



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

Email: newtonrodrigues@shaw.ca Mobile: (403) 795-6912

Admin. Assistant / Bookkeeper: Sharon Neumiller

Email: 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

REFLECTIONS FROM FATHER'S DESK...



THE DRAMA OF A HOUSE FOR GOD: The preparation of a house for God is foreshadowed in the Book of Samuel and elsewhere in the Old Testament. King David, temporarily free from enemies is at peace in his Palace. But suddenly a doubt arises to nag him. Summoning the Prophet Nathan, he points out that while he lives in style, the Arc is housed in a mere tent. At first Nathan approved of David's plan to build God a house but later God interferes and says that he is the one to do the building. God will build a line and a dynasty for David and it will last forever. Our Christmas story is part of that promise! Paul in our 2nd Reading is excited about a God who revealed those mysteries hidden from of old but now made clear. Such a God must surely be praised and thanked. It is in our Gospel however that the Christmas drama plays out. Note the actors: God, Angel, Spirit, Mary. Note the roles: God sends, empowers, orchestrates. The Angel is one sent, carries good news, helps Mary understand. Spirit descends, carries God's power, over shadows Mary. Mary: listens, struggles to understand, says her loving Yes to God. And Christmas happened. We in our turn are expected to play our part. Let each heart be a living manger for Jesus.

Christmas may not be the greatest Feast in our Church's calendar, but it is surely the loveliest. At Easter we celebrate God's triumphant and transcendent power – all very scary. At Christmas we celebrate a God who has become accessible to small babies by becoming one of them. The feet of those who carry the story of such loving intimacy around the world are beautiful indeed. That little baby will indeed grow to wield great power and become a wonderful teacher. He will be all that John speaks of in his Gospel Prologue. But first let us sit with Mary and Joseph on the straw and let us contemplate the wonder of a God become little. Merry Christmas to all of you.

NEVER TRADE WHAT YOU WANT MOST FOR WHAT YOU WANT IN THE MOMENT.

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 24 Keith & Fran

Dec 25 Lynne B & Lynn

Dec 31 Maria & Pat

Jan 01 Fran & Dayna

Church Cleaners

Crystal (403)827-9353

Dec 29 Shirley

Altar Serving

Contact Fr. Newton

Family Fun Night (Potluck)

Jan. 13, 2023 6:00 pm

Music Ministry

Crystal (403) 827-9353

Confirmation Session

January 7, 2024 11:15 am
in the rectory basement.

Faith Formation

Tuesdays Jan. 9 start up 7:00 pm
in the rectory bsmnt or by email.

Parish Council

January 4, 2024

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
THERE IS NO YOUTH CHOIR FOR JANUARY.



Alcibiades

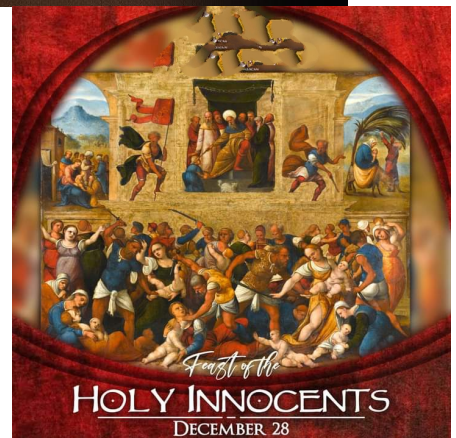
THEN TOO, AS SON AND GUARDIAN OF MARY,
THOU HAST TO PRESENT US
TO THINE OWN AND OUR MOTHER.
ASK HER TO GIVE US, SOMEWHAT OF THE TENDER LOVE,
WHEREWITH SHE WATCHES OVER THE CRIB OF HER DIVINE SON,
TO SEE IN US, THE BROTHERS OF THAT CHILD SHE BORE
AND TO ADMIT US, TO A SHARE OF THE MATERNAL AFFECTION,
SHE HAD FOR THEE, THE FAVOURED CONFIDANT
OF THE SECRETS OF HER JESUS.

Abbot Prosper Guéranger (1805-1875)

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!



Feast of the
HOLY INNOCENTS
DECEMBER 28

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.catholicyyc.ca/news.html)



Church of the Nativity

The Church of the Nativity is one of the oldest working churches in existence today. The first Church was built by the Roman Emperor Constantine in the 4th century AD, over the grotto...

 bethlehem-city.org

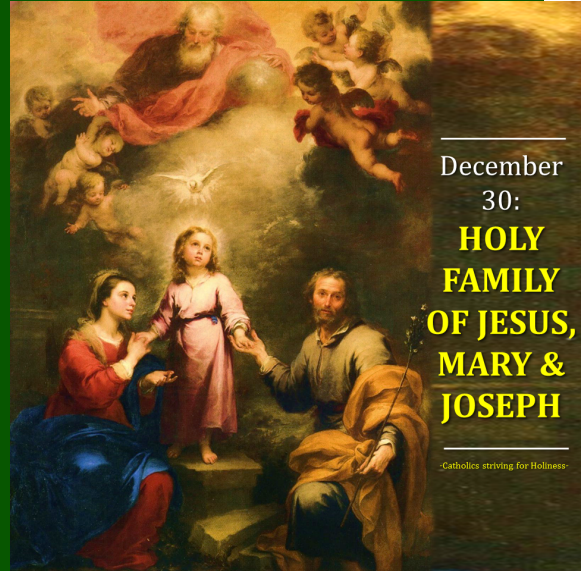
JANUARY BULLETIN

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 23 05:00 pm Special Intention of Rick Poulin
 Dec 24 10:00 am For the Parishioners (Pro Populo)
 Dec 24 04:30 pm For the Parishioners (Pro Populo)
 Dec 24 08:30 pm For the Parishioners (Pro Populo)
 Dec 25 10:00 am For the Parishioners (Pro Populo)
 Dec 26 06:30 pm Rest of the soul of Leo De Vette
 Dec 27 06:30 pm Rest of the soul of John Gerritsen
 Dec 28 09:00 am Rest of the soul of John Gerritsen
 Dec 29 09:00 am Rest of the soul of Barbara Osterling
 Dec 30 09:00 am Rest of the soul of Henrica Gerritsen
 Dec 30 05:00 pm For the Parishioners (Pro Populo)
 Dec 31 10:00 am For the Parishioners (Pro Populo)
 Dec 31 05:00 pm For the Parishioners (Pro Populo)
 Jan 01 10:00 am For the Parishioners (Pro Populo)



December
30:
**HOLY
FAMILY
OF JESUS,
MARY &
JOSEPH**

Catholics striving for Holiness



Happy Saint Stephen's Day!

The Second Day of Christmas

December 26 is the feast of St Stephen, a traditional day for giving boxes of leftovers to the poor, resulting in the later name "Boxing Day".

Stephen was a disciple of Jesus known for his emphasis on generosity to the needy. He was the first Christian martyr. Stephen was stoned to death for publicly declaring that Jesus was "standing at the right hand of God".

www.ems.lah.com.au

LOCAL COMMUNITY PRAYER INTENTIONS

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

THE 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.

DAILY MASS READINGS

Dec 24 2 Samuel 7.1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Romans 16.25-27; Luke 1.26-38 (4th Sunday of Advent)
 Dec 25 Isaiah 52: 7-10; Ps. 98; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18 (The Nativity of Our Lord, S)
 Dec 26 Acts 6.8-10; 7.54-59; Matthew 10.17-22 (St. Stephen, F)
 Dec 27 1 John 1.1-4 Gospel: John 20.2-8 (St. John, F)
 Dec 28 1 John 1.1-4 Gospel: John 20.2-8 (The Holy Innocents, F)
 Dec 29 1 John 2.3-11 Gospel: Luke 2.22-35 (5th Day of the Octave of the Nativity)
 Dec 30 1 John 2.12-17 Gospel: Luke 2.36-40 (6th Day of the Octave of the Nativity)
 Dec 31 Sir.3.2-6, 12-14; Col. 3.12-21; Luke 2.22-40 (The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, F)