



ST. AGNES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD



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...



“WHAT CAN WE OFFER JESUS? While Christmas reveals Jesus to the Jews represented by the shepherds, Epiphany manifests Him to the gentile world, represented by the Magi, the wise men from the east. They saw the star. Being wise, they read the signs of the time. They followed the sign till they found Jesus, the Reality to which the sign pointed.

It was not easy journey. But they pursued the star and persevered in their search till the star rested over the where the child was. And seeing the star “they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.” Joy must be the first sign of a real genuine encounter with Jesus!

Going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and fell down and worshipped him. This must be our response in the presence of Jesus. We must fall on our knees knowing who He is and who we are.

The Magi journey, no doubt, but they did not come empty handed. Then opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. When we encounter Jesus, what can we offer Him?

We must give Jesus the gold of our love. There is nothing more personal and precious than this; the frankincense of our prayer as it rises as a fragrance; the myrrh of our mortality; yes, the woundedness and weakness of our humanity.

To treasure and ponder: What a beautiful way to begin the New Year with Mary, Mother of God, Mother of the Church and our Mother! What beautiful attitude to foster and like her to learn how to treasure and ponder the way God works in our lives! It is only when we treasure and hold something precious, that we delight in pondering. It is only when we ponder that we appreciate more deeply the treasure we have. That is what Mary did, not just as she listened to the shepherds who hastened to the crib and returned glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen but always, may we learn from Mary to look, to listen and to learn as God enters our lives. Happy and grace-filled New Year!!!

SACRAMENT TIMES

Masses:

Saturday	5:00 pm
Sunday	10:00 am

NO WEEKDAY MASS JAN 8 - FEB 12, 2024. Resumes Feb 13 @ 6:30PM

Confession:

Saturday	4:00 pm
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or by appointment

Adoration

No adoration until Feb. 22, 2024

Youth Adoration:

Last Friday / month	6:30 pm
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(Not for January 2024)

Rosary.

20 min. before masses

PARISH MINISTRIES

Lector Schedule

10:00am

Jan 7 Keith & Karin
Jan 14 Fran & Lynne B
Jan 21 Dayna & Toryn
Jan 28 Pat & Lynn

Church Cleaners

Crystal (403)827-9353

Check emails or schedule at
the back of the church.

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
January 21, 2024 11:15 am
in the rectory basement.

Faith Formation

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

Parish Council

Feb. 22, 2024 7:00 pm

YOUTH CHOIR

Contact: Crystal Campbell

THERE IS NO YOUTH CHOIR FOR JANUARY.



CHRISTMAS DECORATION CLEAN UP

Thursday, January 11, 2024 after 9:00 am mass, all are
welcome to help take down the Christmas decor.

PAPAS IN THE PEWS: 18+ SOCIAL

The adult men of the parish are invited on Jan 10 & 24 2024 at
6:30 pm for mass and adoration and to then gather at a local
eatery for community time.



LADIES AFTER DARK: 18+ SOCIAL

The adult women of the parish are invited on Jan 17, 2024 at
6:30 pm for mass and adoration and to then gather at a local
eatery for community time.

WOMEN OF FAITH

We will meet on Thursday, January 18th, at 9:00 am with the
Rosary and then go to the basement rectory for the meeting. All
ladies of our parish are welcome to join us. We will be serving
coffee/tea; if anyone would like to bring any dainties, that would
be wonderful.



TOY DRIVE AND FOOD BANK

Thank you for your generous support in donating non-perishable
food items to the Food Bank and the children for donating some
of their toys to the Toy Drive.



FAITH FORMATION STUDY

Jesus and the Dead Sea Scrolls (Via Email or In-Person)

January 9th to February 27th, 2024, Tuesdays 7:00pm

8 Episodes on the greatest archeological discovery of the 20th
century gave the world the Dead Sea Scrolls. As the oldest
sacred documents of Judaism, the scrolls have many surprising
connections to early Christianity. Biblical scholar Dr. John
Bergsma and Franciscan University of Steubenville president
Father Dave Pivonka, TOR, discuss the history and mysteries of
the scrolls, what they reveal about Jesus Christ, the sacraments,
and the early Church, and why they matter to believers and non-
believers today.



REFLECTIONS FROM FATHER'S DESK...



January 14, 2024.

2nd Sunday of O.T. (B)

“THE LOOK OF JESUS: “Jesus looked at him and said, ‘You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas’ (which means Peter).” This look of Jesus was a look of choice. It entailed a calling for Jesus had plans for Peter. He would commission him to continue His mission to be the Rock who would give stability, strength and solidity as head of the college of the apostles. This look of Jesus must have brought Peter immense joy and excitement. However, in another scene during the passion, Jesus looks straight at Peter as he denies him. This second look was of compassion brought Peter sorrow and disappointment. Peter wept bitterly. Tradition has it that tears caused furrows in Peter’s cheeks. Peter indeed was the rock but what a porous rock he was! He just collapsed and crumbled before a servant girl and three times denied Jesus. Sadly, as the gospel records “Peter followed at a distance.” If we are to be faithful to Jesus we need to follow him very closely. When there is a distance between us and Jesus, we are very likely to go our own way and worse still lose sight and track of Jesus. The more we do so, the wider the distance becomes. When Jesus calls and chooses us, He knows us inside out: our strengths and weaknesses, our assets and liabilities.

Happiness is not the absence of problems; it’s the ability to deal with them.

January 21, 2024.

3rd Sunday of O.T. (B)

“THE CALL OF THE FIRST FOUR DISCIPLES: Simon and Andrew, James and John: two sets of Brothers, a common profession called by Jesus to a common vocation from being fishermen to being fishers of men. We are struck by the succinctness of the call from Jesus. Just two words: “Follow Me” and the promptitude of their response. They leave their nets immediately and follow Jesus. They do not debate, discuss, delay, dither or dillydally. They leave their boats and their nets and their father and their fellow fishermen and follow the Master.

Jesus offers them no map. Following him is not an ideology. It rather demands that we follow him. We must be so we are so fascinated by Jesus that we are prepared to give up everything and cling to and give to him. Where Jesus would be leading these first four disciples? They do not know. Often in life, we do not know when Jesus is leading us. That is not important and does not matter. What really is important and matters is to know that Jesus is leading us.

Jesus calls the first four disciples even as they are engaged in their daily work. It is in the “scriptures” of our daily ordinary lives that Jesus speaks to and calls us. It is there that we must learn to and look for him.

If you have a strong purpose in life, you don’t have to be pushed. Your passion will drive you there.

January 28, 2024.

4th Sunday of O.T. (B)

“AUTHORITY OVER EVIL: It is somewhat strange but significant that even in their synagogue there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit. Even holy places are not exempt from evil influences. But why does St. Mark insert the word “their”? Was what taking place there in their synagogue was not really true teaching and worship? What is because Jesus specifically went to their synagogue because it needed cleansing and purification?

Moses had alluded to a prophet to come who would speak with authority. That prophecy is fulfilled in the Gospel as recorded by St. Mark. Jesus is preaching in the synagogue. He preaches not like the scribes and Pharisees. He preaches with authority. The scribes and Pharisees cited the word of God. Jesus is the Word of God. Even the unclean spirit in the man in that synagogue who was possessed recognizes Jesus and shouts: “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? I know who you are: the Holy One of God!”

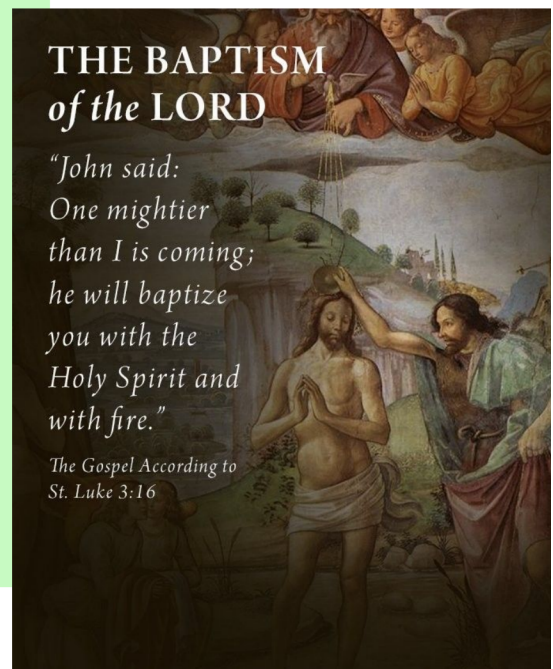
When we feel enslaved by evil and unable to break loose from the shackles of sin that bind us, we need to recall and remember that we have in Jesus a powerful God and a merciful Saviour! What power and authority Jesus displays as he exorcises that possessed man! When the Evil One tries, we must have recourse to Jesus who liberates us.

Certain things in life simply have to be experienced and never explained. Love is such a thing.

**FATHER NEWTON WILL BE AWAY FROM JAN. 7 TO FEB. 9, 2024.
WE WILL HAVE A VISITING PRIEST FOR WEEKEND MASSES .**

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday January 6, 5:00 pm, For the Parishioners (Pro Populo)
 Sunday January 7, 10:00 am, For the Parishioners (Pro Populo)
 Tuesday to Saturday No Week day Masses till February 10, 2024
 Saturday January 13, 5:00 pm
 Sunday January 14, 10:00 am
 Tuesday to Saturday No Week day Masses till February 10, 2024
 Saturday January 20, 5:00 pm
 Sunday January 21, 10:00 am
 Tuesday to Saturday No Week day Masses till February 10, 2024
 Saturday January 27, 5:00 pm
 Sunday January 28, 10:00 am
 Tuesday to Saturday No Week day Masses till February 10, 2024



THE BAPTISM of the LORD

*“John said:
 One mightier
 than I is coming;
 he will baptize
 you with the
 Holy Spirit and
 with fire.”*

*The Gospel According to
 St. Luke 3:16*

THE POPE’S INTENTION: JANUARY 2024

For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church: Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

LOCAL COMMUNITY PRAYER INTENTIONS

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



THE
 CONVERSION OF
 ST. PAUL
 BY CARAVAGGIO
[HTTPS://G.CO/KG
 S/YSAS5JR](https://g.co/kg/s/YSAS5JR)

DIOCESAN INFO

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



SUNDAY MASS READINGS

Jan 07 10:00 am Isaiah 60.1-6; Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2.1-12 (Epiphany of the Lord, S)
 Jan 14 10:00 am 1 Sam3.3b-10, 19; 1 Cor 6.13c-15a, 17-20; John 1.35-42 (2nd Sunday of O.T.)
 Jan 21 10:00 am Jonah 3.1-5, 10; 1 Cor 7.29-31; Mark 1. 14-20 (3rd Sunday of O.T.)
 Jan 28 10:00 am Deut 18.15-20; 1 Corinthians 7.32-35; Mark 1.21-28 (4th Sunday of O.T.)