

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISHES OF



ASSUMPTION

9040 95 AVENUE NW
EDMONTON AB T6C 1Z3

RESURRECTION

10555 50A STREET NW
EDMONTON, AB T6A 2C8

Advent 2022

*He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and
the world knew him not.
He came unto his own, and his own received him not.
But as many as received him, he gave them power to be
made the sons of God, to them that believe in his name.*

John 1:10-12



I imagine that you paint a picture. A picture that surpasses the Mona Lisa in capturing elusive human beauty, a picture that exceeds the sunshine captured in Van Gogh's sunflowers, or that captures the light reflected in Monet's water garden.

And then imagine you could step into that painting you created.

What would you see in the world you created of which the canvass is only the gateway or threshold? What if you could give life to the picture you painted that, for all its charm, is yet only a "still life"?

Jesus, as God, is the author of all that is. He is the master painter of Creation. But he chose not just to stare at and admire the good of all that he created. He chose to enter into that creation, to take on the human nature he fashioned in his own image and likeness, and to ennoble it with the touch of his divinity. The Creator assumes the created to himself, he "comes into his own".

And he came not in great power so as to impose himself on "his own". He came as a child who can only be "received" by his own, as a child who remits his life into the hands of his creatures totally and absolutely.

To become a friend means to put ourself into the hands of the other, to accept a relationship that escapes our absolute control, to embrace our vulnerability and offer it on the altar of friendship, to give power over ourselves to another. Friendship knows no other path than that of yielding to the beloved.

This is what God has done for us. In the Incarnation, in assuming to himself what he created—our human nature—he has offered us his friendship. And this offer of friendship is signified in the vulnerability of the Christ-child lying in the manger, the child who can offer nothing but to be received into his own.

God, in a sense, has yielded his absolute power to us, the power to enter into relationship with him, the power to become sons and daughters of God-the-Father, and adopted brothers and sisters of God-the-Son.

Advent is a time to reflect on what we have done with the power God has yielded to us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Creurer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a long, sweeping tail.

Fr. Philip Creurer
Pastor

