

ST. VITAL CATHOLIC PARISH
4905-50 St, Beaumont, AB. T4X 1J9
Office: 780-929-8541
[e-mail: St.vitalchurch@shaw.ca](mailto:St.vitalchurch@shaw.ca)



APRIL 2, 2023

Pastor: Fr. Les Drewicki

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday 5:00 p.m. (English) Sunday 9:00 a.m. (bilingual) 11:00 a.m. (English)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday & Wednesday (April 4th -April 5th) 9:00 a.m.

Check out our website www.saintvitalparish.com and check it regularly for updates.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By appointment by contacting Fr. Les

The Parish Office is closed on Good Friday (April 7th) and Easter Monday (April 10th).



Join us every FRIDAY during Lent, at 7:00 p.m. for STATIONS OF THE CROSS led by groups from our parish.
Friday, March 31 ~ RCIA & RCIC

Palm Sunday is the final Sunday of Lent, the beginning of Holy Week, and commemorates the triumphant arrival of Christ in Jerusalem, days before he was crucified. Palm Sunday is known as such because the faithful will often receive palm fronds which they use to participate in the reenactment of Christ's arrival in Jerusalem. In the Gospels, Jesus entered Jerusalem riding a young donkey, and to the lavish praise of the townspeople who threw clothes, or possibly palms or small branches, in front of him as a sign of homage. This was a customary practice for people of great respect. Palm branches are widely recognized symbol of peace and victory, hence their preferred use on Palm Sunday. The use of a donkey instead of a horse is highly symbolic, it represents the humble arrival of someone in peace, as opposed to arriving on a steed in war. A week later, Christ would rise from the dead on the first Easter. During Palm Sunday Mass, palms are distributed to parishioners. The palms are blessed, and many people will fashion them into small crosses or other items of personal devotion. These may be returned to the church or kept for the year. Because the palms are blessed, they may not be discarded as trash. Instead, they are appropriately gathered at the church and incinerated to create the ashes that will be used in the follow year's Ash Wednesday observance. The colors of the Mass on Palm Sunday are red and white, symbolizing the redemption in blood that Christ paid for the world.



Volunteers required for Confirmation Retreat on Sat. May 13th 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Duties include helping to lead small group discussions and being a extra set of hands. Email stvitalconfirmation@gmail.com if you think you can help us out!

Scent Free Makes Sense



We would like the parish to be sensitive to folks with allergies and refrain from wearing perfume and aftershave at Mass. Thank you in advance for your consideration.



Blank schedules for Palm Sunday & Holy Week Ministries are at the back of the Church. **PLEASE** sign up for the mass you are attending.

Parishioners: If you notice any repair or maintenance issues in the church that require attention please contact the parish office.



HOLY THURSDAY—April 6: (Incense will be used). **Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 pm**
You are invited to visit the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY—April 7: (**A DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE FROM EATING MEAT**)
Celebration of the Lord's Passion - Services at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
Outdoor way of the Cross (weather permitting) **2:00 p.m.** (starts at 50 Ave & 44 St.)

HOLY SATURDAY—April 8: EASTER VIGIL - 9:00 pm—(Incense will be used)
(**NO 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass**)
Blessing of Easter Bread @ 1:30 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES April 9 - 9:00 am Mass 11:00 am Mass (Incense will be used)

The Triduum (TRIH-du-um) is the time of the Church year when we celebrate the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The Triduum is somewhat like a three-day prayer marathon, and if you are a novice there may be some rituals that are unfamiliar to you. This guide will help you walk and pray through the liturgies of the Triduum. This three-day celebration begins with the Holy Thursday Mass and continues on Good Friday with the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion. At the end of this liturgy, we leave the church in silence, waiting to celebrate the glory of our Lord's resurrection. Then, on

Saturday at sundown, the Church re-gathers to celebrate the final, and most grand moment of the Triduum: The Resurrection of our Lord during the Easter Vigil.

Holy Thursday ~ April 6th

The Mass on Holy Thursday is a time for Catholics to remember the Last Supper where Jesus and his apostles gathered to celebrate Passover. At this celebration, the three oils blessed and consecrated by the Archbishop at the Chrism Mass will be presented to be used in the parish for sacraments over the next year. Two other ritual actions stand out: The

Washing of the Feet ~ At the Last Supper, Jesus took a basin and a towel, got down on his hands and knees and washed the feet of all of his apostles. After this action, he commanded the apostles, “I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do” (John 13:15). Just as Jesus has been a servant to his apostles, so the apostles must go out into the world and be servants to everyone around them. The action of washing one another’s feet at Mass reminds us that God calls us first and foremost to be servants to others in our daily lives.

The Celebration of the Eucharist and the Eucharistic Procession ~ At the very first Last Supper, Jesus also instituted the Eucharist for the Church. At the conclusion of the Holy Thursday celebration, there is no concluding prayer. Once the celebration of the Eucharist is completed, there is a Eucharistic Procession, reminding us of Jesus’ time in the garden of Gethsemane when he prayed so fervently through the night.

The entire community is invited to join in this procession and then join in the silent prayer and adoration until 10 p.m. At 10:00 p.m. Father will take the monstrance to the Altar of Repose.

Good Friday ~ April 7th

In this solemn celebration, which is NOT a Mass, we remember the Passion and Death of Our Lord. The service is marked by several important rituals including the proclaiming of the Passion according to John, the Veneration of the Cross, an extended form of General Intercessions, and finally, the distribution of Communion (reserved from the Holy Thursday celebration of the Eucharist). The Veneration of the Cross ~ It seems strange that in the Good Friday liturgy Catholics choose to venerate, or show reverence to, the very instrument that was used to crucify Jesus.

The Veneration of the Cross reminds us that through this Cross, the Glory of the resurrection emerges. So, on Good Friday, we come forward to show our great reverence and respect for the Cross. People have various traditions when they approach the Cross. Sometimes they kiss the Cross, kneel before the Cross, or even just touch it in some fashion. As you participate in this ritual, just take in the experience of the gathered community coming so close to such a tragic, but integral, event in our faith.

The General Intercessions ~ On Good Friday the entire Church around the world offers the same 10 prayers intentions as a reminder of our universality. These include praying for the unity

of all Christians, for the Jewish people, for people who do not believe in Christ or in God, for people in public office, and for people who are suffering or facing difficult times.

The Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday ~ April 8th

Easter actually begins a few hours before the clock strikes midnight on Sunday at Saturday's Vigil service, which is traditionally held after sunset. The celebration of the Easter Vigil tells the whole story of our salvation - from creation to resurrection and beyond. Because of all the ritual moments, this service tends to last 2 hours or so. But don't let the length of the celebration detract you from participating! The Easter Vigil begins outside the darkened church with the lighting of the Easter Fire and Paschal Candle (the large candle that we will use throughout the year). The service also includes the singing of the *Exsultet* (the Easter Proclamation), the expanded *Liturgy of the Word* that traces time through Salvation History (nine readings and seven responsorial psalms) and the *Liturgy of Initiation* (where new people join the Church through baptism.) As the Church proclaims the resurrection of Christ, all of its normal functions (such as Mass, Communion, music and more) resume. After sunset, the Church explodes in joy and celebration of Jesus' resurrection. "This is the night Jesus rose from the dead!" proclaims the Church. And what a night it is!

Adapted from: Your Essential Guide to the Triduum: Taking you step-by-step through the Three-day Celebration of the Church by Julianne Wallace March 19, 2018

NO GIFT CARD SALES EASTER WEEKEND

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no grocery or gift cards sold the Easter weekend, April 8 - 9. If you will be needing cards, please purchase ahead of time. Buy your grocery cards and support Our Lady of the Hill Knights of Columbus. We thank you for your consideration.

Knight Riders

The Knights of Columbus are offering to drive, to and from church, any parishioners who wish to attend weekend Masses at St. Vital Church but are unable due to a lack of transportation. As the Knights are using their private vehicles, they cannot offer assistance for people with mobility issues or those with wheelchairs. Neither can they accommodate car seats for babies or young children. If you think you can take advantage of this free service, contact Joe Lauer at 780-929-6056 to arrange a ride to Mass and back home and we will do our best to accommodate you. Alternate contact: Paul Weisenberger @ 780-929-5150.

HORIZONS OF HOPE:

A TOOLKIT FOR CATHOLIC PARISHES ON PALLIATIVE CARE

Horizons of Hope: A Toolkit for Catholic Parishes on Palliative Care is a Christian response to providing compassionate care at the end of life. Do you see a need in your family or in the community to accompany and support those at the end of life? Explore new ideas and ways to be a presence of hope for those at the end of life in this four-part program developed by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Choose your preferred time and method of participation:

Tuesday, April 11 - May 2 from 6:30 - 8:30 pm on Zoom or

Wednesdays, April 12 - May 3 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm in-person at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish (30 Brower Drive, Sherwood Park, AB).

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish - 780.467.5470

The Catholic Renewal Services of the Archdiocese of Edmonton is hosting their next Mass with Healing Service on **Saturday April 18, 6:30 pm** start, with Fr. Matthew Hysell presiding. It will be held at **St. Emeric's Hungarian Catholic Church (12960-112 St NW, Edmonton)**. Jesus said, *"I am the Bread of Life, he who comes to Me will not hunger and he who believes in Me will never thirst."* John 6:3

Bereavement Support Group—Starting April 11 Join Wanda Lehman in a safe environment for those who are bereaved; to share stories, gain support through one another, and learn strategies to assist with issues with your personal grief journey. 7 Tuesdays from 1:00 to 2:30 pm, April 11 to May 23. To join us in-person at Star of the North Retreat Centre or online, register at 780-459-5511 or at www.starofthenorth.ca/bereavement. Limited registration. Cost: \$120.

Shane Claiborne Weekend: Another World is Possible Join popular speaker, activist and best-selling author Shane Claiborne for a weekend of stories and reflections on the world of grace and bombs. With tears and laughter, Shane unveils the tragic realities of our fragile world and the incredible hope that "another world is possible." April 14-16. To join us in-person at Star of the North Retreat Centre or online, register at 780-459-5511 or at www.starofthenorth.ca/possible. Early pricing ends March 15. Friday Public Lecture: \$20 | Weekend Retreat: Online \$140 | Commuter \$205 | Live-In \$345.

Aurora Living: Formation Through Word & Creation. Join a community at the intersection of faith & contemporary issues: creation care, social justice & reconciliation. Our spring module, starting April 14-16 will feature presenters Shane Claiborne, Jennifer Henry, Ron Rolheiser, Karyn Gagnon and more. To join us in-person at Star of the North Retreat Centre or online, register at 780-459-5511 or at www.starofthenorth.ca/truth. Early registration ends March 15th.

Another World is Possible: Retreat Weekend with Shane Claiborne (in person)

April 14-16, 2023, at The Star of the North Retreat Centre

To join us in-person or online, register at 780-459-5511 or at www.starofthenorth.ca/possible.

Join prophetic Christian speaker, and best-selling author, Shane Claiborne, for a weekend of stories and reflections on the world of grace and bombs. With tears and laughter, Shane unveils the tragic realities of our fragile world and the incredible hope that "another world is possible." (Please note, we welcome the public to attend this weekend that forms part of the Aurora Living Spiritual Formation Module 7: *Truth-Telling: Finding Our Prophetic Voice*)

Friday Public Lecture: \$20

Weekend Retreat: Online \$140 | Commuter \$205 | Live-In \$345

Aurora Living: Truth-Telling: Finding Our Prophetic Voice
featuring presenters Shane Claiborne, Jennifer Henry, Ron Rolheiser, OMI, & Karyn Gagnon
April 14-16, May 6, June 3, 2023

Aurora Living: Formation Through Word & Creation© is presented as a cycle of nine modules. Each three-month module includes:

- 3 retreats: an opening weekend retreat and 2 Saturday retreats
- 3 Wisdom Group formation gatherings
- Monthly readings and videos
- Optional spiritual direction (up to three sessions)

We invite you to consider joining us on this journey of faith, hope and action! To register online, click here: [Aurora Living: Truth-Telling, Finding Our Prophetic Voice](https://starofthenorth.ca/programs) , email programs@starofthenorth.ca or call 780-459-5511

ALBERTA ELECTION

Alberta's 31st general election will take place May 29, 2023. The election will offer voters an opportunity to ensure that the province is governed by practical and efficient leaders who bear the good of all in mind – including the unborn, the elderly, the young, families, and those who are too often forgotten by society – as well as workers, farmers, business owners, and all future generations. This is an important opportunity for Catholics. We are called to participate, in accordance with the full measure of talents entrusted to us by God. An explanation of our duty, and the ways in which we can exercise it, is provided in our election resource page. This page will guide you toward resources and starting points to assist you in these efforts, whether you are Catholic or simply a good person interested in a better world. For more information, go to <https://catholicconscience.org/canada/alberta/election2023/>