

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

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: December 6

***will end early due to Confirmation Mass at 6:15 pm**

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 3, 2023 ~ First Sunday of Advent

We Remember, We Celebrate, We Believe

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



THE FIRST PURPLE CANDLE IS THE
"Candle of Hope."
IT SYMBOLIZES THE HOPE WE HAVE
IN CHRIST AND OUR DESIRE TO
SPEND ETERNITY WITH HIM. DURING
THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT,
WE WAIT FOR JESUS WITH HOPE.

***Advent Reverse Collection
STARTS THIS WEEKEND***

Baskets will be passed at each Mass to distribute slips of paper printed with the non-perishable food items/cash that are needed to help make up **Christmas Hampers** and also assist with lunches and meals provided regularly by our two inner-city parishes: Sacred Heart and St. Alphonsus in Edmonton.

NEXT WEEKEND December 9 & 10

Bring the items on your slips back to the church! Volunteers will be collecting and sorting food downstairs in the Parish Hall at each Sunday Mass.

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.

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.)

Thank you in advance for your generosity!



Special Collection This Weekend

Your ONE GIFT will support 12 Catholic organizations in the Archdiocese, Canada and beyond.



SCAN HERE TO DONATE
or speak with someone at the parish office.



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 also set up to accept donations via INTERAC ETRANSFER at:



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 4 - 9

Monday ~ Anton Tomc†, Rosalte & Ulla Bohn†, Brosi Nutting†, Denise Labrecque†, Milton Mariscal†, Ann Maksymetz†, Danielle & Reese Shortman, Bemvindo Palha, Walter Kazuro, Rita Sandmaier

Tuesday ~ Murray Chupka†, Jim Mitchell†, Ray Gallenero†, Jack Stapelton†, Souls in Purgatory†, Rob Regel, Marvin & Gail Weleschuk & family, Sheree White, Sean Wiczke, Rostan & Anitha Coelho, Sylvia & Gene Bodnar

Wednesday ~ John Ross†, Katherine, Dwayne & James Chartier†, Teresa Paul, Johnny Chartrand†, Deborah Brown†, Ken Heykants†, Justina Berube, Danielle & Reese Shortman, Lisa Bilinski, Oliviel Mareau

Thursday ~ Ted Chmilar†, Jim Mitchell†, Ronald King†, Sylvester Senger†, Terry Krumm†, Holy Souls†, Fr. Mario, Paulette Marocco, Marvin & Gail Weleschuk & family, Hannah Delainey

Friday ~ Teodulo Suarez†, Bryce Clarke†, Henry Sieweke†, Raymond Pinkoski†, Kayla Revoy†, Renee May, Fr. Mario, Mary D'Mello, Merle Moriarty, Gordon Roman

Saturday ~ Frank Thomaser†, Stanley Wachowicz†, John & Elise Stosky†, Marciel Lising, Kristine Bautista, Patricia Gensohen, Our Lady of Aparecida group

Your OLPH Parish Team

Pastor ~ Fr. Jim Corrigan
jcorrigan@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 nlavigne@olph.ca

Administrative Assistant
Jenny Velazco jvelazco@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](https://www.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**

“Christmas Eve of 1886 was a turning point in the life of Therese; she called it her *Complete Conversion*”. — from the Life of St. Therese of Lisieux

1st Sunday of Advent - In today’s readings we are reminded to stay alert, not only for our final call by God, but to stay alert to our callings with our families and community. We have been given gifts and talents, and “each with a particular task.” Keep awake, stay alert when we are called upon. Let’s make this Christmas a “complete conversion” to God’s presence and calling.

1. Today is Potluck Sunday after Mass. Enjoy! And every Sunday after Mass we have coffee and snacks for everyone and anyone!
2. Many of our projects have been completed for this year! So now we can prepare for celebrating Jesus’ Birthday. This is what Advent is all about!



St. Francis of Assisi Parish Financial Report November 2023	2023 Monthly Budget	Donations this Month	Surplus/ Shortfall
	\$ 2,198.00	\$ 5,934.06	\$ 3736.06

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 48 November 26, 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	\$24,544.90	\$2,719.10	\$1,310.40
This week surplus/ shortfall	-\$455.10	\$239.10	-\$999.60

- 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 - December 3*
- Society of St. Vincent De Paul Poor Box Collection - *Third Weekend of every Month - December 17*

What's Happening at OLPH

"KINDNESS ENCOUNTERS"

will take place 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 foyer 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.

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



Christmas Request for Homeless Youth

This Advent season, would you lend your support to YESS by donating a gift from their wish list? YESS (Youth Empowerment and Support Services) provides immediate shelter and resources for the youth in our community who just can't go home. The JETS women's group is organizing a collection drive and a bin is now in the walkway area by the parish office to receive their top Christmas requests: hair products, earbuds or headphones, socks, undergarments, gift cards (groceries, clothing, entertainment), hoodies, notebooks, make-up, candles, blankets. **New items only please.** Any questions can be answered by contacting Anna, our Service Flight Captain, at annaminarchi@shaw.ca. *God bless you for your generosity!*

What's Happening at OLPH



Congratulations & Welcome to the children Baptized at OLPH on Sunday November 26, 2023



Ryker Joseph Cornelius Rommens
Rylan Dominic Soares
Memphis Ray Wrusch



Archbishop Smith will be here to celebrate Confirmation Mass on Wednesday December 6 at 6:15pm

Everyone Welcome!

Refreshments to follow.
Please keep our 45 Confirmation students in your Prayers.

JOIN US IN THE CELEBRATION OF THE SOLEMNITY OF The Immaculate Conception OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

On Friday
DECEMBER 8, 2023

Witness the consecration to Jesus through Mary by those who recently participated in the "33 Days of Morning Glory" program offered by OLPH GIFT

This is also an opportunity for those who have taken their consecration before to renew it.

6:15 PM MASS

Followed by refreshments hosted by members of OLPH GIFT and Mary's Servants for Christ



CWL Christmas Potluck Monday December 4 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall.



Prayer Partners revealed and newly exchanged!

Christmas giving: *Our Lady of Grace (OLOG) parenting teens program at Edmonton Catholic Schools. All baby/toddler/teen donations appreciated. OLOG special needs: baby boy clothes, baby toys, larger diapers (sz 4,5,6 & pull-ups).*

Speaker: Fr Benoj Makkollil.

**Bring a potluck dish to share.
All members welcome!**

The Monday Morning Church Cleaners are looking for WINDOW CLEANING VOLUNTEERS to join their team.
Call Priska at 780-464-3865 to volunteer.



**Saturday
January 20, 2024
10:00 am - 4:45 pm**

2nd Annual
GR 6-8
**ELEVATE
CONFERENCE**

Scan QR to register your child:



Early bird discount when you register by December 15.
To learn more or to VOLUNTEER to help contact Natalie at 780-467-5470 or nlavigne@olph.ca



*Beware, keep alert;
for you do not know when the time will come.
Mark 13:33*

Happy Advent my friends.

What does Advent mean, and what is the history of this very prominent Liturgical season?

The word Advent means, *the arrival or the coming*, of a noteworthy person, event, or thing. In history we have spoken about the advent of the motor car, the advent of flight and in times past, the advent of electricity, or even of the wheel. In the Christian context, we're

talking about God coming to earth in the person of Jesus Christ, the promised Messiah. Christmas is the celebration of Jesus' birth. Advent is the anticipation of that birth.

We may ask what is the origination of Advent? Where is Advent in the Bible? The Old Testament contains many allusions to the person of Jesus. For example, we have Abraham, who is willing to sacrifice his only son in obedience to God. *Sacrifice of his only son*. Jonah spends three days in the belly of the large fish and then lands up on the shores of Ninevah. *Death and resurrection*. In Isaiah 7:14 we hear "*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call him Immanuel.*" In short, the people of Israel were awaiting the coming, the arrival, the Advent of the Saviour; and we see this foretold in many places within Scripture. Advent is the Christian season of awaiting and anticipating the coming of the Saviour, the person of Jesus Christ, on Christmas morning. Advent is the time of anticipation of God fulfilling His promise to His chosen people.

From a Catholic Christian perspective, we can liken the Advent season to the Prologue in the Gospel of John. "*In the beginning was the Word, (Jn 1, 1).*" This prologue announces the eternal Word and sets the stage for John the Baptist to announce the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. Advent can be viewed as the prologue that sets the stage for the final chapter of salvation history to begin. The final chapter of salvation history begins with the nativity of our Lord on Christmas morning. It will conclude with the Advent of the Second Coming.

Christians throughout history have considered Advent to be a preparation and celebration of different comings. These include the coming of the Baptism of our Lord, the Sec-

ond coming of Christ, and of course the traditional joyful anticipation and waiting for the first coming of our Lord on Christmas Day. The Advent wreath has long been the traditional symbol of the Advent season and came to us out of old Germanic tradition.

The Advent wreath is a circle of evergreen boughs woven together. The wreath itself is a circle, a symbol of eternity, a reminder that God has no beginning and no end. The evergreen boughs symbolizing life, and that God is immutable and unchanging. The four candles that adorn the wreath, three purple and one rose colored. Purple being a symbol of the penitential nature of the Advent season, and the rose being a symbol of joy. The rose candle lit on the third Sunday of Advent, reminds us that the end of Advent is nearly here, and that we look forward with joy to the coming of the Saviour. Each candle that we light weekly represents the virtues of Hope, Faith, and Peace.

My encouragement to each of you my friends, is to embrace the season of Advent with its multi-faceted richness and meaningful symbolism. Embrace it, celebrate it, all with anticipatory joy to celebrate the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ. The birth of our Lord Jesus Christ which fulfilled the entire Old Testament. The second coming of our Lord will be the culmination of the New Testament. As Catholics, we need to be reminded of the hope we have in the coming of Christ. The hope we experience when celebrating Advent is what makes our lives worth living, in the good times and in the challenging times. *Jn. Jim*

"Be aware keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come, (Mk. 13, 33)."



2024 SUNDAY GIVING ENVELOPES ARE HERE!

Please pick yours up at the Parish Foyer.

(If you can't find your envelopes, please stop by the office or email info@olph.ca)

- **Don't use your new envelopes until January 1st, 2024.**
- **Be aware that some numbers have changed.**
- **Please recycle all unused 2023 envelopes.**

You can also sign up for (PAD) Pre-Authorized Debit. Signing up for PAD ensures that your regular contributions happen automatical-

ly, even when you cannot come to the church in person. PAD helps you, and the parish, in budgeting and financial planning. You can sign up for weekly or monthly donations, using a credit card OR bring in a void cheque to set up account withdrawals. Contact the parish office to register 780-467-5470. You can start & stop at anytime.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the financial needs of our parish home.