basement.

## **YOUTH CHOIR**



December 24, 2023 at the 4:30pm Christmas Eve Mass. Youth (10 yrs and older) are invited to join the St. Agnes Youth Choir. Contact: Crystal Campbell

## **STEWARDSHIP FORMS**



Father Newton has extended the return time frame to December 31, 2023 for our stewardship commitment forms. Please remember to fill out the family information side even if you are unable to commit to anything at this time. These forms will help update our parish database of active members. Thank you for your help in this endeavour!

## **Christmas Floral Arrangement Donations**

Anyone wishing to contribute to the beautification of the church for Christmas, we would gratefully accept your floral arrangement donations before end of day December 23, 2023

## CHRISTMAS SEASON MASS SCHEDULE

### Christmas 2023.

Dec. 23, Mass 5:00 pm

Dec. 24, Mass 10:00 am

Dec. 24, Pre-mass Carols 4:00pm

Mass 4:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass (Youth Choir)

Dec. 24, Mass 8:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass.

Dec. 25, Mass 10:00 am Christmas Day Mass.

### New Year & Mary, Mother of God 2024.

Dec. 30, Mass 5:00 pm

Dec. 31, Mass 10:00 am

Dec. 31, Mass 5:00 pm New Year Eve Mass.

Jan. 1, Mass 10:00 am New Year Day Mass.

(Mary, Mother of God, on Jan 1,  
is a Holy Day of Obligation)



## DIOCESAN INFO

[HTTPS://WWW.CATHOLICYC.CA/NEWS.HTML](https://www.catholicyc.ca/news.html)



## **Feast of St. Peter Canisius**

**“Never was a whimpering bit of humanity  
so powerful that, while lying  
on His bed of straw,  
He could command  
the very stars to  
direct whom  
He wished to  
visit Him. Never  
a child so wise  
or so rich as this  
little Infant who  
was full of grace  
and incarnate truth.”**

– St. Canisius in preparation for Christmas

**Pray for us!**



## JANUARY BULLETIN

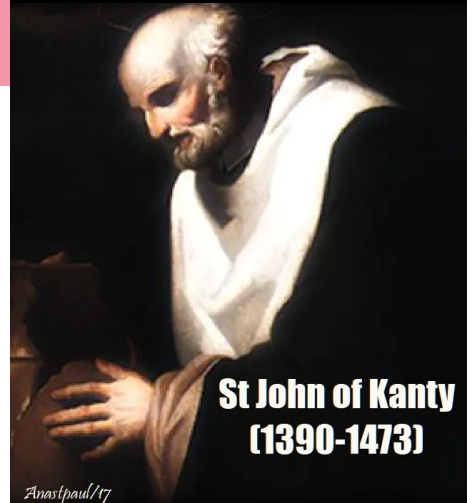
**DUE TO  
FR. NEWTON'S  
VACATION  
AND KARIN'S  
SURGERY  
JANUARY WILL  
HAVE ONLY  
ONE BULLETIN  
MADE.**

**PLEASE SUBMIT  
ALL ITEMS BY  
DEC 29, 2023.**

## WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Dec 16	05:00 pm	For the parishioners (Pro Populo)
Dec 17	10:00 am	For the Parishioners (Pro Populo)
Dec 19	06:30 pm	Repose of the soul of Anthony & Gerdina Reimert
Dec 20	06:30 pm	Repose of the soul of Hery & Anne Reimert
Dec 21	09:00 am	Repose of the soul of Dianne Hendren
Dec 22	09:00 am	Repose of the soul of Mary & Dina Reimert
Dec 23	09:00 am	Repose of the soul of Andres & Mary Thompson
Dec 23	05:00 pm	For the Parishioners (Pro Populo)
Dec 24	10:00 am	For the Parishioners (Pro Populo)

**Fight all error  
but do it with good humour,  
patience, kindness and love.  
Harshness will damage  
your own soul  
and spoil the best cause.**



**St John of Kanty  
(1390-1473)**

## POPE'S INTENTION DECEMBER 2023

For persons with disabilities.

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

## LOCAL COMMUNITY PRAYER INTENTIONS

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE INTENTIONS OF:  
MIKE WATSON, ROSANNA M., KARIN RABER, AND PETER GILLIS

## DAILY MASS READINGS

Dec 17	Isaiah 61.1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thess. 5.16-24; John 1.6-8, 19-28	(3rd Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday)
Dec 18	Jeremiah 23.5-8; Matthew 1.18-24	
Dec 19	Judges 13.2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1.5-25	
Dec 20	Isaiah 7.10-14; 8.10d Gospel: Luke 1.26-38	
Dec 21	Zephaniah 3.14-18a or 1st Reading: Song of Songs 2.8-14; Luke 1.39-45	
Dec 22	1 Samuel 1.24-28; Luke 1.46-56	
Dec 23	Malachi 3.1-4; 4.5-6; Luke 1.57-66	
Dec 24	2 Samuel 7.1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Romans 16.25-27; Luke 1.26-38	(4th Sunday of Advent)

## Christmas Novena Prayer (December 16-24)

O sweet Child of Bethlehem, grant that we may share with all our hearts in this profound mystery of Christmas. Put into the hearts of men and women this peace for which they sometimes seek so desperately and which you alone can give to them. Help them to know one another better, and to live as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father.

Reveal to them also your beauty, holiness, and purity.

Awaken in their hearts love and gratitude for your infinite goodness.

Join them all together in your love.

And give us your heavenly peace. Amen.

-Pope John XXIII