

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISHES OF



ASSUMPTION

9040 95 AVENUE NW
EDMONTON AB T6C 1Z3

RESURRECTION

10555 50A STREET NW
EDMONTON, AB T6A 2C8

Advent 2020

The German musical tradition makes a clear distinction between hymns sung during Advent and hymns sung during Christmas. Advent speaks above all about anticipation or waiting, and of preparing: “Prepare the way of the Lord!” Christmas, on the other hand, speaks about Our Lord’s arrival: “Hark the Herald Angels Sing!”



I think that much of the fun of an adventure is actually in preparing for it and in anticipating it.

What greater adventure has there ever been than the great adventure of God, the Creator of all things, deciding to enter his own Creation, to assume to himself in his divine nature a created nature.

“For God so loved the world that he sent his only Son...”

This is what we celebrate at Christmas. The coming of God, the Messiah—the anointed one—into the world he created, into the world he created for us! Advent is the time we prepare again each year for this great feast day.

Some have an Advent Calendar to help them count down the days; some have an Advent Wreath, to mark the weeks in anticipation. Many websites are dedicated to providing fun family activities to mark this season of preparation and anticipation.

You might also like to visit our two Catholic bookstores and suppliers in Edmonton:

ST. JOHN OF GOD BOOKS AND SUPPLIES

9544 87 St NW, Edmonton AB T6C 3J1
(just down the street from Assumption church)
Tel. 780-463-4228

UNIVERSAL CHURCH SUPPLIES

9527-41 Ave NW, Edmonton AB T6E 5X7
Tel. 780-429-3153

December 6th is the feast day of St. Nicholas – Old St. Nick. In many countries, gifts are exchanged on the evening of December 5th because St. Nicholas used to secretly give gifts to people.

We are unable to gather during Advent this year as we usually would, but we can each mark this season at home in our own way. More than ever, we need physical reminders that we are not alone, common activities that remind us that we are part of a larger community, even if we each do those activities on our own in our own homes.

This Advent, why not listen to occasional Advent hymns or make or purchase an Advent Calendar to help us prepare for the great season of Christmas.

Here is a wonderful prayer for this Advent:

An Advent Prayer for Courage

Dear Heavenly Father,
Help me to hear your voice.
Touch me once again.
Give me the courage to be your beloved.
Give me courage to choose joy.
I need you now this Christmas.
Be born in me again. Today.
Amen.

~Bonnie Gray, from “Why it Takes Courage to Choose Joy”

“...choosing joy isn't really about what I want to do.
Choosing joy is about choosing who I really want to be.”

I wish you a blessed Advent as we prepare for Christmas!



I am sending out this letter to each of you, but our parish list is out of date.

If you know someone who did not receive this letter and would like to, let me know!

We are united through our baptism and in our prayer for each other.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Philip Creurer".

Fr. Philip Creurer

Pastor

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Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of the Parish Pastoral Council of Assumption and Resurrection parishes, I am pleased to offer greetings and sincere best wishes in faith and hope in Christ, as we conclude this year and cross the threshold of 2021. While all of us have had to face many challenges, and continue to do so, there is much for which we remain grateful.

We trust that Our Lord continually cares for His people and will provide for us all.

We are taking this opportunity to communicate with you, our parishioners, and update you concerning our past challenges, current situations, and future goals as a parish community.

As many of you are aware, most parishes in the Archdiocese are facing various challenges such as reduced attendance and financial contributions resulting in the layoff of parish staff, a declining number of available volunteers, fewer priests to celebrate Mass, and the strict requirements from Alberta Health Services to allow the celebration of the Eucharist. Our two Parishes have been affected by these factors and we regret that we have had to lay off staff as well. While the pandemic continues to unfold, we must be diligent in helping reduce the spread. Please pray that we will be able to continue to celebrate Mass in our church buildings and that parishioners and clergy throughout our Archdiocese will be safe and well.

Let us be grateful for God's blessings in our two Parishes:

- Masses celebrated at both Parishes are well attended. Thank you everyone for registering.
- Sacramental preparation and the celebration of the other Sacraments are gradually being re-introduced.
- Masses can now have some organ/piano music (but no congregational singing yet—we have some brave volunteers to act as cantors and expand their range of liturgical music!)
- Our Office staff and many volunteers work tirelessly for the good of all. Thank you!
- Fr. Philip has been well. No cases of COVID-19 have arisen. Thank you volunteers!
- Gianna House is doing well and provides great support.
- We are a home to the Traditional Latin Mass group. (celebrated at Assumption)
- Parishioners have increased financial contributions, so that our deficit from 2019 is largely eliminated.
- We are close to meeting our weekly current expenses.
- LRT construction is progressing. There is now increased access for parishioners to attend Masses at Assumption. When completed along with the Bonnie Doon redevelopment increasing residential dwellings (in the future), we are confident we will see some growth in both Parishes.

Since our twinning of Assumption and Resurrection Parishes in 2013, our goal has been to foster two viable and thriving faith communities. In this context, we function with a unified approach to the overall operations of the parishes, including a Parish Pastoral Council representing both parishes – to maintain of sense of the needs within each community. While recognizing the distinct character of each group, we strive to identify and address the specific needs as well as common areas of collaboration. The welfare of all is the focus of our deliberations and of any recommendation put forward to assist our pastor, Fr. Philip. We are truly blessed to have him as our Pastor whose devotion and care are evident in his kindness and presence.

We have much for which to be thankful. Let us continue to work together as good and faithful servants of the Lord and each other. Our prayer for you, our parishioners, is contained in Ephesians 3:14-19. We invite you to visit our website frequently for updates, bulletins, messages from our Pastor and contact information at www.arparish.ca

May God richly Bless you all, especially during the upcoming Advent and Christmas seasons, and in 2021.

Rob Taylor (Chair) on behalf of the Parish Pastoral Council

Members of the Pastoral Council

Miles Berry (past Chair)

Justin Mahe (Secretary)

Augustine Marah

Luke Marple

Josée Marr

Dan McIsaac

Stephen Mikulasik

Andrew Nelson

Catherine Tamsett

Rob Taylor (Chair)

Will you help us update our parish records?

Since COVID-19 has struck, with so many and unexpected effects, it has been difficult to reach out to all of you, not the least because our parish records are out of date.

In March, just after the pandemic shock first hit, I prepared to write a letter to all of you (do you still remember writing letters?), but I found that our database did not allow me to do this. We have slowly been working through our records.

If you would like us to update your parish record, please complete and return the form below (please print in block letters so we get it right!).

Thanks!

LAST NAME: _____

GIVEN NAMES: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

Date of Birth _____

Spouse (if any) _____

Is your spouse Catholic? Yes No

Dependent Children _____ birthdate: _____

_____ birthdate: _____

_____ birthdate: _____

_____ birthdate: _____

Tel. (landline) _____

Cell. _____

Email _____

Financial Contributions:

Would you be interested in signing up for regular financial contributions by automatic withdrawal? Yes No

Note: Financial contributions can also be made on-line through our parish website:
<https://www.arparish.ca/>

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS: THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Christmas Eve, Thursday 24 December 2020

- Resurrection – 4:00 p.m.
- Assumption – 5:30 p.m.
- Assumption (Latin Mass) – Midnight

Christmas Day, Friday 25 December 2020

- Assumption – 9:30 a.m.
- Resurrection – 11:00 a.m.
- Assumption (Latin Mass) – 12:30 p.m.

Boxing Day, Saturday 26 December 2020

- Assumption (Latin Mass) – 8:00 a.m.
- Resurrection – 4:00 p.m.
- Assumption – 5:30 p.m.

Sunday 27 December 2020

- Assumption – 9:30 a.m.
- Resurrection – 11:00 a.m.
- Assumption (Latin Mass) – 12:30 & 1:45 p.m.



Christmas Week: Monday 28 December to Wednesday 30 December

- No Mass for the Twin Parishes
- Parish Offices are closed
- *However: Latin Masses as follows at Assumption:*
 - Tuesday, 29 December – 7:30 a.m.
 - Wednesday, 30 December – 7:30 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S DAY: FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD



New Year's Eve: Thursday 31 December 2020

- Resurrection – 4:00 p.m.
- Assumption (Latin Mass) – 5:30 p.m. with Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament

New Year's Day: Friday 1 January 2021

- Assumption – 9:30 a.m.
- Resurrection – 11:00 a.m.
- Assumption (Latin Mass) – 12:30 p.m. and 1:45 p.m.

Saturday, 2 January 2021

- Assumption (Latin Mass) – 8:00 a.m.
- Resurrection – 4:00 p.m.
- Assumption – 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, 3 January 2021

- Assumption – 9:30 a.m.
- Resurrection – 11:00 a.m.
- Assumption (Latin Mass) – 12:30 p.m. and 1:45 p.m.