

4TH SUNDAY OF AVENT



The birth of the Messiah gives the church great hope. Although secular celebrations of Christmas ignore the significance of the holy day, the church gives us Advent to help us keep our focus. We reorient our hearts and minds to recall, once again, the mysterious glory of the Incarnation. In these weeks of yuletide preparation, we stop to remind ourselves what it means to be Christian, in case we have begun taking it for granted. To be Christian is to believe that God is truly with us, in the most personal intimate way imaginable; he is one of us! "They shall name him Emmanuel, which means God is with us." Through the Incarnation, God became human and lived among us to love us, to guide us, to heal us, and to strengthen us. It is the promise of a savior given through the early prophets, a promise that the faithful held dear as they waited. As that most beautiful of all anniversaries approaches, celebrate this season remembering the greatest gift ever given to every person - the gift of a Savior.

Reverse Collection for Sacred Heart Parish

A great big thank you to all involved in the Reverse Collection for Sacred Heart Parish over the last 2 weeks. Thank you to the generous parishioners at OLPH for the many donations of both food and cash and to the Young Disciples, the ABJ Girls Basketball team, and many parishioners for your assistance with the sorting and boxing of the food on Dec. 10 and 11. Thank you to the shoppers who spent the **cash donations of over \$1000.00** to purchase additional food and to the parishioners who lent an able hand to box up and ready the food for delivery on Dec. 12. Thank you to the staff and students from ABJ who helped to load and deliver the many boxes of food from our parish to Sacred Heart Parish on Dec. 13 where they assembled over 80 hampers of food for those in need. Thanks also to the office staff and the ushers for your help as well. A special thank you to those who initiated, coordinated and worked on this project. Last, but not least, thank you to the parish at large for your generous support of this venture. Would that you could all experience the smiles and hugs of the folks at Sacred Heart. THANK YOU for being Christ's hands and feet and messengers of love and generosity. God Bless you all.

Knights of Columbus Potluck Supper

Monday, December 19, 2016 - 5:30pm to 8:30pm

Location: OLPH small hall (Meeting Room)

Attention all Knights of Columbus members and spouses; join us for the Advent Christmas potluck supper and sing songs. Beginning at 5:30 pm with supper at 6:00 pm. There will be a cash bar. Please bring either a salad, main course or dessert. Please call Kevin Doucette@ 587-269-2224 or email at kevin_j26@hotmail.com and let him know what you will bring. Thank you



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

A Roman Catholic Christian Community

We come together at our Lord's invitation to worship God, celebrate the sacraments, and deepen our faith. We strive to be thankful, generous and welcoming, and are sent forth to help advance God's Kingdom on earth by proclaiming the Gospel and serving others.

December 18, 2016 Fourth Sunday of Advent A



Christmas & New Year Mass Times

December 24th: 4:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.
9:00 p.m. & 12:00 midnight.

****Incense will be used at the Midnight Mass only****

December 25th: 8:30 am & 10:30 a.m. **only**
December 31st at 5:00 pm **only**
January 1st at 8:30 am, 10:30 am & 5:00 pm

ABSOLUTELY NO PARKING
AT THE PARK PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Reminder 2016 Income Tax Receipts

PLEASE NOTE: All contributions to be recorded for 2016 must be received by the Parish **NO LATER** then Sunday, December 25th, 2016.



Together We Serve

Thanks to your generosity, OLPH

Parish has met and surpassed the 2016 assessment of \$114,000 for **Together We Serve**.

ATTENTION EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS "WE NEED YOU"



We are still in need of Eucharistic Ministers for the upcoming Christmas and New Year Masses. Please sign up on the sheets located in the church foyer.



Holiday Office Hours



Please Note: The Parish Office will be closed from Saturday, December 24th to Tuesday, January 3rd 2017.

***There will be No Reconciliation on Saturday, December 24th.**

Usher's Needed for all Masses on Christmas Eve up to New Year's Day

Numerous Ushers are still needed for the different Mass times on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Please sign up on the sheets located on the inside of the door to the Usher's Room. Your attendance is very much appreciated. Thank You.

We are in need of Volunteers to help put up the chairs in the Parish hall on Thursday, December 22nd at 4pm for the Christmas Eve Mass. Thank You!

We Remember, We Celebrate, We Believe

*13 Brower Drive, Sherwood Park, AB T8H 1Y7 Telephone: 780-467-5470 Fax: 780-467-0530
email: info@olph.ca Website: www.olph.ca Archdiocesan website: <http://www.caedm.ca>*

Liturgy Schedule and Mass Times for Monday Dec. 18 - Sunday, Dec. 25

Mon: 8:45 am Morning Prayer
Tues: 8:45 am Morning Prayer, 6:15 pm Mass
Wed: 8:45 am Morning Prayer, 9:00 am Mass,
Thurs: 8:45 am Morning Prayer, 6:15 pm Mass
Fri: 8:45 am Morning Prayer, 9:00 am Mass
Sat: 4:00 pm Mass (upstairs & downstairs),
6:30 pm Mass, 9:00 pm Mass,
12:00 Midnight Mass.
Sun: 8:30 am Mass & 10:30 am Mass.

Mass Intentions.....

Tues. Dec. 20: Gladys Rodriguez† Oscar Vasquez†
Bob Papineau† Ambrose Sieben, Bennett Draganiuk
John Hubert Gallant†
Wed. Dec. 21: Emil Wysocki† Emmy Rakoche†
Thurs. Dec. 22: Bob Papineau† Alexander Sox †
Emil Wysocki†
Fri. Dec. 23: Marie-Aline, Theresa & Pat Lema,
Taylor Berezan, Carmen Draganiuk, Bob Papineau†
Denise Black†

Thank you for your service!

In the Gospel, St. Joseph is having a moment of doubt. Yet, he opens himself up to God's plan in true obedience. Through Jesus Christ, God who is with us, we too are able to open ourselves up to God. One way in which we do this is through service to our brothers and sisters around the world. *Thank you* for your service and generosity to our brothers and sisters in Haiti, who survived the devastation of Hurricane Matthew. **To date, the Catholic community in the Archdiocese of Edmonton has raised over \$140,000.00 for this emergency.** Through Development and Peace, you have provided food to 13,500 of the most vulnerable people. 40% of those requiring aid, are children. For more information: dpwest@devp.org or 1-844-480 DEVP.

Parishioners using contribution envelopes

Your 2017 envelopes are available for you to pick up in the foyer of the church.

Reminder: DO NOT USE YOUR NEW CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES UNTIL 2017.

Pastor

Msgr. Jack Hamilton - jack.h.vg@gmail.com

Associate Pastor

Fr. Raj Savariappan - rajfather@olph.ca

Assistant Pastor

Fr. Pierre Ducharme, OFM
pducharme@olph.ca

Pastoral Assistants

Betty Donovan- pastoralcare@olph.ca

Sue Boyne - pastoralcare@olph.ca

Monna Senez - msenez@olph.ca

Brother Joe Glaab, OFM - jglaab@olph.ca

Raylene Yuzyk - ryuzyk@olph.ca

Pat Lemire-plemire@olph.ca

Business & Facility Manager & Volunteer Coordinator

Brenda Frederick - bfrederick@olph.ca

Administrative Assistants

Lorraine Dotto - ldotto@olph.ca

Jenny Velazco - jvelazco@olph.ca

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

(780) 416 - 0931

Help Line: ext 1

Donations: ext 2

Marian Gift Shop Hours



The Marian Gift Shop will be opened on Saturday after 5:00 pm Mass, Sunday after 8:30 am & 10:30 am Mass only.

OLPH Prayer Laudators

We pray for others. Prayers of praise and intercession are offered to God our Father. Confidentiality is respected at all times. Contact: **Doreen** at 467-0597 or **Josie** 467-0197.



Reminder to CWL Members
Memberships are due by Dec. 31st.

Parish News

Stewardship Reflections: December 18 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Doubt and confusion are not unique to us, even in matters essential to our faith. People have long asked for signs from God when they are in turmoil. Joseph's deep question about Mary is the focus of today's Gospel. His moving forward on the strength of answers given in a dream should be a source of deep encouragement for us. Serious questions are not inappropriate; in fact, they can lead to amazing answers and events.

"Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home." Matthew 1:20

Weekly Readings For: December 19 - December 25

December 19 - First Reading: Judges 13.2-7, 24-25a; Gospel: Luke 1.5-25

December 20 - First Reading: Isaiah 7.10-14; 8.10d; Gospel: Luke 1.26-38

December 21 - First Reading: Isaiah 45.6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Luke 1.39-45

December 22 - First Reading: 1 Samuel 1.24-28; Gospel: Luke 1.46-56

December 23 - First Reading: Malachi 3.1-4; 4.5-6; Gospel: Luke 1.57-66

December 24 - First Reading: 2 Samuel 7.1-5, 8-12, 16; Gospel: Luke 1.67-79

December 25 - First Reading: Isaiah 62.11-12; Gospel: Luke 2.15-20



Poinsettias for Decorating

The Seasonal Decorating Committee would be very grateful for donations of poinsettias or other Christmas flowers to help decorate the Sanctuary and Parish Hall for our Christmas celebrations. Red, pink, white – all colours are very welcome! We are always so touched when families choose to donate flowers in memory of a loved one; it's such a beautiful way to show they are still with us at this special time of year. If you wish to donate flowers, please drop them off at the church office **beginning Monday, December 19th up until Thursday, December 22nd**. May God bless you as we continue to journey through Advent.



First Reconciliation and First Communion 2016/2017

Congratulations to all those who made their First Reconciliation this fall!
The retreats for First Communion will be held on:

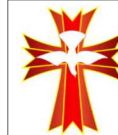
Sunday, February 26th at OLPH Parish from 1-3pm

or

Saturday, March 11th at OLPH Parish from 1-3pm

You may book your child's First Communion for any Mass following Easter Sunday.

If you have any questions please contact Raylene at the Parish Office 780-467-5470 or ryuzyk@olph.ca



Confirmation 2017 (Grade 6 and older)

Still accepting registration for Confirmation 2017. Contact **Raylene** at the Parish office at 780-467-5470 or ryuzyk@olph.ca