

Second Sunday of Advent

Prayer for God's Work in Us

Good and gracious God,
source of all light and joy,
in the beginning, you created us to be your own.
You filled us with grace at our Baptism,
calling us to love and know you.

You helped us to discern what is of value in this life
and to seek out our good in your light.
Continue your work in us, O Lord,
so that we might be renewed in faith
and prepare the way of your Son.

Every day, Lord, continue your work in us,
so that at the coming of Christ Jesus,
we can show forth the glory of your name
and be a sign of your presence on this earth.

We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Preparing

During the four weeks of Advent, many people put up Christmas decorations. We might also prepare by thinking about what we could let go of as we anticipate more presents than we really need. Weeding out a toy basket or a clothes closet is a good start. And some people, instead of buying gifts, donate money to the favorite charities of the people on their list. However you prepare for the season, allow its spiritual abundance to overshadow the material.



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 4, 2016 Second Sunday of Advent A



This Holy Light: The Annual Evening Of Advent Song & Reflection

This Sunday, December 4th, 7:00 pm
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church,
13 Brower Drive

An ecumenical event for the whole family.
Bring your friends and neighbors, too!
Donations for the Strathcona Food Bank
will be gratefully accepted.



**Feast Of The Immaculate
Conception of
The Blessed Virgin Mary**
Thursday, December 8th
Mass at 9:00 am
OLPH Parish

ADVENT PENITENTIAL CELEBRATION

This year our Advent Celebration of Reconciliation will take place Thursday, December 8th, 2016 at 7:00 pm. If you are unable to attend the service at our parish, please consider attending the penitential service at one of the other parishes.

All services are at 7 pm
St. Agnus Parish, Wednesday, Dec. 7
St. Theresa's Parish - Monday, Dec. 12
St. Anthony Parish - Wednesday, Dec. 14
St. Thomas More - Wednesday, Dec. 14
Assumption & Resurrection Twin Parish - both on Thursday, Dec. 15
Our Lady Of The Angels - Monday, Dec. 19

ATTENTION EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Eucharistic Ministers are asked to sign up for Masses during the Christmas Liturgies. Use the sheets posted on the small cabinet in the foyer. Early sign-up is appreciated.

OLPH Parish Donations - Jan. 1 – Nov.30, 2016

As of November 30, we are **\$220,622** short of our goal.

	Ordinary Receipts	Building Restoration
November 30 (48 weeks)	1,079,378	111,153
Budget to November 30	1,200,000	124,615
November 30 (48 weeks) Shortfall	-\$120,622	-\$13,462
Together We Serve (Goal \$114,000)	YTD \$101,734	

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. 5 - Sunday, Dec. 11**

Mon: 8:45 am Morning Prayer
Tues: 8:45 am Morning Prayer, 6:15 pm Mass – Bereaved
Wed: 8:45 am Morning Prayer, 9:00 am Mass
Thurs: 8:45 am Morning Prayer, **9:00 am Mass - (The Immaculate Conception)**
7:00 pm Advent Penitential
Fri: 8:45 am Morning Prayer, 9:00 am Mass,
11:30 am Funeral Mass for Margot Beier
Sat: 10:00 am Reconciliation,
11:00 am Funeral for Claudette Shenduk
 5:00 pm Mass/Commissioning of new Volunteers
Sun: 8:30 am Mass, 10:30 am Mass/Commissioning of new Volunteers, 5:00 pm Mass

Mass Intentions.....

Tues. Dec. 6: Murray Chupka †
Wed. Dec. 7: Nancy Manning, Merle Draganiuk, Nadia Farion †
Thurs. Dec. 8: Harry †
Fri. Dec. 9: Bob Remillard †



† In Loving Remembrance....

We extend our deepest sympathy and the assurance of the prayers of God's people here at Our Lady of Perpetual Help to:

Florence Mendiuk. Forence's sister, **Nadia Farion** died November 20th in Vegreville, AB.
 Paul & Agnes Skinner. Paul's dad, **Gordon Skinner** died November 27th in Ontario.
 Sybille Henrich and family. Sybille's mother, **Margot Beier**, died November 16th in Edmonton.
 Allan Shenduk & Family. Allan's wife, **Claudette Shenduk** died November 29th in Edmonton.

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.**

Office Hours - Weekdays

Mon-Thurs

8:30 a.m.- 9:00 p.m.

Friday

8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Office is closed from

12 p.m. - 1 p.m. weekdays

***Please note that the Parish Office is closed on Weekends.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. or by appointment.

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.

Parish News

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.

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.**

Sunday 5PM Commentators needed!

If the 5PM Sunday is your regular Mass or you can help by being available for this Mass we would like you to join us. This is not a high volume requirement as you would only be scheduled once every 6 or 7 weeks, even less if we get more volunteers. Training will be provided. Please contact the Sunday 5PM Captain, Ed Burchmore at 780-464-4326, or call the Parish office at 780-467-5470. Your help is very much appreciated.



**Encore's Seniors Group
Pre-Christmas Lunch
Tuesday, December 13th**

Join us at Swiss Chalet located on Baseline Rd. for a Pre-Christmas celebration on Tuesday, December 13th at 12 noon. Please RSVP as soon as possible to John at 780-464-5991 so reservations can be made. Everyone will be responsible for their own lunch. Looking forward to seeing you!



**Every time a Child is born,
so is a Mother**

The JETS women's group is thrilled to be sponsoring a Baby Shower for the Terra Centre for Teen Parents this Friday, December 9th, for 30 brave, young women. Coming from all sorts of situations, these new moms have decided to finish their education to make a better life for themselves and their new little families. This is a reminder to members to bring or drop off your grocery donations for our pasta and ice cream luncheon by Friday morning. We will be carpooling down to the School, located at 9539 67A Street NW, at 9:30 am sharp. Our own nursery and childcare providers will be on duty so JETsetters can leave their bundles of joy to help others with theirs!



A Baby's laugh is an angel's voice...



CWL Christmas Social

The CWL will be hosting their annual Christmas Social on Monday December 12th at 6:00 pm in the Meeting room. Our evening will begin with a service for our deceased sisters at 6:00 pm. Please bring a friend and a SMALL plate of finger food to share. Margo, Joan and Nan will lead us in carols.



Sr's Floor Curling

Please Note: Last day for curling before Christmas is December 14th. Curling will resume in the New Year on January 11, 2017.

Gluten-Free Hosts

As of last weekend and going forward, there will be a station serving gluten-free hosts. The Eucharistic Minister will stand between the stations in the center aisle wearing a sign that identifies the purpose of the station. If you have any questions, please contact the **Parish** at **780-467-5470.**

Archbishop Jordan Choir Presents



ARCHBISHOP JORDAN CHOIR PRESENTS

Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful.

DINNER CHRISTMAS CONCERT AND FUNDRAISER

Tuesday, December 13 at 5:45pm OLPH Parish Hall

Tickets are \$25/adult, \$15/Children 6 - 12 years,
Children 5 years and under free

Tickets are available from Choir Members or at the Parish Office

Tickets **will not** be available at the door

We will enjoy a spaghetti dinner and Performances by
the ABJ Choirs

There will be raffle baskets, a wine basket and silent
auction items for you to bid on.

(Proceeds to support the Choir's trip to Whistler in May 2017)

Cantando Music Festival May 2017

Winding our way to Whistler



The L'Arche Association of Edmonton will hold its annual Christmas Pageant on Monday, Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. at St. Thomas d'Aquin Church, 8410 89 St. This is a beautiful L'Arche Edmonton Christmas tradition as developmentally disabled members of our community re-enact the Nativity Scene in full costume. There is no charge for this event, but we invite guests to bring a non-perishable food item for the Edmonton Food Bank. Following the pageant, join

us for refreshments and the opportunity to purchase Christmas presents at the popular Day Program Craft Sale! For more information, phone **Maria** at **780-465-0618, ext. 206**.



The National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples has been celebrated by the Catholic Church in Canada since 2002 on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe - the Patroness of the Americas. I am honoured to invite you and members of your community to a solemn Mass in which we entrust to the intercession of Our Lady the needs of our First Nation, Métis, and Inuit brothers and sisters. Please join us at 7 p.m. on **Monday, December 12**, at St. Joseph's Basilica.

This Mass flows from an initiative undertaken in 2014 that we honour this feast day of the Americas with a gathering of First Nation, Métis, and Inuit peoples at the Cathedral Church of the Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton. It is my hope that every year we will continue the tradition of gathering together in prayer with people from across the Archdiocese.

Most Rev. Richard W. Smith, Archbishop of Edmonton

Children's Sacraments



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



Religion Home Program Catechetics (Religious Education) Home Program

Do you have school-aged children who are not in our Catholic Schools? If so we invite you to journey with your child at home, using the Home Program. Parents work with their children at home using materials published by the CCCB and adapted for use in the home.

And there are catechists who will journey with you throughout the year offering help where needed.

If you are interested in taking advantage of this program, please contact

Sr. Gertrude at **780-417-3626** or email gemsic@telusplanet.net; or **Christine** at **780-417-4773** / email: ccustodi@shaw.ca.

No Room In The Inn



For the last 15 years, the Archdiocese of Edmonton has participated in an ecumenical justice housing initiative called No Room in the Inn, based on the biblical story of Mary and Joseph being homeless after discovering that there was no room in the inn in Bethlehem the night that Jesus was born. No Room in the Inn appeals to the people of churches in Edmonton and area at Christmas time to think about those living in our community who

do not have adequate and safe housing.

Each year the No Room in the Inn Committee selects a specific affordable housing project and organizational sponsor to support.

This year's offering will assist with renovations to [A Safe Place](#), a shelter for women and their children fleeing abuse, operated by the Strathcona Shelter Society Ltd. In 2015-2016, A Safe Place provided accommodation to 567 women and children and answered 2,000 crisis calls. For more information on No Room in the Inn and how you can help, visit <http://caedm.ca/NoRoomInTheInn>

*A shoot shall sprout from the root of Jesse and a bud shall blossom.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, a spirit of wisdom
and of understanding, of counsel and strength.*

Reflections & Readings

Stewardship Reflections: December 4 – Second Sunday of Advent

In a chaotic world filled with personal, political and often environmental turmoil, it is easy to long for someone coming from the outside to help us, to “fix” things. But today we are reminded that something is also required of us. Preparing for Christ was and is a serious task, involving our own need for hope and repentance. We can look to Jesus for solace and assistance, but we are called to “make straight his paths” and to “produce good fruit as evidence of (our) repentance.” His coming makes great demands on us.

“Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance.” Matthew 3:8

Weekly Readings For: December 5 - December 11

December 5 - First Reading: Isaiah 35.1-10; Gospel: Luke 5.17-26

December 6 - First Reading: Isaiah 40.1-11; Gospel: Matthew 18.12-14

December 7 - First Reading: Isaiah 40.25-31; Matthew 11.28-30

December 8 - First Reading: Genesis 3.9-15, 20; Gospel: Luke 1.16-38

December 9 - First Reading: Isaiah 48.17-19; Gospel: Matthew 11.16-19

December 10 - First Reading: Sirach 48.1-4, 9-11; Gospel: Matthew 17.10-13

December 11 - First Reading: Isaiah 35.1-6a, 10; Gospel: Matthew 11.2-11



Pray For Our Seminarians - The week of (December 5 - December 10)

This week please pray for the following seminarians discerning a vocation to the priesthood:

**(Dec.5) Barry T. (Dec.6) Bonnie F. & Brian T. (Dec.7) Chad M. & Chinh V.
(Dec.8) Christopher J. (Dec.9) Curtis B. (Dec.10) Daniel J.**

Heavenly Father,

bless your Church in the Archdiocese of Edmonton with an abundance of holy and zealous priests, deacons, religious, and seminarians.

Give those You have called to the married state and those

You have chosen to live as single persons in the world, the Special graces that their lives require. Form us all in the likeness of Your Son so that in Him, With Him, and through Him we may love You more deeply and serve You more faithfully, always and everywhere. With the virgin mother Mary we ask this through Christ your Son. Amen



Lighthouse Catholic CD's

Why not spread a *little Holiness* with your *Christmas cheer* this year?! The **Lighthouse Catholic Media stand** has been re-stocked with new titles just in time for *Advent* Reflections and *Christmas* Gift-giving. Each CD contains one talk by a renowned Catholic speaker. There are titles about traditional Advent and Christmas themes, as well as many on other topics and challenges in our current culture. Great teacher gifts and stocking stuffers!

Parish News

Reverse Collection

As we approach the season of Advent, we often start to think about others and how we can make their celebrations of Christ's birth more joyous. Once again on the weekend of Dec. 3/4 we will be having our reverse collection for the needs of the Sacred Heart Church in downtown Edmonton. Their need is great; the resources few. The needs of our Strathcona County residents for Christmas hampers are being taken care of by the Strathcona Christmas Bureau.

There are several ways to volunteer;

Dec. 3/4 - At each Mass to assist with the distribution of the slips.

Dec. 10/11 - At each Mass to assist with collecting and sorting food downstairs.

Dec. 12 - “Boxing up” the food for delivery to Sacred Heart Parish.

Dec. 12-16 - Assist at Sacred Heart with hamper preparation.

Contact **Pat Lemire** at the **Parish Office** at **780-467-5470** or **Len Stang** at **780-467-8412**.



CWL Memberships are due by December 31st.

Grey Cup Winners

1st quarter - Bev Bignall, Edmonton

2nd quarter - Heather Corbin, Ardrossan

3rd quarter - Tyler Heykants, Edmonton

Final Score - Kelly Havixbeck, Sherwood Park

Thank you very much to all who helped sell our tickets. See you next year - CWL.

ABJ Geomeer Project in Need of Boxes

ABJ is in need of 200 large boxes for their Geomeer (Christmas Hamper Social Justice initiative). We would really appreciate you dropping off your boxes at Archbishop Jordan.

Thank you in advance. Any questions please contact **Melissa Damur** via email at

melissad@eics.ab.ca

OLPH Potluck Friday - December 16th



**LAST Parish Potluck for this year
will happen on**

Friday December 16th at 6:30 PM

Please plan to attend and bring your friends and neighbours too!

(Make sure to bring your singing voices and any musical instruments you may have kicking around!) More details will be provided next week as the planning intensifies and takes shape.

This promises to be an evening not to be missed!



Novena Evening Masses

The Simbang Committee at St. Theresa Parish, 7508 - 29 Avenue, Edmonton, invites you to join us for 9 Novena evening masses from **December 15 through 23**. All masses begin at 7:30 p.m., except on Sunday, December 18, when we begin at 6 p.m. Each evening features a different choir.