Church Open/Office Hours 7:30 am to 7:30 pm 7 days a week Mass, Adoration & Reconciliation at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

Weekday Mass

Mornings: Monday to Saturday 8:30 am Evenings: Monday to Friday 6:15 pm *Special Time 5:00 pm on Wednesday and Friday this week only! **Sunday Mass**

Saturday vigil 5:00 pm Sunday 8:30 am, 10:30 am, 12:30 pm and 7:00 pm Sunday Mass in Tofield: 11:00 am St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday to Friday: Immediately Following Morning and Evening Mass Saturday 9:15 am to 11:00 am

Advent DAY OF CONFESSION: Saturday December 16, 9:15 am - 4:30 pm

Adoration

*****EVERY FRIDAY a Holy Hour prior to each daily Mass***** 7:30 am prior to Morning Mass and 5:15 pm prior to Evening Mass



Every Wednesday Holy Hour 5:15 pm prior to Evening Mass: 1st Wednesday hosted by Mary's Servants for Christ: January 3, 2024 2nd Wednesday hosted by Society of St. Vincent de Paul: December 13 *special time 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm due to school advent concert in church that evening 3rd Wednesday hosted by CWL: December 20 *will also end early at 6:00 pm 4th Wednesday hosted by K of C: December 27



For the benefit of the faithful whose health or other circumstances prevent them from attending the church in person, all Masses and Adoration will continue to be livestreamed from our OLPH website www.olph.ca/video/ or at facebook.com/olphsherwoodpark/videos

WATCH the 8:30 am Mass, seven days a week, live on Telus Optik TV Channel 877. (Must be a Telus Optik subscriber.)

LISTEN to the 8:30 am Sunday Mass live - or anytime - from your landline or cell phone. Dial 888-OLPH-808 (888-657-4808) and then follow the simple instructions.

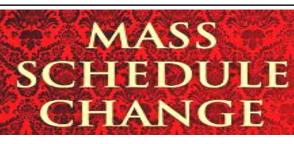


Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish ~ A Roman Catholic Christian Community Sunday December 10, 2023 ~ Second Sunday of Advent We Remember, We Celebrate, We Believe

13 Brower Drive, Sherwood Park, AB T8H 1Y7 780-467-5470 www.olph.ca

Day of Confessions Saturday December 16 9:00 am - 4:30 pm





2ND SUNDAY OF Advent



CHRIST'S COMING, PREPARING OUR HEARTS TO RECEIVE HIM ANEW

Most Needed Donations:

- Youth 7-18
- Men's & Ladies' winter boots, coats & mitten/gloves.
- Bedding (sheets, blankets & pillows)

Please drop donations for the Clothing Nook in the bin by the elevator during regular Parish Office Hours. THANK YOU!



Please note, THIS WEEK SOME **ADJUSTMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE EVENING MASS SCHEDULE** as we welcome 2 of our Elk Island Catholic Schools for Advent Celebrations:

Wednesday December 13 – Adoration at 4:00 pm, Evening Mass at 5:00 pm (No 6:15 pm Mass), St. Nicholas School concert to follow.

Friday December 15 – Adoration at 4:00 pm, Evening Mass at 5:00 pm (No 6:15 pm Mass), Madonna Catholic School concert to follow.

A humble and heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who has continued to support the financial needs of our parish with (PAD) Pre-Authorized Debit or by bringing your Sunday Giving Envelopes to the church. OLPH is Interac also set up to accept donations via INTERAC **ETRANSFER at:** e-Transfer



OLPH.etransfer@caedm.ca

Please include your Envelope # OR address and any special instructions in the Message Box for the e-transfer, to ensure your donation is properly recorded for your annual tax receipt.



December 11 - 16

Monday ~ Mervyn Lynch[‡], Lois Schatz[‡], Ely

Agravante⁺, Danielle & Reese Shortman, Sharon Darbyshire, Victims of Mindanao University, Marie, Kristine Bautista, Jean Martin, Dan Malone

Tuesday ~ Suzanne Borosevich[‡], Jim Mitchell[‡],

Dolores Bourgeois[†], Fr. Wilf Murchland[†], Marvin & Gail Weleschuk & family, Dick & Elaine Broower, Margo Boisvert, Michael, Fr. Kevin Gillis, Lucienne Holzman, Pat Heck

Wednesday ~ Teresa Paul[†], Lennard Sebastian[†], Mary Wesko[†], Fr. Don Stein[†], Steven Weimann[†], Fr. Leo Floyd[†], Judy & Kevin McKinney[†], Carmen Prince[†], Edward Kole Koscielny[†], Devlin Family, Danielle & Reese Shortman, Kelly Thompson & family Thursday ~ Henri Helmers[‡], Betty Prenoslo[‡], Kenneth James[†], Brian Hashimoto[†], Jim Mitchell[†], Wm & Rose Peiche⁺, Leoncia Manalo Untalan⁺, Edith Milan, Marvin & Gail Weleschuk & family, Marcelino & Linda De Sousa, Benjamin Tsang

Friday ~ Graham Otway[†], Bryce Clarke[†], Betty Lou

Lawrence[†], Holy Souls in Purgatory[†], Peter Lema[†],

Kayla Revoy[†], Luiza Pinto[†], Rita Prince[†], The Labbe & Lefebvre families, Teresa Kozak

Saturday ~ Rogelio & Emerita Aseron[†], Bernadeth Habbiling[†], Louis Gagnon[†], Roky Lukos[†], Holy Souls in Purgatory[†], Deannine Dechant[†], Kevin Lester Aberilla, Sulit Family, Madeline Thomassen

Your OLPH Parish Team

Pastor ~ Fr. Jim Corrigan icorrigan@olph.ca

Associate Pastor Fr. Ben Makkollil, CMI frben@olph.ca

Associate Pastor Fr. Mario Villaraza, SDB frmario@olph.ca

Permanent Deacon **Deacon Lynn Pion** lpion@olph.ca

Business Coordinator Deacon Arden Playford aplayford@olph.ca

Pastoral Assistant Natalie Lavigne <u>nlavigne@olph.ca</u>

Administrative Assistant Jenny Velazco ivelazco@olph.ca

Administrative Assistant Angie DeWolfe adewolfe@olph.ca

Volunteer Management vmteam@olph.ca

Other Inquiries: info@olph.ca Parish Office 780-467-5470

Website: www.olph.ca

Follow Us on Facebook: facebook.com/ olphsherwoodpark

Archdiocese of Edmonton Website: www.caedm.ca

In event of an emergency, call the church office to connect with the Priest On Call 780-467-5470



TOFIELD CORNER ~ St. Francis of Assisi Parish ~ Mass every Sunday at 11:00 am

"Blessed are those who endure in peace, for by You, Most High, they shall be crowned". "Lord make me an instrument of thy peace." Quotes from St. Francis of Assisi.

2nd Sunday of Advent ~ In this Sunday's readings, we are advised by Peter to prepare and strive to be found by Him at peace. Advent is a time to review and renew ourselves, not only for the coming of the baby Jesus, but for the time we are called by God to have "straightened the way" of the Lord in the valleys and mountains of our hearts. Let's make the uneven ground even, not only for ourselves but to help others do the same, by being an instrument of peace.

- 1. Christmas weekend schedule- December 24th Sunday Mass will be as usual at 11:00 am. December 25th - Monday - Christmas Day - Mass will be at 11:00 am also.
- 2. Food Bank Thank you to everyone who made Food Bank donations in November. We were able to donate 162.9 lbs and \$450.00 in money. Let's continue to do our part in the acts of mercy for our less fortunate brothers and sisters in our community. And we do collect year round for the Food Bank. Thank you to Sandy and Liz who make this all possible for us!
- Christmas Novena We have decided to do a Christmas Novena as a community this year. 3. We will start the Novena on the 16th. Copies will be handed out at the back of the church. If you would like to sign up to host an evening please sign up after Mass. The first day of the Novena will be at the church at 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to join in.

To post in the 'Tofield Corner' contact Kathy by phone 780-270-8652 or email Kathleen.Anderson.one@gmail.com. Weekly bulletin deadline is Wednesday.)

	OLPH Financial Report		
Week 49 December 3, 2023	Cost of Operating the Parish	Building Fund Target Amount	"Together We Serve" Target Amount
Average weekly amount required (based on 2023 budget)	\$25,000.00	\$2,480.00	\$2,310.00
Donations this week	\$31,914.60	\$3,626.50	\$4,251.85
This week surplus/ shortfall	\$6,914.60	\$1,146.50	\$1,941.85

• Cost of operating the parish "average weekly amount" is 1/52 of the total annual amount of ordinary receipts projected in the 2023 budget

• Building fund target average weekly amount is based on total donations projected in 2021 budget.

• Together We Serve weekly amount is based an annual target which is set by the Archdiocese.

• Together We Serve Collection - First Sunday of every Month - January 7

• Society of St. Vincent De Paul Poor Box Collection - Third Weekend of every Month - December 17

What's Happening at OLPH

What's Happening at OLPH

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR

2024 SUNDAY GIVING

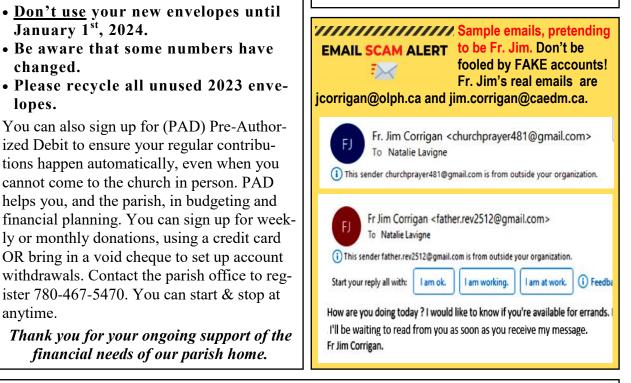
ENVELOPES IN THE

PARISH FOYER!

Cleaners are looking for WINDOW

CLEANING VOLUNTEERS to join their team. Call Priska 780-464-3865.

The Monday Morning Church



Grief as a Journey

When we experience loss of a loved one, we need to grieve. OLPH offers a ten-week program called "Grief as a Journey", open to anyone who feels they may benefit from it.

Monday Afternoons 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm January 15 - March 18, 2024 (excluding Family Day on February 19)

info@olph.ca.



To register for the upcoming session, please call the Parish Office 780-467-5470 or email





What We Believe THE BEAUTY OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Mondays, Jan 8 – Mar 11 6:45-8:30 pm Online via Zoom

Maybe you've been Catholic your entire life. Maybe you're just beginning to explore the Catholic Faith. Wherever you may be in your journey, you will be profoundly moved by the beauty and the richness of the Catholic Church. Join us for this 10-session, video-based course from the creators of The Bible Timeline.

The course is FREE. Study set available for purchase (more information when you register).



"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat." Matthew 25:35

financial needs of our parish home.

GIVE

changed.

lopes.

anytime.

GIVE

January 1st, 2024.

THANK YOU for supporting our Advent Reverse Collection! If you forgot to bring your items to Mass today, please drop them off ASAP at the Parish Office during regular business hours.

Please note: your food slips may ask for a specific size or quantity of the item (ex: "small" jar of peanut butter or "cereal 340-500 grams" etc.) It is greatly appreciated if you can provide the requested sizes.

Doing so eases the distribution and ensures the contents all fit into the hamper boxes. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

December 12 – Loading SSVP truck with food and delivering to Sacred Heart Parish and St. Alphonsus Parish. To VOLUNTEER with this project, please contact: Pauline Degenstein at 780-719-0842 or Len and Sandra Stang at 780-467-8412 or the OLPH Parish Office at 780-467-5470. (If anyone is so inclined to make up a Christmas Hamper themselves, please contact **Pauline** for a list of contents required.)

What's Happening at OLPH



We (Fr. Jim, Fr. Mario, Fr. Ben, Deacon Lynn and Deacon Arden) are inviting all of you to prepare spiritually for Christmas with our Simbang Gabi or Christmas Novena Mass daily at 5:30 am starting December 16 up to December 24. It is a sacrifice for the Lord where there is sacrifice, there is love. The Mass will be in English but the songs are in Filipino.

cans call it Las Posadas and Filipinos call it Simbang Gabi or Misa de Gallo if it is at dawn.

In North America, the Christmas Novena Mass or Simbang Gabi is celebrated from December 15 to December 23 in the evening; in some places of North America at 5:00am. In the Philippines, the Filipinos do it at dawn 4:00 am. For this year, at OLPH Sherwood Park, we shall have the Simbang Gabi at 5:30 am.

The purpose of the novena in general is to bring back the ancient Catholic tradition - the Church prepares itself for important feasts or solemnities with prayers and especially with the Holy Mass. From apostolic time, the Apostles with the Blessed Virgin Mary waited in prayer for the coming of the Holy Spirit, from

Ascension Thursday to Pentecost Sunday (nine days).

The Spanish missionaries introduced this tradition in 1600 as part of their evangelization effort in the Philippines as it was being practiced in Mexico and the Latin Americas. Fishermen were returning home at dawn from the sea or farmers on their way to the farms, would pass by the Church to attend Mass for Historical Background. The Latin Ameri- nine consecutive days. The missionaries introduced the Misa de Gallo (Mass when the cock crows at dawn) to catechize/evangelize the Filipinos with a joyful celebration.

> The Misa de Gallo or Simbang Gabi was a Novena in honor of Mary the Mother of God (a devotion which was very strong in Mexico associated with the apparition of Mary at Guadalupe, Mother of the True God, in 1531. The Philippines was administered by Spain through Mexico, politically and ecclesiastically).

> The Liturgy is solemnly celebrated with *Gloria* and *Credo* to honor Mary who became the Mother of God when Jesus was born. The Liturgy of the Word is taken from the advent readings of the day and the spirit of the novena days has taken an anticipated celebration of Christmas. Thus, Christmas songs in Filipino Simbang Gabi or Misa de Gallo are sung.

THE SECOND ANNUAL EDMONTON ARCHDIOCESE



G E 8 6 SATURDAY, JANUARY 20th, 2024

DOORS OPEN AT 9:45am RETREAT | 10am - 4:45pm

EARLY BIRD | \$40 AFTER DECEMBER 15 | \$50

REGISTER HERE

i de la compañía de la

COME TO ENCOUNTER THE LORD HAVE FUN AND BE EMPOWERED TO BECOME A MODERN-DAY SAINT! THE CONFERENCE INCLUDES LOTS OF FUN. ADORATION, AND MORE

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CATHOLIC CHURCH 13 Brower Drive, Sherwood Park AB | 780 - 467 - 5470

NEW~ Join us in praying the Rosary at 4:30 pm every Saturday before the 5:00 pm evening Mass.



The Clothing Nook is **OPEN** for **Shopping:**

Tuesday 1:00 – 3:00 pm December 12 Thursday 5:00 - 7:00 pm December 14 Saturday 10:00 am - Noon December 16

Christmas Gift Shop Hours: Tuesdays 1:00 – 3:00 pm December 12 Saturdays 10:00 am - Noon December 16 **CLOSED** Thursday Evenings All clothing and Christmas items are free thanks to the generous donations from our community.

HOLIDAY BREAK: The Nook will be CLOSED January 2,4 & 6 for shopping. Nook Shopping will resume January 16,18 & 20

KEEP OUR COMMUNITY WARM THIS WINTER





Dominic Marcel Joseph Arnal Kurt Rodel Atienza Benzene Li Anne Baluvot Ioshua Scott Beniuk Kaleb Christopher Beniuk Zachary Noah Bosters Kate Ana Brkin Bronsyn Matthew Broadfoot Alyse Ann Ciezki Sophia Ciezki Olivia Anne Clair Anna Lilian Clavelle Richele Aquino Cunanan Grace Hannah Damur Kristina Sophia Delich Sawyer Mae Diogo Benjamin David Gaudet Brynn Louise Gavin Chloe Abigail Gonzales Nathan Gregg Sara Katelyn Gushnowski Kayden Allen R. Heck Anthony Enrique Holzman Alex Ava Huculak Schimpf Morgan Huculak Schimpf Nathaniel Feltner Juteau Gilbert Isaiah Lang Mikayla Venice G. Madrona Ella Dawn Metz Iordan Dallas Metz Lorenzo Joseph Miglioranza Harlow Madison L. Milliken Maris Mmasichukwu Onvedika Bella Penner Jhoanalyn Nicole Pila Ryden Emile Pomerleau Anistyn Precy Sales Brianna Colleen Salvador Wella Jathelia T. Tizon Sadie Marie Weum Maddison Marie Zuk-Clare

December 6, 2023



First Holy Communion **December 2 and 3, 2023**

Brayden Joseph N. Allard Benj Harzen Cabais Baluyot Benzene Li Anne Baluyot Elmire Hope Beck Raphael Curtis Berube Xander Huron Berube Halle Mary Boisvert Hunter Roland Boisvert Alvse Ann Ciezki Lennon Marie Clavelle Barrett Dean Clement Campbell Lee Cossey Gabriel Orlando Damur Liam Aleczaire Dela Cruz Scarlett Aria Dela Cruz Chelsea Elaine Devine Henderson Luke Duncan Benjamin Arthur Ewasko Connor Wayne Ewasko Havley Ann Fossen Matthew Owen Gaudet Sara Katelyn Gushnowski Theresa Marie Hill Mathias Quenneville Juteau Gilbert Isaiah Lang

Mikavla Venice G. Madrona Blake Anne Marshall Gavin Roy Mercier Ella Dawn Metz Iordan Dallas Metz Zosia Maria Mistecki Hunter Pierre Morin Jadeine Issabel Olivarez Ezekiel Leo Parambeth Dallan James Paranych Matthew Neil Pattenden Silver Pelaez Avery Emily Prusko Bentley Gregory Prusko Evelyn Alese Rink Bella Alessandra Saldariega Brianna Colleen Salvador Chanel P. Salvador Mabel Alexis Sklazeski Ellie Liana Stolk Jon Aeron Zane Tabbal Celeste Marie Taillon Wella Jathelia T. Tizon Silas Joseph Wright

What's Happening at OLPH



A new social group is starting up at OLPH Parish, offering fellowship and friendship for any single (widowed, divorced) seniors.

Meeting every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. downstairs in the St. Joan Room.

Coffee will be provided, snacks are welcome. Contact Lena at 780-464-1616 for more information.

"KINDNESS ENCOUNTERS" **During the Four Weeks of Advent**

Parishioners will be challenged and encouraged to PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER.

During Advent, members of Mary's Servants for Christ will be in the fover to welcome parishioners arriving for every weekend Mass (starting December 2 through December 24) and hand out blank prayers cards. You are invited to write down your own prayer request and these cards will be taken to the front of the altar and prayed over during the Mass.

After Mass, the prayer request cards will be available for parishioners to pick up and take home to pray for a fellow parishioner's needs over the next week.



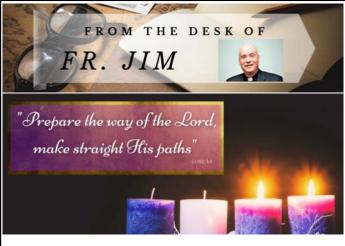
O Come, Divine Messiah Advent Brunch

The JETS women's group is so delighted to again host our annual Advent Brunch this Friday December 15, in the Large Meeting Room.

All women of the Parish are sincerely *invited* to experience this beautiful morning of music, games and the very best potluck brunch possible! We will also be revealing our Secret Prayer Angels and this is an opportunity to join in this tradition when new names will be picked for the coming year. As well we will hand out the shiny, new, 2024 JETS destination calendar.

Please bring a favourite Advent/Christmas decoration from your home that is deeply meaningful to you, to use for our table adornment, plus your gift of a potluck dish. This last session of the year will begin at 9:40 am, but please feel free to arrive around 9:20 am to settle in and obtain your in-flight holiday beverages. **IMPORTANT:** Donations for YESS will continue to be collected up until Thursday, December 14, and all OLPH Parishioners are kindly invited to consider helping out this drive.

A bin next to the parish office to receive vour donations. See last week's bulletin for gift ideas. For more details on any of the above information, please contact Aida at issasaida33@yahoo.com or Nancy at (780) 464-5356. 100 JE75



"Prepare the Way of the Lord, make His paths straight, (Mk 1,2)"

The candle that we light during the second week of Advent represents Peace.

Peace is a simple word, but it is profound in its meaning. To have peace in our hearts, in our families and in our

world, is what makes all these entities truly beautiful. When we do not have peace, we do not have much. Of course, this begs the question, *how is it that we are to attain peace in our hearts, because that is where all other peace will flow from?*

The Catechism (CCC 1829) states the fruits of charity are joy, peace, and mercy. St. Augustine comments, "Love itself is the fulfillment of all our works. There is the goal; that is why we run toward it, and once we reach it, we shall find rest." We know God is love, and that living in the light of Christ requires love to be the motivation for all that we do. If love/charity is the motivation for what we do, ultimately we will have peace in our hearts. Why? Because we know we have done all that we are able, to be the love of Christ for our neighbor. I know, easier said than done. Why do we fight with one another? Why do countries fight with one another? Because they do not have the love of God as their motivation for what they do; and therefore do not have the peace of God, which is beyond all understanding, in their hearts.

I began my reflection with Scriptural references that we find in both the first reading from the prophet Isaiah and, again reiterated at the beginning of Mark's Gospel. "*Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His path.*" What do you think of when you meditate on this Scripture? **Does God really need us to make His path straight? Or does this phrase mean that we need to make our paths to Him straight?** God needs nothing from you and I, except our desire to be in relationship with Him. If we desire relationship, He will give us the graces we need to develop our relationship with Him, with ourselves and with one another. But it begins with the Lord. We need to focus our attention on relationship with Jesus, who is "the way the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father except through Him, (Jn. 14, 6)" Many of us have had the privilege of holding a sleeping baby cradled lovingly in our arms. It is moments like these that we feel a kind of peace that is almost indescribable. No matter what else is going on, all things are right in our hearts during these moments. We truly do have peace in our hearts, we truly do feel the gift of loving relationship. As we encounter the long awaited first real snow fall of the season, we are treated to a strong visual with regard to making our paths straight to the Lord. Even something as simple as walking to our vehicle becomes a little bit more complex when we are avoiding deeper piles of snow and suspected patches of ice.

In the same way, obstacles like sin can cause us challenges to true and loving relationships; as well as the peace that comes with being in good relationship. I suggest that this is why Advent is a penitential season. Our Lord desires relationship with us. To attain and cultivate this relationship, we need to make straight our paths and our relationships. We do this, by removing the obstacles of "snow and ice" from the path that leads us to the Lord and to one another. God's love and mercy are without end, if we are humble enough to be willing to clean the walks/paths that lead to Him. In Alberta, to make straight our paths we use a shovel - for making straight our hearts, we use the Confessional. Both can be tiring experiences, but both are very effective modes of "making straight the path" and removing the snow, ice and sin that are obstacles to the loving relationships that result in true peace in our hearts. Next Saturday, December 16, we will have several priests available from 9:00 am until 4:30 pm for our Advent Day of Confession, to assist you in making straight your paths to prepare the way of the Lord. Of course, we always have snow shovels available for other obstacles in our paths. Happy Advent my friends.

Jn. Jim

"Prepare the Way of the Lord, make His paths straight, (Mk 1,2)"



Mass Schedule



4th Sunday of Advent Sunday December 24 Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm Sunday Morning 8:30 am, 10:30 am and 12:30 pm Tofield 11:00 am Christmas Eve Sunday December 24 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 8:00 pm, 10:00 pm and Midnight Christmas Day Monday December 25 8:30 am, 10:30 am, 12:30 pm and 7:00 pm Tofield 11:00 am